

**RABBIS:**  
J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

**HAZZAN & MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Ari Priven

**MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS:**  
Rabbi Ezra D. Weinberg  
Michelle Dardashti

**CANTORIAL INTERN:** Shira Wallach

## LEKH LEKHA

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 12:1 - 17:27

**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 16:1 - 17:27

1: 16:1 - 16:6  
2: 16:7 - 16:9  
3: 16:10 - 16:16  
4: 17:1 - 17:6  
5: 17:7 - 17:17  
6: 17:18 - 17:23  
7: 17:24 - 17:27

Maftir: 17:24 - 17:27

**HAFTARAH** Isaiah 40:27 - 41:16

## NEXT WEEK: VAYERA

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 18:1 - 22:24

**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 21:1 - 22:24

**HAFTARAH** II Kings 4:1 - 4:23



## NEW KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

### 5:00PM (first and third Fridays of the month)

**Tot Shabbat:** A half hour of Shabbat songs and stories for children up to age six.

**5:45PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service:** Everyone is welcome at this hour-long adult service, and we encourage families with children in elementary school to join us.

**7:30PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service:** We welcome everyone to this adult service, which lasts approximately one hour and 15 minutes.



## SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

### • SIGN UP NOW: Blood Drive at BJ

**Wednesday, November 18, 4:00-9:00PM, 88th Street:** Mark your calendars to donate blood at the next BJ/SPSA Blood Drive. It does not hurt! People are often reluctant to give because they think it will be painful or unpleasant, but it isn't any of those things. Give the gift of life. This donation doesn't depend on your bank account and is the greatest mitzvah of them all! Please contact Sharon at shasiem@aol.com or call x373 and leave a message with your name, phone number, and best time slot for you. Sharon Messitte will return your call. Go to [www.bj.org/blooddrive](http://www.bj.org/blooddrive) for information about how you can prepare to donate, and learn about any restrictions that may apply.

## October 30-November 6, 2009 12-19 Heshvan, 5770

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 5:45 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 7:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

**Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary

**Bat Mitzvah** Grace Mehler

**Children's Services** 10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

**Community Kiddush** Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

**Teen Volunteer Opportunity at Queens Mitzvah Day** 8:30 AM (SEE P.2)

**Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – 88th St. Sanctuary

**Sacred Spaces Exhibit Presentation** 11:00 AM – Museum of Biblical Art (SEE P.2)

**Interfaith Fall Feast** 5:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.

**Limud: Introduction to Judaism\*** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.

**Limud: The Book of Exodus\*** 8:30 AM – 88th St.

**BJ Working Knowledge Initiative** 10:00 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

**Limud: Abraham Joshua Heschel's Heavenly Torah\*** 6:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

**Limud: BJ Salons\*** 7:00 PM (SEE P.3)

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.

**B'nai Mitzvah Parent Orientation Meeting** 7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

**Limud: Creating a Meaningful Jewish Practice\*** 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

**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.3)

**Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a\*** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.

**Bim Bam** 10:45 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HA-MAKOM YENAH<sup>EM</sup>

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Charles and Nancy Posternak on the death of their beloved father and father-in-law, Joseph Posternak.

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Grace, Gordon and Rachel Mehler and Ariel Zwang on Grace becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Suzanne Pincus and Dan Shidlovsky on the birth of their son, Noah Liam Shidlovsky.
- BJ staff member Liz Stone and Greg Rosenblum on their recent engagement.

### TODAH RABBAH

This week's Community Kiddush is co-sponsored by Hella Moritz on her farewell to B'nai Jeshurun and retirement to São Paulo, and by BJ in honor of the Bikkur Holim volunteers.

### B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

New BJ members who are joining us tonight for the New Member Shabbat Dinner.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### • Sacred Spaces Exhibit Presentation by Tobi Kahn and Discussion with Roly

**Sunday, November 1**, 11:00AM, Museum of Biblical Art, 1865 Broadway at 61st St.: Join us at the MOBIA for the first exhibition exploring Kahn's notion of sacred space, which marks the public debut of a complex new work—a visually cohesive environment Kahn has created for the interior of a synagogue, Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Kahn is a painter and sculptor whose work has been shown in over fifty solo exhibitions and sixty museum and group shows. The presentation will be followed by a discussion with Tobi Kahn and Rabbi Roly Matalon about sacred spaces. R.S.V.P. is required to Guy at gfelixbrodt@bj.org.

