



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

BESHALLAH

SHABBAT SHIRAH

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

TRIENNIAL Exodus 14:15 - 16:10

1: 14:15 - 14:20

2: 14:21 - 14:25

3: 14:26 - 15:21

4: 15:22 - 15:26

5: 15:27 - 16:3

6: 16:4 - 16:7

7: 16:8 - 16:10

Maftir: 16:8 - 16:10

HAFTARAH

Judges 5:1 - 5:31

NEXT WEEK: **YITRO**

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 18:1 - 20:23

TRIENNIAL Exodus 18:1 - 20:23

HAFTARAH Isaiah 6:1 - 6:13

February 6-13, 2009

12-19 Shevat, 5769

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:00 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

Wandering Minyan

6:00 PM - 86th St. Social Hall

Shabbat Dinner for Singles 35-55

Following 6:00 PM service -

88th St. Frankel Hall

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:30 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Shabbat Services

Teen Shabbat

9:30 AM - 86th St.

5th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Program

9:30 AM - 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.3)

Children's Services

10:45 AM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

Community Kiddush

Following Services - 86th St. Social Hall

Tu Bishevat Concert: Ha'orot

7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM - 88th St.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Morning Minyan

TU BISHEVAT

7:30 AM - 88th St.

The 200+ Resume Initiative

8:30 AM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

Mitzvah Fair

5:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)

Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

7:00 PM - BJ Office

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: The Book of Exodus*

8:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: The Rabbinic Mind on Sinai*

12:30 PM - BJ Office (SEE P.3)

Gershon Gorenberg Presents: "The Democratic Jewish State

and Prospects for Peace"

7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: Piyyutim of Shabbat*

6:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

12:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall

Limud: Perversion and Holiness*

12:30 PM (SEE P.4)

Limud: A Parting of the Ways?*

7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)

Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a

7:00 PM - BJ Office

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

▪ **Marriage: A Matter of Civil Rights**

Tuesday, March 3, 6:30-8:30PM, 88th Street: Watch part of the documentary "Saving Marriage," about the Massachusetts fight to legalize same-sex marriage, and join the Marriage Equality Hevra for small group discussions about our current fight to assure that legislation passes in the New York Senate to legalize same-sex marriage. Help us kick off our mobilization of 100 BJ members to Albany on April 28 to speak directly with our legislators and let them know how important this issue is for progressive Jews. Please join us in this critical struggle!

For more information, please contact the co-chairs of the Marriage Equality Hevra: Marlene Halpern at jacobhw@msn.com, Amy Lavine at alavine@gaycenter.org, or call x259.

▪ **We Need Substitutes and Two New Permanent Tutors for the BJ/Ralph Bunche School Partnership!**

With just one or two hours you can make a real difference to an elementary school student. The BJ/Ralph Bunche School Partnership pairs BJ literacy volunteers one-on-one with 1st-4th graders. Reading/writing sessions are from 8:50-10:40AM on Tuesdays or from 12:10-2:00PM on Thursdays. The Ralph Bunche School is on West 123rd Street just east of Amsterdam Avenue. Please contact Channa Camins at ccamins@bj.org or x261 for more information.

* Please see the BJ website, www.bj.org, for more information and to register. (Registration for *Introduction to Judaism* is closed.)

Announcements

HA-MAKOM YENAHM

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

- Robin Aronow, Dennis, Garrett, Nathan, and Drew Adler on the death of their beloved father, father-in-law, and grandfather, Hyman Aronow.
- Richard, Laura, Jessica, Joshua, and Rachel Bass on the death of their beloved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Doris Bass.
- Amy and Molly Stevens on the death of their beloved father and grandfather, Irving Stevens.

Community Activities

• Tu Bishevat Concert: Ha'orot—The Lights of Rav Kook

Saturday, February 7, 7:00PM, 88th Street: Join BJ and Romemu for a musical journey into the poetry of Avraham Itzchak Hacohen Kook presented by Rabbi Itzchak Marmorstein, Rabbi Greg Wall, and the ensemble The Later Prophets. The concert will be preceded by havdalah and a session led by Rabbi David Ingber. Wine, nuts and fruit will be served. Admission: \$10 members/\$15 non-members. To sign up, please visit www.bj.org or contact Guy, x255.

