



CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

RABBIS:

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

HAZZAN & MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS:

Rabbi Esther Lederman • Ezra D. Weinberg

קול ישורון
KOL JESHURUN

LEKH LEKHA

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 12:1 - 17:27

TRIENNIAL Genesis 14:1 - 15:21

HAFTARAH Isaiah 40:27 - 41:16

NEXT WEEK: VAYERA

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 18:1 - 22:24

TRIENNIAL Genesis 19:1 - 20:18

HAFTARAH II Kings 4:1 - 37

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY

• An Inconvenient Truth & Beyond: A Call for Action Live Multimedia Presentation and Panel Discussion

Wednesday, November 12, 6:30, 88th Street: Join us! Paul Reale, a climate change expert who was personally trained by Al Gore, will present on the dangers of global climate change, including the updated slideshow featured in the Oscar-winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*. This will be followed by a panel discussion on New York legislative priorities to address the global climate crisis and other environmental issues affecting our city, featuring Transportation Alternatives, Solar 1, Environmental Advocates of NY, Senator Eric Schneiderman and the Mayor's Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability. Learn how the recent elections will affect efforts to combat climate change, and find out what each of us can do, personally and together, to address this problem. Please R.S.V.P. to bjgreenhebra@yahoo.com or x366.

November 7-14, 2008

9-16 Heshvan, 5769

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Wandering Minyan	6:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall
Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
New Member Orientation Program	Following 6:00 PM Service – 88th St. Frankel Hall
Shabbat Dinner	
Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Shabbat Services	9:30 AM – 86th St.
Bar Mitzvah	Maxwell Baren
Bar Mitzvah	David Krasner
Naming	Hannah Yael Raichelson
Children's Services	10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor
Community Kiddush	Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall
Study with Felix Fibich and Rony Sheer	Following Kiddush – 86th St. Social Parlor (SEE P.2)
Tze'irim Seudah Shlishit and Havdalah	4:00 PM – 86th St. Parlor (SEE P.2)
Minḥa	4:30 PM – 88th St.
Bar Mitzvah	Adam Gross

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Morning Minyan	9:30 AM – 88th St.
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: Introduction to Judaism*	7:00 PM – BJ Office (SEE P.3)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: The Book of Exodus*	8:30 AM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)
Limud: Myth or Reality: Finding Truth In Religious Life*	7:00 PM (SEE P.3)
Limud: Spiritual Practices for Times of Uncertainty*	7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: Heschel's Heavenly Torah*	6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)
An Inconvenient Truth & Beyond	6:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE SIDEBAR)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program	12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a*	7:00 PM – BJ Office (SEE P.3)
Conversation with the Rabbis	7:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Frankel Fridays	10:30 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

* Please see the BJ website, www.bj.org, for more information and to register.

Announcements

HA-MAKOM YENAHM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to the following members and their families:

- Jim Posner, Jill Prosky, and Diana Erbsen on the death of their beloved stepfather, father-in-law, and grandfather, Irving Wallace.
- Carol and Irv Smokler on the death of their beloved father and father-in-law, Paul Shalita.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Maxwell, Richard, Leslie and Alexander Baren on Maxwell becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

- David and Evan Krasner and Hilah Iulus on David becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Adam, Michael, Vicki, Rachel and Danielle Gross on Adam becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Maurice and Aviva Raichelson and Josh Zuckerman in honor of the naming of their daughter and granddaughter, Hannah Yael.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- The new members joining us tonight for the New Member Shabbat dinner.

Community Activities

Community Kiddush and Shabbat Study

Saturday, November 8, following Kiddush after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Parlor: The BJ community is invited to join Felix Fibich and Rony Sheer as they teach about "Lekh Lekha and how to move on after experiencing tragedy." Felix Fibich is a 93-year-old Holocaust survivor who used theatre and dance to enlighten the post-Holocaust Jewish community around the world. Felix will discuss and demonstrate the therapeutic effect of art in response to perhaps the most difficult situation known to humanity.

Conversation with the Rabbis

Thursday, November 13, 7:30PM, 88th Street: Please join us for the first of two congregational conversations with the Rabbis. These conversations will allow the Rabbis to discuss the progress of projects and visions that were shared at last year's annual meeting. Coffee and dessert will be served.

