



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

**BEMIDBAR**

MEVARKHIM HAHODESHEH

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Numbers 1:1 - 4:20

**TRIENNIAL** Numbers 2:1 - 3:13

- 1: 2:1 - 2:9
- 2: 2:10 - 2:16
- 3: 2:17 - 2:24
- 4: 2:25 - 2:31
- 5: 2:32 - 2:34
- 6: 3:1 - 3:4
- 7: 3:5 - 3:13
- Maftir: 3:11 - 3:13

**HAFTARAH** 1 Samuel 20:18 - 42

**May 22-29, 2009**

**28 Iyar-6 Sivan, 5769**

**FRIDAY, MAY 22**

<b>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</b>	6:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
<b>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</b>	7:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
<b>Challah &amp; Schmooze</b>	Following 7:30 PM Service – 88th St. Sanctuary

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 44 (Gevurah Shebemalkhut)

**SATURDAY, MAY 23**

<b>Shabbat Services</b>	9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
<b>Bar Mitzvah</b>	Roman Brown
<b>Bat Mitzvah</b>	Revital Laurence
<b>Naming</b>	Naomi Grace Robinson-Pasher
<b>Children's Services</b>	10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor
<b>Community Kiddush</b>	Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall
<b>Shabbat Teaching</b>	Following Kiddush – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 45 (Tiferet Shebemalkhut)

**SUNDAY, MAY 24**

<b>Morning Minyan</b>	9:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>Bat Mitzvah</b>	Sofia Vainesman
<b>Limud: Rosh Hodesh Women's Group*</b>	11:30 AM – 86th St. Parlor (SEE P.3)

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 46 (Netzah Shebemalkhut)

**MONDAY, MAY 25**

<b>BJ OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b>
<b>Morning Minyan</b>	9:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>Bar Mitzvah</b>	Luca Samuel Eisen

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 47 (Hod Shebemalkhut)

**TUESDAY, MAY 26**

<b>Morning Minyan</b>	7:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>Limud: The Book of Exodus</b>	8:30 AM – 88th St. (last class of the year)
<b>Limud: Interfaith Family Workshop*</b>	7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 48 (Yesod Shebemalkhut)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27**

<b>Morning Minyan</b>	7:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>Limud: BJ Beit Midrash*</b>	6:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)
<b>with Rabbis J. Rolando Matalon and Felicia L. Sol</b>	

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 49 (Malkhut Shebemalkhut)

**THURSDAY, MAY 28**

<b>Morning Minyan</b>	7:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>Judith Bernstein Lunch Program</b>	12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
<b>First Evening Shavuot Service</b>	8:30 PM – 88th St.
<b>Tikkun Leil Shavuot</b>	9:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE SIDEBAR)

**EREV SHAVUOT**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**

<b>BJ OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>1ST DAY SHAVUOT</b>
<b>Sunrise Services</b>	5:30 AM – 88th St.
<b>First Day Shavuot Services</b>	10:00 AM – 88th St.
<b>Children's Services</b>	11:15 AM – 88th St.
<b>Community Picnic (weather permitting)</b>	Following Services – Riverside Park

\* Please see the BJ website, [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org), for more information and to register.

**Shavuot at BJ**

• **BJ's Tikkun Leil Shavuot: All-night Torah Study**  
**Thursday, May 28**, see schedule below, 88th Street:  
 9:00-10:15PM: "Seeing Sinai" study session with artist Jill Nathanson and Chancellor Arnold Eisen of JTS, a visual and textual hevruta study.  
 10:30-11:45PM, study session with Chancellor Eisen. Midnight-5:00AM, study with the BJ Rabbis and Fellows.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:**

**Thursday, May 28 • Erev Shavuot**

<i>Evening Service</i>	
88th Street Sanctuary.....	8:30-9:00 PM
<i>Tikkun Leil Shavuot</i>	
88th Street Sanctuary.....	9:00 PM-midnight
88th Street Frankel Hall.....	midnight-5:15 AM