• The 200+ Resume Initiative

Monday, February 9, 8:30AM, 88th Street: There is a story, attributed to the Ba'al Shem Tov, of two people wandering in the forest who meet and discover that neither knows the way out. What they do agree on, however, is that each can learn from the other about paths that have been unsuccessful. The 200+ Resume Initiative is a weekly place for BJ members to discuss the contemporary experience of seeking work with others who are/have been there. It is facilitated by BJ Employment Task force member Ian Miller, who as a psychoanalyst and organizational consultant has acquired the special knowledge that comes from sending out 200+ resumes. For more information, contact Ian Miller at ian@accordadvisorygroup.com.

• Gershom Gorenberg Presents "The Democratic Jewish State and Prospects for Peace"

Tuesday, February 10, 7:00PM, 88th Street: Gorenberg is an American-born Israeli historian, journalist, and blogger, specializing in Middle Eastern politics and the interaction of religion and politics. He is a senior correspondent for *The American Prospect*, a monthly American political magazine, and author of *The Accidental Empire: Israel and the Birth of the Settlements, 1967-1977* and *The End of Days: Fundamentalism and the Struggle for the Temple Mount*. Co-sponsored with the New Israel Fund. Free, registration not required.

• Friday Night Off-Broadway: Shabbat at BJ

Friday, February 13, following the 7:30PM service, 88th Street Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Extend your Shabbat experience beyond services. Following the 7:30PM service, BJ members and non-members in their 20s ONLY are invited to share an intimate Shabbat dinner together in Frankel Hall. Please visit www.bj.org to register. At 10:00PM, the entire BJ community is invited to enjoy dessert and celebrate Shabbat together with Pizmon, who will perform and lead us joyful Shabbat music. Cost: \$15 members/ \$20 non-members. For more information, contact Guy Felixbrodt, gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255.

• Community Kiddush followed by Shabbat Study with Peninnah Schram

Saturday, February 14, following Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Social Hall and Chapel: Join the BJ community immediately following Kiddush as storyteller and BJ member Peninnah Schram teaches about "Yitro and the power of stories."

• Unemployed or Underemployed?

Monday, February 16, 5:00PM, location TBD: Join BJ Employment Help Task Force members Joan Westreich, LCSW and Ian Miller, PhD, MBA at small groups where we will explore your needs surrounding securing employment.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Shirley Dorfman on the upcoming wedding of her son, Jeffrey Dorfman, to Karen Cohen.
- Scott Allen on the birth of his granddaughter, Teagyn Molly Allen.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by the parents of the teenagers in honor of their hard work and dedication to BJ.

As a community, we hope to assess our members' concrete needs and barriers to securing work as a first step to matching them to available resources within BJ and beyond. Groups will meet February 16, February 23 and March 2 at 5:00PM, and March 11, March 18 and March 25 at 4:00PM. For additional information, please contact Joan Westreich at jwestreich@earthlink.net.

• Haknusat Orhim Dinners Hosted at Members' Homes

Friday, February 27, following the 6:00PM service: After a successful first set of hosted dinners at members' homes, we are happy to let you know that another set of dinners are scheduled as part of the Haknusat Orhim (welcoming guests) initiative. BJ members only are welcome to register and be matched according to location. Registration is first come, first served. If you are interested, please contact Guy Felixbrodt by Tuesday, February 17 at gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255.

• Aliyah for Longtime Members

Saturday, February 28, during Shabbat morning services, 86th Street: All members who joined the BJ community in or before 1990 are invited to celebrate their continuing commitment to membership at BJ with the honor of being called to the Torah for an aliyah. A Community Kiddush in your honor will follow services.

• Death and Dying in Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Judaism: The Annual Helen Radin z"l Zayin Adar Teaching

Monday, March 2, 7:15PM, 88th Street: Join us for a panel discussion hosted by BJ's Hevra Kadisha and Interfaith Committees on Zayin Adar, the seventh day of the Hebrew month of Adar, when Moses was born and died. The panel of clergy includes Reverend George Hanzo, Imam Yusuf Hasan, Reverend T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki, and Rabbi Simkha Weintraub, who will share the death and dying traditions of four religions: Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Judaism. This is the second annual teaching in memory of our beloved Helen Radin, z"l, a dedicated staff member and active volunteer for the Hevra Kadisha. Donations to the Helen Radin Memorial Zayin Adar Teaching Fund can be made at www.bj.org. For more information, contact Yaffa Garber at ygarber@bj.org x256. This event is free and open to the public.