Friday Night Off Broadway: Shabbat at BJ

Friday, November 14, 10:00PM, 88th Street: Extend your Shabbat experience beyond services. The entire BJ community is invited to enjoy dessert and celebrate Shabbat together with Pharaoh's Daughter, who will perform and lead us in joyful Shabbat song.

Introducing a New Series of Intergenerational Programs

Tuesday, November 18, 10:30-11:30AM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us for an informative and interactive talk on health, nutrition and Jewish law. Simeon Darwick, licensed health counselor, will present a new approach to eating and healthy living based on innovative theories and the ancient teach-

ings of Maimonides. He will model a simple and graceful exercise plan and offer realistic guidance—with humor—on health maintenance. Admission is free. To register, please contact Susan Kalev at skalev@bj.org or leave a message at x377.

Healing Resources: A New Bikkur Holim Project

The Bikkur Holim Committee is undertaking a new project: to collect short descriptions from our congregants about what Jewish traditions and practices they found helpful when facing serious physical or emotional illness. Both those who have been ill and those who have been caretakers are invited to contribute. When facing serious illness, many of us yearn for spiritual support but feel too overwhelmed or too afraid to seek it out. Our project is designed to fill this gap. To learn more or to contribute, contact Susan Kaplow, a member of the BH Committee, at 518-281-4133 or susankaplow@earthlink.net. Confidentiality will be strictly maintained in collecting the material.

Creating Community: Invitation to a Conversation

Tuesday, December 2-Thursday, December 11: What are you looking for in the BJ community? How can we build community in a large congregation? Join us for a series of house meetings to discuss these issues with other members of the BJ community—we want to hear from you! We will be holding six meetings in members' homes between December 2-11 (including two Sunday meetings—childcare will be provided at one Sunday meeting). Register for one of these conversations by contacting Yaffa Garber at ygarber@bj.org or x256. Space is limited.

Creating Kehillah

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

SIGN UP NOW: Blood Drive at BJ

It does not hurt! People are often reluctant to give because they are afraid and think it will be painful or unpleasant but it really isn't any of those things. It is really easy and is a small thing each of us can do to be a big help to somebody else.

Wednesday, November 19, 4:00-9:00PM, 88th Street: Mark your calendars to donate blood at the next BJ/SPSA Blood Drive. Give the gift of life. This donation doesn't depend on your bank account and is the greatest mitzvah of them all! Please contact TrudiL531@aol.com or call x373 and leave a message with your name, phone number, and best time slot for you. Either Trudi Levine or Sharon Messitte will return your call. Go to www.bj.org/blooddrive for information about how you can prepare to donate and learn about any restrictions that may apply.

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program Volunteers Needed

Time on your hands? Consider using your time and hands to volunteer with the Judith Bernstein Lunch Program. Due to the current economic downturn,

we have experienced a large increase in the number of people who depend on us for lunch each Thursday. Every Thursday we welcome over 100 guests at BJ for a nutritious, five-course sit down meal. We welcome families with children, homeless men and women, seniors unable to cook for themselves, and members of the working poor, regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity, or background. Our guests are individually addressed, personally welcomed, and served with kindness, dignity, respect and generosity. **Volunteers are needed for all shifts: Wednesday from 5:00-7:00PM, and Thursday from 9:00-10:30AM and 11:30AM-1:30PM.** For more information, please contact Susan Samuels at sssamuels@aol.com.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

K-2 Children and Families Shabbat Lunch

Saturday, November 15, 12:30-1:30PM, 86th Street Social Hall: Join us for our first K-2 Shabbat program of the year! There will be lunch, time for parents to relax, and grade-specific programming for the kids. To R.S.V.P., please contact Davey Rosen at drosen@bj.org or x244.

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Creating Kehillah (continued from page 2)

TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

▪ Se'udah Shlishit and Havdalah Celebration

Saturday, November 8, 4:00PM, 86th Street Parlor: Tze'irim will host a Seudah Shlishit (third meal) and Havdalah celebration filled with games, music, learning, and good food. Bring your favorite board game and a light snack to share, and enjoy time playing and moving from activity to activity at your leisure. No R.S.V.P. required; feel free to bring friends. Questions? Contact shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com.