**Friday, May 29 • First Day Shavuot**

<i>Sunrise Services</i> .....	5:30 AM
<i>Morning Services</i>	
88th Street Sanctuary.....	10:00 AM
<i>Children's Services</i>	
88th Street Frankel Hall.....	11:15 AM
<i>Community Picnic</i>	
Riverside Park (weather permitting) ...	Following Services

**Friday, May 29 • Second Evening Shavuot**

**Saturday, May 30 • Second Day Shavuot (Yizkor)**

Services will be held at the usual Shabbat service times and locations for both Friday night and Saturday morning.

## Announcements

### HA-MAKOM YENAHM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Barbara Goldman, and extends sincere condolences to her entire family.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Michael Weintraub, and extends sincere condolences to his entire family.

To the following members and their families:

- Amy Wachtel on the death of her beloved uncle, Joseph Wachtel.
- Larry Gifford and Joe Antenson on the death of their beloved mother and mother-in-law, Selma Gifford.
- Cindy Rosenthal, Emmanuel, Anya and Adin Levy on the death of their beloved father, father-in-law, and grandfather, Murray Rosenthal.

### MAZAL TOV

- Roman, David and Griffin Brown and Beverly Adler on Roman becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

- Revital, Lara, Aviv, Eyal and Tsivya Laurence on Revital becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Sofia, Diego and Lucio Vainesman and Pam Pritchett on Sofia becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Luca and Joshua Eisen and Ellen Silverman on Luca becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Ian, Gabriel, Leslie, Daniel, Eytan and Ryan Kupchik on Ian becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal on her ordination at the Jewish Theological Seminary.
- Matthew Pasher and Lori Robinson on the birth and naming of their daughter, Naomi Grace Robinson-Pasher.

### TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is co-sponsored by Lara and Aviv Laurence in honor of Revital becoming a Bat Mitzvah, and by Matthew Pasher and Lori Robinson in honor of the naming of their daughter, Naomi.

## Community Activities

### • BJ Softball 2009

**Thursdays (remaining dates May 28; June 4, 11, 18, 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30),** 7:00–8:30PM, Central Park Field 12 North Meadow (96th St. entrance): More information: Jody Prusan, [jpmazel@aol.com](mailto:jpmazel@aol.com).

### • Shabbat Teaching

**Saturday, May 23**, following Community Kiddush after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Chapel: Join BJ member Susan Charney and BJ Social Worker Susan Kalev as they teach about "Bemidbar—Census in the Wilderness Then and 70 Years Ago." They will discuss the parasha and stories from a recent publication about their own personal experiences of being Hungarian hidden children during the Shoah. Free; R.S.V.P. requested to [skalev@bj.org](mailto:skalev@bj.org).

### • Host an Israeli!

**Wednesday, May 27–Tuesday, June 2:** As part of our deep commitment to Israel, BJ is hosting a group from Tel Aviv's Beit Tefilah, one of our sister Israeli communities. Is it possible for you to host one of our visitors? Our guests are coming to New York to learn about BJ and Jewish communal life here, and will be scheduled for activities constantly. Thus, there will be little time that they will actually be at home with you. You will not be obligated to provide entertainment, only an accommodation. The hosting function, therefore, is relatively easy. Alternatively, let us know if you can host a Shabbat dinner for a few of our Israeli guests on May 29. Contact Chen Tsfoni at [tsfoni@gmail.com](mailto:tsfoni@gmail.com).

### • Salute to Israel Parade

**Sunday, May 31, 11:00AM–4:00PM**, Fifth Ave., 57th to 79th Streets: Join BJ to march in the Salute to Israel Parade. This year, the theme of the parade is "Celebrating Tel Aviv at 100." Our friends visiting from our sister community in Tel Aviv, Beit Tefilah Israeli, will join Tel Aviv Mayor Huldai on the Tel Aviv float. They have asked us to join them to march with the float. We will meet at the Tel Aviv float at 11:00AM at 57th Street and 5th Avenue. For more information, please contact Chen Tsfoni at [tsfoni@gmail.com](mailto:tsfoni@gmail.com).