### • BJ Working Knowledge Initiative

**Tuesday, November 3**, 10:00AM–12:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: BJ and the Accord Advisory Group, a global partnership specializing in professional and psychological development of executives, are launching the Working Knowledge Initiative. The WKI will meet weekly starting November 3 and offer participants free meetings combining discussion of the psychological hurdles facing underemployed individuals and tools necessary to consider developing their own businesses. Over time, groups with shared interests and complementary skills will develop and be able to participate in an intensive, 3-month-long business development program. R.S.V.P. to Ian Miller at info@accordadvisorygroup.com.

### • BJ Book Club

**Saturday, November 7**, 2:00PM, R.S.V.P. for location to zsucharney@verizon.net or dsdresner@aol.com: Join the BJ Book Club for our monthly discussion of a Jewish-themed book. This month, we will discuss John Updike's astute and witty depiction of a Jewish writer in America, *Bech: A Book*. Newcomers are welcome!

### • Teacher-in-Residence Community Dinner

**Friday, November 13**, following the 5:45PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us for the first community dinner of the year with teacher-in-residence Chaim Seidler-Feller. Now in his 34th year as director of UCLA Hillel, Rabbi Seidler-Feller has also taught Kabbalah and Talmud and is a member of many acclaimed Jewish educational institutes. To register, please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

### • Men's Havurah

**Saturday, November 21** • 5:00-7:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall: The November meeting of the Men's Havurah will feature Esther Perel speaking about "Masculinity... a Post-Feminist Reading." We are going to reverse the order of the program. Esther will start promptly at 5:00PM. Later we will be davening, schnappsing, and socializing. The Men's Havurah Committee includes Michael Yoeli, Moshe Horn, Chuck Gold, Bob Kanter, Jonathan Adelsberg, Ezra Weinberg and Marcelo Bronstein.

## CREATING KEHILLAH

### SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### • Shelter Volunteers Needed!

The BJ/SPSA Shelter needs your help. We need more sleepover shift volunteers for the new year. Can you pick one night a month to help us provide a safe and welcoming environment for our shelter guests? 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.

#### • West Side Campaign Against Hunger 30th Anniversary Benefit Gala

**Tuesday, November 10**, 6:00-10:00PM, Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew: In this time of growing unemployment, demand for food at WSCAH is up 27%. This 30th anniversary benefit will help meet the costs of counseling services and allow the WSCAH to provide food for about 900,000 meals in the coming year. Honorees will include the Robin Hood Foundation, the members of B'nai Jeshurun, Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum and the Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew. To buy tickets, please visit [www.wscah.org](http://www.wscah.org). For more information, contact Stewart Desmond at [sdesmond@wscah.org](mailto:sdesmond@wscah.org) or call 212-362-3662 x112.

### YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

#### • Teen Volunteer Opportunity at Queens Mitzvah Day

**Sunday, November 1**, 8:30AM–4:30PM, meet at 88th St. and Broadway; we will provide a free subway ride to and from Queens: If you're a BJ teen, come volunteer with us at Queens Mitzvah Day! Queens Mitzvah Day is a day of community service and learning with other Jewish teens from Queens and Brooklyn. We will be volunteering at various projects including helping at BJ's cemetery, assisting at a community block party, painting a home for the homeless, and helping at a food pantry. Breakfast and lunch is included. Participants will receive a free T-shirt and three community service hours! Event is free; please contact Ira Dounn, Teen Educator, at [idounn@bj.org](mailto:idounn@bj.org) or x253 to register.

#### • 7th Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter

**Tuesday, November 3**, 5:00–6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: 7th graders and their families are invited to cook for the BJ Shelter. Every month, a different grade of students and their families prepare a meal for BJ Shelter guests. Together we cook, set and decorate the table, and engage

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in study and discussion about the Jewish value of feeding the hungry. This is a community-wide program; all families of 7th graders are invited to participate, no matter where your children receive their Jewish education. This program will kick off a number of opportunities to volunteer with the BJ Shelter. To R.S.V.P. and sign up for what you'll bring, please contact Margie Vandow at mvandow@yahoo.com. You must R.S.V.P. to participate.