BEKEF: 35+

▪ Bekef Brooklyn Bridge Walk

Sunday, November 9, 12:00PM, meet at Starbucks, 38 Park Row (between Spruce and Beekman Streets): Please join Craig Rosenberg and Henry Weinberger who will lead a historical review and a scenic walk over the Brooklyn Bridge. We will walk to the viewing area on the bridge and continue to the Promenade on the Brooklyn side, with a great view of Manhattan. The walk will conclude at the Henry Street Ale House for food and drinks at around 1:30PM. In case of bad weather and uncertainty if the walk is still taking place (and only in this case) please call Craig's cell: 917-692-3550. Please R.S.V.P. to Craig Rosenberg at crosenberg6@optonline.net.

HAVUROT

▪ Men's Havurah

Saturday, November 22, 5:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: You are invited to

a Havdalah/Melave Malka experience. We are going to escort Shabbat on her way out via singing, eating, and studying. We have a very special guest, Israel Campbell, who is going to teach from the Torah of humor. You just have to be male, whether straight, gay, single, married, or in any other self-definition. The Men's Havurah Committee includes Michael Yoeli, Moshe Horn, Chuck Gold, Bob Kanter, Nahum Precel, Jonathan Adelsberg and Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein. R.S.V.P. to ngoodhart@bj.org or x240.

AFFILIATES

▪ Sulha Benefit Concert for Peace

Saturday, November 8, 7:00PM, 86th Street: Join us for the first annual Sulha Benefit Concert for Peace. Sulha is a non-profit organization working to develop a culture of peaceful co-existence and equality among Israelis, Arabs, Jews and Muslims. The concert will celebrate and bring together a group of ethnically and religiously diverse musicians and speakers from all over the world, including Sulha Peace Project founder Gabriel Meyer Halevy, actress Debra Winger, Rumi poetry expert Coleman Barks, spiritual leader Gabriel Cousens, MD, Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, Ron Guttman, and Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina, renowned scholar of Islamic law and theology. Also featuring musicians Vishal Vaid, Hassan Hakmoun, Basya Schecter, Parashakti, Shahid Habib, and many more. Tickets: \$45 advance purchase, \$50 day of show, \$100 VIP. More info: www.globesonic.com/sulhapeace.

Upcoming Limud *Please see the BJ website, www.bj.org, for more information and how to register.*

▪ Introduction to Judaism

Rabbi Esther Lederman, Marshall T. Meyer Rabbinic Fellow

Mondays (through May 25) • 7:00–9:00PM • BJ Office, Conference Room 1 • Individuals: \$420 members/\$630 non-members; Couples: \$630/\$945. (Although you must enroll for the entire year, tuition may be paid in two installments.) This course offers an overview of the core beliefs, practices, and history of Judaism and the Jewish people. We hope to deepen the understanding of those just beginning to explore Jewish life, or those who would like to be able to participate more fully in the life of the Jewish community. No prior knowledge or experience necessary.

▪ The Book of Exodus

Rabbi Hillel Friedman

Tuesdays (through May 26) • 8:30–9:30AM • 88th Street • \$100 members/\$150 non-members. Using both traditional and modern commentaries, the class will study the Book of Exodus (in translation). Rabbi Hillel Friedman, a longtime member of our community, has been teaching adult courses at BJ for the past seven years.

▪ Parashat Hashavu'a: Study of the Weekly Torah Portion

Ezra Weinberg, Marshall T. Meyer Rabbinic Fellow

Thursdays (through May 28) • 7:00–8:30PM • BJ Office, Conference Room 1 • Free for members/\$150 for the year for non-members. As we study the weekly Torah portion with the aid of both ancient and modern interpretations, we will reveal its many layers and find ourselves reflected in its stories and teachings.

▪ Myth or Reality: Finding Truth in Religious Life

A Class for Tze'irim (20s and 30s)

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

4 Tuesdays (remaining classes November 11, 18) • 7:00–9:00PM • Rabbi

Sol's home; register for address • Free; registration required. Who wrote the Bible? Was there an Exodus? Does the God of the Torah operate in our world today? Often we are confronted with knowledge and scholarship that contradicts our understanding of Judaism or what we've been taught since we were children. How can religious life hold up to the test of scholarship? How can our mind and our soul not be in conflict? Join as we explore these issues together. Please register early, space is limited.