### • Finding Financial Stability in Times of Change

**Monday, June 1, 7:00–8:30PM**, 88th Street: A presentation by Spencer Sherman, financial advisor and author of *The Cure for Money Madness*. Are you making a career or life change? Are you feeling anxiety/fear around your finances? Join Spencer Sherman, named by *Worth* magazine as one of the top 100 financial advisors in the U.S., for a practical and profound presentation on tools for managing your money in times of change. Free; registration required to Maria Freebairn-Smith, 866-872-3210, x1.

### • Cookie Bake-Off for Annual Meeting!

**Tuesday, June 2, 7:30–9:30PM**, location given with R.S.V.P: The Annual Meeting is coming up on Thursday, June 4, and this year we will feature homemade cookies and baked goods! The community will gather in a cozy kitchen to bake delicious treats together. Tell us your favorite cookie recipe in advance and we'll provide the ingredients. R.S.V.P. by Monday, June 1 for location. Contact Belinda Lasky at [blasky@bj.org](mailto:blasky@bj.org) or x224 with questions.

### • Being Together, Back to Basics: BJ Community Retreat

**Friday, June 5–Sunday, June 7**, Block & Hexter Vacation Center: We are very excited to let you know that many members of all ages, including families, couples, and singles, have already signed up for the retreat. There are still some spots available and we would love for you to join us. Please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) to register. Full scholarships for children are still available. Questions or discount/scholarship info: Guy Felixbrodt, x255.

### • Students! Summertime Help in the BJ Office

Summertime is a busy season at the BJ office. We are offering opportunities to reliable people who can assist with computer data entry, interesting projects, and general office assistance in the Membership Department. An ideal experience for high school or college students available in June, July and/or August. Community service hours available. Please contact Belinda Lasky at [blasky@bj.org](mailto:blasky@bj.org) or x224 for more information.

### • Membership & High Holy Day Information

The 2009-2010 membership year begins on July 1. Membership renewal and High Holy Day materials will be mailed to BJ members the first week of June. New members are invited to join our community. Please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) on June 1 to complete the online membership form and find updated High Holy Day information for 2009. Locations are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Belinda Lasky, [blasky@bj.org](mailto:blasky@bj.org) or Sarah Verity, [sverity@bj.org](mailto:sverity@bj.org) for more information.

### • Memorial Plaques

As seasons change, we recall those who are no longer with us and are grateful for the gift of their lives, their companionship and the cherished memories that endure. BJ reserves a special area in the sanctuary to honor their memory by having their name permanently inscribed on black granite memorial plaques. To honor the memory of your loved one in this way, please call Elizabeth Stone at x233. Names will be inscribed before the High Holy Days and a ceremony in their memory will take place in the winter. All requests must be received by August 14.

(continued on page 3)

## Community Activities, *continued from page 2*

### ▪ Mahzorim Fund

As our congregation continues to grow, we have noticed the need for more High Holy Day prayer books. This year we are pleased to announce that additional mahzorim will be added to ensure that there are enough books for our

members. We are offering the community the opportunity to honor and memorialize a loved one on an occasion; for each donation of \$36, a personalized bookplate will be added to a book. To participate, please contact Elizabeth Stone at x233.

## Creating Kehillah

### SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### ▪ Summer Shelter Volunteers Needed!

Many homeless shelters close their doors during the summer because they cannot find enough volunteers. Not the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter! We stay open all year round, five nights a week. However, to do so we need your help. While many of our regular volunteers are away, we need to fill gaps in the schedule with temporary volunteers. Even if you can volunteer only one night this summer, you will help us provide a safe and welcoming environment. If enough kind-hearted people volunteer, we could all sleep more soundly. For more information, contact Anne Millman at [anniemill@aol.com](mailto:anniemill@aol.com) or x340.

### YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

#### ▪ Family Fun in Riverside Park!

**Sunday, May 31**, 3:00–6:00PM, Riverside Park: Join other BJ families for an afternoon of helping to beautify Riverside Park followed by a potluck picnic dinner. The volunteer work (which will comprise the first two hours) is appropriate for children ages 8 and up, but anyone is welcome to join us at 5:00PM for the picnic and some outdoor games. Please R.S.V.P. by May 22 to Leora at x271 or [lfrankel@bj.org](mailto:lfrankel@bj.org) for the exact meeting location.

#### ▪ BJ Hebrew School Open House

**Thursday June 11**, 5:30PM, 88th Street: Thinking about your child's Jewish education? Do you know about the Hebrew School at BJ? Come to a B'nai Jeshurun Hebrew School prospective parent meeting. Meet Ivy Schreiber, Director of Education for Youth and Family and learn about the Hebrew School's vision and curriculum. Contact Elana Ayalon, [eayalon@bj.org](mailto:eayalon@bj.org) or x260, for more information.

#### ▪ Bim Bam with BJ: Pre-Shabbat Class for Babies and Toddlers

**7 Thursdays** (June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16) or **7 Fridays** (June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17), 10:45AM, 88th St. Sanctuary (Thursdays) or 88th St. Frankel Hall (Fridays): Celebrate Shabbat early with your child at B'nai Jeshurun as we sing those catchy BJ songs, say traditional blessings, eat challah, and teach our children (and remind ourselves) all 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 register. We will create community and start Jewish traditions in our homes. Children ages 0-3 and their parents or caregivers are encouraged to attend. Sign up at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

#### ▪ Young Families Tot Shabbat Service and Picnic Dinner

**Friday, June 5**, 5:30PM, Riverside Park at 90th Street (rain location is 88th Street): Join us for an end-of-the-year Tot Shabbat service and dinner with other families with children five and under. We will sing, dance and welcome Shabbat and then have a picnic Shabbat dinner together. Please bring a blanket for your family to sit on. You do not need to R.S.V.P. for the service, only for dinner. Sign-up is available on the BJ website, [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org), or by contacting Elana at [eayalon@bj.org](mailto:eayalon@bj.org).

### BEKEF: 35+

#### ▪ Friday Night Dinner: Bekef

**Friday, June 12**, following the 7:30PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Extend your Shabbat experience beyond services. BJ member and non-member singles 35-55 ONLY are invited to share an intimate Shabbat dinner together. Cost: \$15 members/\$20 non-members. Please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) to register. Questions? Guy Felixbrodt, [gfelixbrodt@bj.org](mailto:gfelixbrodt@bj.org), x255.

### HAVUROT

#### ▪ Join a Havurah

Are you interested in a small group setting where you can get to know more like-minded people within the BJ community? Then a Havurah is the right thing for you! There are currently quite a few active Havurot in our community and the following ones are open for new members: Baking Havurah, Book of Genesis Study Havurah, Care Givers Havurah, Empty Nesters Havurah, Havurah Haverim Tovim, Rak Be'ivrit Havurah, and the Single Parent Havurah. For more information about a specific Havurah and how to join it, contact Guy Felixbrodt at [gfelixbrodt@bj.org](mailto:gfelixbrodt@bj.org).

### AFFILIATES

#### ▪ Mentshn by Sholem Aleichem

**May 23–June 12**, Theatre 3, 311 West 43rd St. (west of 8th Avenue): A world premiere English adaptation by BJ member Ellen Perceman and Clay McLeod Chapman of "Mentshn" by Sholem Aleichem, directed by Marc Geller. It's 1907. Times are tough and jobs are hard to come by. So the hired help at Mme. Gold's house have no choice but to put up with the abuse. Or do they? Presented by New Worlds Theatre Project (Ellen Perceman, Artistic Director). For schedule and other information, visit [www.newworldsproject.org](http://www.newworldsproject.org) or call 917-513-7620. Tickets: \$18 at [www.theatremania.com](http://www.theatremania.com) or call 212-352-3101.