• Dinner and Orientation for New Members

Thursday, March 5, 6:00-9:00PM, member's home: New members—please join us for a special dinner and orientation program! Meet new and current members, explore what makes BJ special, and find ways to make your membership meaningful. Space is limited; please R.S.V.P. to Sarah Verity at x250 or sverity@bj.org by Friday, February 13. Don't miss this great opportunity!

• Are You LinkedIn?

BJ encourages all members to join LinkedIn, the social networking site, and then to join the "B'nai Jeshurun-New York City" LinkedIn group. LinkedIn has fast become the place of choice for individuals and organization looking for employees and consultants. For more information, visit www.linkedin.com or contact communications@bj.org.

Creating Kehillah

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

5th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Program

Saturday, February 7, 9:30-10:30AM, 86th Street Chapel: All 5th graders who will become bar/bat mitzvah at BJ, and their parents, are invited to attend a morning of learning.

Mitzvah Fair

Monday, February 9, 5:30-7:00PM, 86th Street: Join us if you are planning a B'nai Mitzvah social action project or looking for more opportunities to do mitzvot in our community, in Israel, and the world. Contact Davey at drosen@bj.org, x244.

Pre-Purim 3rd-5th Grade Havdalah and Movie Night

Saturday, February 28, 5:30-9:00PM, 86th Street Social Hall: BJ's third, fourth and fifth graders (no matter where you receive your Jewish education) and their parents are invited to come at 5:30PM to help pack Mishloah Manot (Purim baskets) to be donated, and for Havdalah. Kids-only movie night with pizza and ice cream follows. R.S.V.P. to Elana at eayalon@bj.org and we will tell you what to bring to help make Purim baskets.

Bim Bam with BJ: Pre-Shabbat Class for Babies & Toddlers

Fridays in March, (3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, with a bonus class 4/3), 10:45AM, 88th Street Social Hall: Celebrate Shabbat early with your child at B'nai Jeshurun on Friday mornings as we sing those catchy BJ songs, say tra-

ditional blessings, eat challah, and teach our children (and remind ourselves) about Shabbat. Children will learn about Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) by giving tzedakah (charity), so please bring your coins each week.

Members with all levels of observance are encouraged to volunteer to lead a portion of our time together. Please bring a Kosher dairy or pareve lunch if you wish to stay in Frankel Hall with your new friends after class. Children ages 0-3 and their parents or caregivers are encouraged to attend. To register, contact Elana Ayalon at eayalon@bj.org. Class is limited to 20. Free for members/\$72 non-members.

BEKEF: 35+

Ski Day Trip

Sunday, March 1, Windham Mountain, Catskills: Join us for a day of skiing. Details (costs, transportation, etc.) to be determined. If interested, please contact Craig Rosenberg at crosenberg6@optonline.net, and tell him if you have access to a car and how many people you can take. Sponsored by Bekef, but open to all ages.

Woman's Retreat

Rabbi Felicia Sol and Esther Lederman

April 24-26 • Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center. Join us for our eighth BJ women's retreat. Be part of a Shabbat weekend devoted to encountering the tradition and ourselves through kol nashim (the voice of women). **Registration is now open.**

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

The Rabbinic Mind on Sinai

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

7 Tuesdays (remaining classes February 10, 17, March 3, 10, 17, 24) • 12:30-1:45PM • BJ Office • Free; registration required. Beginning with a close read of the biblical story, we will then take a step-by-step look at three different midrashic texts on the revelation on Mount Sinai: Pirke deRabbi Eliezer, Mekhilta deRabbi Ishmael and Exodus Rabbah. Come to understand how the rabbis think, and explore different explanations and understandings of the story and the ability to experience Sinai through studying it. No Hebrew reading necessary.

Piyyutim Of Shabbat

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon with Hazzan Ari Priven, Yosef Goldman and Basya Schechter

5 Wednesdays (February 11, 25, March 4, 11, 18) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. Beautiful liturgical poems grace the Shabbat prayers and the Shabbat table. We will examine the texts and learn extraordinary music for several Shabbat piyyutim.

LUNCH AND LEARN: Perversion and Holiness

Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis in Bava Metzi'a Chapter 7

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

6 Thursdays (remaining classes February 12, 26, March 5, 12, 19) • 12:30-1:45PM • Location to be announced • Free; registration required. We will study a chain of stories that appear in the seventh chapter of tractate *Bava Metzi'a*, one of the pearls of Talmudic literary creativity. These stories reflect the concerns and struggles, fears and fantasies, even the dark side of our Talmudic sages. We will attempt to look at ourselves in the mirror of the Talmud in order to understand and confront our own nature. No knowledge of Hebrew is required. **Class is full, but you can sign up to be added to the waitlist.** Please bring your own lunch.