▪ Spiritual Practices for Times of Uncertainty

Rabbis Marcelo R. Bronstein and Rachel Cowan

6 Tuesdays (November 11, 18, 25, December 2, 9, 16) • 7:00–9:00PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration required. During these sessions we will explore and expand in a contemplative way some of the Jewish practices we spoke about during the Yamim Nora'im: Kehillah—community; Tefillah—prayer; Shabbat; Kashrut; Lashon Ha Tov—positive speech; Tzimtzum—contraction. Rabbi Rachel Cowan received her rabbinic ordination from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and is the author of *Growing up Yanqui* and co-author with the late Paul Cowan of *Mixed Blessings*. She is the Executive Director of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality.

▪ Abraham Joshua Heschel's Heavenly Torah

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

7 Wednesdays (remaining classes November 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17; no class Thanksgiving week) • 6:30–8:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. We resume our study of Rabbi Heschel's gigantic work on rabbinic thought in observance of his centennial year. Heavenly Torah, recently translated into English, explores the polarity in Judaism between transcendence and immanence, and between mysticism and rationalism. Please bring the book to class (available in paperback); no photocopies will be distributed. New participants are welcome.

General Information

WELCOME TO B'NAI JESHURUN! If you are unfamiliar with our community and Shabbat services, see our "Welcome to BJ" brochure at the back of the Sanctuary, or ask an usher to be seated next to a congregant familiar with the services.

• **Membership at B'nai Jeshurun:** You've attended services, you're inspired by social action, and you love the community... now consider joining BJ as a member! With membership packages for local and out-of-town visitors alike, there is one that is right for you. Special new member orientation included! Visit the BJ website, www.bj.org, or contact Belinda Lasky, Director of Membership at x224 or blasky@bj.org for more information.

• **A Note from the Ushers:** For those at the 7:30PM Friday night service, please bring books to the back as you leave. Tallitot and damaged books

may be brought to the back of the Sanctuary after Shabbat services. Men are asked to wear kippot during services. Photography, cell phone use, and food is not permitted in the Sanctuary. To prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before services begin.

• **Assistive Listening Devices for Services at BJ** are available during services at both 88th and 86th Streets. Contact the ushers at the back of the Sanctuary—and please remember to return the devices when you leave.

JOIN US AT THE BJ MORNING MINYAN: See updated information about the Morning Minyan at www.bj.org/schedule.php where you can indicate what days you plan to attend and view how many people have signed up for the current week—and see where our need is greatest.

Building Bridges Toward a Shared Society in Israel

By Guy Tsfoni

It is possible to live a full life in Israel as a Jew without ever having meaningful interactions with Israeli Arab citizens. Israeli policies and systems were designed so that in schools, community centers, youth programs, the Army, business, and cultural events, Arab and Jewish citizens would be separated from one another, ensuring that their lives would not be intertwined.

Because I grew up with this reality, I was amazed when my son chose to speak at his bar mitzvah at BJ about the two strongest experiences in his life: one, of living through a horrific war for the first time in Israel, and the other, the ease of creating friendships with Israeli Arab teens at Hashomer Hatzair's Camp Shomria in New York. What an irony it is that our family had to come to the United States for him to have this experience, and for me to understand through his eyes just how divided my country is.

Before I came to the United States I had the expectation that the American Jewish community, which believes in the values of diversity and co-existence, would understand that beyond the question of war and peace, left and right, the greatest challenge facing the future security of Israel would be the issue of civil rights and a shared society and future between Arabs and Jews. I was surprised to find how much more the American Jewish community is influenced by the prevailing Israeli point of view and discourse than by American values.

The Annual Other Israel Film Festival at the JCC in Manhattan from November 6-13 attempts to cross the divide. Part of the Festival, "Building Bridges between Israeli Arab and Jewish Culture" on Sunday, November 9, is a wonderful opportunity to expose families to the flourishing Israeli Arab culture through arts and cultural experiences. I believe that programs like this will begin to open avenues for creating a shared society and future for Arabs and Jews in Israel.

Guy Tsfoni is the Israeli Representative of the Kibbutz Movement and Givat Haviva.

The "Focus on Israel" column is edited by Robin Fleischner, a Vice President of BJ's Board of Trustees and Co-Chair of BJ's Israel Steering Committee.

Focus on Israel

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR MORE INFO: Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • BJ Annual Catalogue • Bikkur Holim

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