## Upcoming Limud *Please see the BJ website, [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org), for more information and how to register.*

#### ▪ Rosh Hodesh Women's Group for Sivan

*Facilitated by Rabbi Felicia L. Sol*

**Sunday, May 24** • 11:30AM • 86th Street Parlor • Free; registration not required. Following morning minyan, which begins at 9:30AM, join Rabbi Felicia Sol as we welcome in the month of Sivan and prepare to stand again at Sinai. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian kosher dish to this potluck brunch. Note: Morning Minyan is at 88th Street; the Rosh Hodesh Group will meet at 86th Street.

#### ▪ Interfaith Family Workshop

*Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein*

**4 Tuesdays** (remaining class May 26) • 7:00–8:30PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration required. Marcelo will facilitate group

discussions each week. Appropriate for all, including dating couples, married couples, singles, grandparents, and newlyweds.

#### ▪ BJ Beit Midrash

*Rabbis J. Rolando Matalon and Felicia L. Sol*

**4 Wednesdays** (remaining class May 27) • 6:30–8:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. The essence of Torah learning is built around the relationship of hevrotot (study partnerships). BJ is striving to incorporate this model of learning within the community and encourages all members to commit to study in hevruta. The theme will be Pirkei Avot, which is typically studied between Pesah and Shavuot. Participants are encouraged to find a hevruta partner in advance of the class, but we will match people up in the class as well.

## 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](http://www.bj.org), or contact Belinda Lasky, Director of Membership at x224 or [blasky@bj.org](mailto: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!

• **LinkIn to Help Out!**

In these difficult times, we are trying many ways to help members find jobs and network. *Join us in this very important effort* simply by joining "B'nai Jeshurun-New York City," the BJ group on LinkedIn, [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com). There you can share your professional network, post jobs and respond to any ongoing discussions that are posted in the group.

**JOIN US AT THE BJ MORNING MINYAN:** See updated information about the Morning Minyan at [www.bj.org/schedule.php](http://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](mailto:apriven@bj.org).

## Meet Beit Tefilah Israeli

By **Chen Ben-Or Tsfonti and Robin Fleischner**

From May 27 to June 2, BJ will have a rare opportunity to encounter Israelis who have created an indigenous spiritual community in the heart of secular Tel Aviv, Beit Tefilah Israeli (BTI).

BJ's revolution in liberal Judaism triggered the creation of BTI. Walking on Broadway after a BJ Kabbalat Shabbat service, a group of Israelis, overwhelmed by the effect the service had on them, realized the absurdity of having to cross the ocean to experience meaningful, relevant Jewish prayer. They decided to do something about it, and a few months later, founded BTI.

BTI's liberal Israeli indigenous approach to Jewish practice is offered to Tel Avivians, not only in its regular services and activities, but also by making modern Judaism accessible to the general public in the most visible centers of secular life in the big city. One of the most moving spiritual experiences on a BJ Israel trip occurred on the boardwalk of Tel Aviv's renovated old port in July 2007, where BTI held a Kabbalat Shabbat service facing the sunset over the Mediterranean. As our Israeli and American voices joined in the rejuvenated ancient prayers, onlookers strolling and swimming on the weekend night paused to listen and join us. The Port Authority which granted the permit for the experimental event was so excited about the outcome, they asked BTI to continue the Friday night services on the boardwalk throughout the summer!

There is no better way to connect with Israelis than by hosting one of our visitors from BTI in your home for four nights from May 29 to June 1 or hosting a Shabbat dinner on May 29. Contact Chen Tsfonti at [tsfonti@gmail.com](mailto:tsfonti@gmail.com). You can also join our BTI guests at Shavuot services on May 28 to 30.

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.

**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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