Third Annual Stuart Polly Interfaith Study:

A Parting of the Ways? Christians and Jews in the Early Centuries of the Common Era

Dr. Peter C. Bouteneff, Saint Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Theological Seminary, and Dr. Seth Schwartz, The Jewish Theological Seminary

4 Thursdays (remaining classes February 12, 19, 26) • 7:00-9:00PM • 88th Street • Free; registration required. Building on the success of last year's introduction to the basics of Christianity in the first century, our interfaith study this year shifts to the next five centuries. This year's series will contrast and compare the history of Judaism and Christianity during that period. The course will assume some knowledge of the faith and traditions of our Christian neighbors. Students will be expected to attend regularly and to participate in reading and discussions.

Five More Conversations About Israel

Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein

5 Tuesdays (March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31) • 7:00-8:30PM • 86th Street Parlor • Free; registration required. Marcelo, in partnership with HaMakom, the Israel Engagement Network, will present five short documentaries and text that will be the basis of our conversations.

Prayer and Synagogue Skills

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

3 Tuesdays (March 17, 24, 31) • 7:00-9:00PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration required. For those longing to have a deeper understanding of the Shabbat and weekday prayer service, this class will address questions such as: What is the structure of the service? What is the choreography of the service? How can we balance personal spontaneous prayer with the fixed text of the siddur? Each class will be comprised of three elements: (1) the study of a text to uncover the essence and meaning of prayer; (2) the chanting/davening of a particular prayer or psalm; and (3) the study of the liturgy and its structure and choreography. No Hebrew reading necessary.

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.

• **Silver Name Badges:** New to BJ? Have questions about membership? Look for people wearing silver name badges—feel free to approach them with your questions or even just to introduce yourself—they can help!

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. If you are interested in receiving a weekly minyan email, please contact Ari Priven at apriven@bj.org.

"The one who keeps you will not sleep"—A peaceful moment in Sderot

By Ayala Miron

This article describes a visit to Sderot organized by the B'Kavod Foundation, operating under the IRAC, Israeli Religious Action Center, which reaches out to support residents in Israel's south.

"Shalev" is the Hebrew word for peaceful, and this is the name Sima gave her son, born in Sderot four years ago, following an anxiety-stricken pregnancy. "I hoped his coming would bring me the peace I so much needed," she explains.

Visiting Sima and Shalev last Thursday felt like opening an overstuffed closet. She has been living in Sderot for 25 years. Sima has raised her three sons mostly by herself, in the last eight years under the constant threat of Qassam rockets. Her oldest son lives in Sderot, but since the war broke out, his wife and their child moved to her parents' house near Ramla. Sima's second son and his bride moved to a one-room apartment in Jerusalem.

"Everybody is leaving," she despairs. "I can't take another Shabbat by myself." While she unfolds her story, Shalev is busy creating a colorful cape. Next comes the crown. "I am an expert in that," he proudly exclaims. Putting them on, he looks quite majestic, bringing a spark of light to his mother's eyes. She goes on describing how, after eight years of bombing, she has now turned into a voluntary prisoner in her own little apartment. It is hard for Shalev not to be able to get out of the house, but most of the time, she says, he is good about it.

In a moment, majestic Shalev is busy again. This time it is something that looks like a rectangular pipe, with a handle. He stuffs a small rubber ball in the opening of this colorful, right angled instrument. In a moment he is firing, "Boom! Boom!" he shouts, holding his "gun" like a trained soldier.

Turning to his mother, he doesn't hesitate for a moment: "Don't worry," he says. "I will protect you." He fires the rubber ball and playfully runs to catch it, cape, crown and all.

Rabbi Ayala Miron was born and raised in Tel Aviv in a family of Iraqi origin. While spending time in the U.S. to earn an M.A. at UCLA's film school, she discovered the world of liberal Judaism. Returning to Israel, she joined the program for Israeli Rabbis at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, where she was ordained in November 2005. Together with a handful of families she founded Bavat Ayin Congregation in Rosh HaAyin, drawn to the possibility of introducing liberal Jewish life to the traditional, originally Yemenite, yet rapidly growing city, located east of Tel Aviv.

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

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • Guide to the BJ Community • Bikkur Holim

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