• **B'nai Mitzvah Parent Orientation Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 4**, 7:00PM, 88th Street: Parents of children in 4th grade, or whose birthdates fall between September 1999 and December 2000, are invited to an informational meeting that will detail each step of the B'nai Mitzvah planning process. Applications for dates will be turned in at this time, and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers. For questions and to R.S.V.P., please contact Arlene Brandon at abrandon@bj.org or x223.

• **Tot Shabbat and Dinner**

**Friday, November 6**, 5:00PM, 88th Street: As always, join us on the first and third Fridays of the month for a short Tot Shabbat service. Led by a BJ Rabbi or rabbinic student, it's filled with singing, dancing and storytelling for our youngest BJ members. On November 6, you're invited to join us for a Shabbat dinner after the service downstairs in Frankel Hall. Register by October 30 at www.bj.org for the dinner. After that, please contact Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org or x243.

• **Kindergarten–2nd Grade Shabbat Afternoon Program**

**Saturday, November 14**, 12:30–1:30PM, 86th Street Parlor: Young elementary school-aged kids should plan to join us for an afternoon filled with fun and learning! This kids-only activity will run simultaneously with the Shabbat teaching honoring Hazzan Ari Priven, so that parents can plan to attend. R.S.V.P. to Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org.

• **Fifth and Sixth Grade Family Learning Program**

**Saturday, November 14**, 3:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall (please note: 5th grade program on November 7 has been cancelled, and is now combined with the originally scheduled 6th grade program on this date): B'nai Mitzvah family learning programs are for all students and parents who will become bar/bat mitzvah at BJ, no matter where they receive their Jewish education. All 5th and 6th grade students and their parents should plan to attend this afternoon program where they will engage in study in preparation for their bar/bat mitzvah together. Please R.S.V.P. to Elana Ayalon at eayalon@bj.org and direct any questions to Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org or x243.

**TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s**

• **Tze'irim Shabbat Dinner**

**Friday, November 20**, following the 7:30PM service, 88th Street: Join us for the first Tze'irim Shabbat Dinner of the year for a fully catered meal and wine in an intimate setting. A great chance to get together with friends, make new ones and start Shabbat together with beautiful z'mirots led by one of BJ's musicians. To register, visit www.bj.org or contact Guy at gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255.

**UPCOMING LIMUD** Please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) for more info and to register.

• **BJ Salons: Engaging Members in an Intimate Setting**

**Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein**

**Tuesdays** (November 3 and 10) • 7:00-9:00PM • Location provided upon registration. Building on the importance of reaching members where they live and creating small, intimate groups, Marcelo will facilitate Beit Midrash Salons in lieu of teaching traditional classes. November Salons are targeted for members who live downtown. Limited space is available; please respond to ngoodhart@bj.org.

• **Creating A Meaningful Jewish Practice:**

**Try This At Home and Beyond**

**For Tze'irim (20s and 30s, singles and couples)**

**Rabbi Felicia L. Sol**

**Four Wednesdays** (remaining classes November 4: Tefillah [Prayer]; November 11: Tzedakah) • 7:00-9:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. The impetus for living a good Jewish life is no longer the domain of our parents' generation. As adults, we try to build meaningful lives of our own informed and made richer by our spiritual practice. This class will be devoted to developing a clearer vision of what our Jewish lives could look like through the study of traditional texts, contemporary thought, and the texts of our own lives to create a more deliberate bond between our Jewish knowledge and our deeds and practice. Each session will focus on a single topic; participants can choose to attend one or all sessions.

• **Rosh Hodesh Women's Group for Kislev**

**Facilitated by Michelle Dardashti, Marshall T. Meyer Fellow**

**Monday, November 16** • 7:00PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration not required. Join us for a celebration of the Hebrew month of Kislev. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian snack to share.

• **Abraham Joshua Heschel's Heavenly Torah**

**Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon**

**Seven Tuesdays** (through December 8) • 6:30-8:30PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration required. We resume our study of Rabbi Heschel's monumental work on rabbinic thought. *Heavenly Torah*, recently translated into English, explores the polarities in Judaism between transcendence and immanence and between mysticism and rationalism. In the chapters we will address this year, Heschel invites us to look at some fundamental religious questions (such as "What does it mean to love God?" "Do we have free will, or is everything divinely foreseen?" "Is the Torah meant to be read literally?") through the lens of classical rabbinic discussions. Please bring the book to class; no photocopies will be distributed. New participants are welcome.

• **Perversion And Holiness: Stories Of The Talmudic Rabbis**

**(Bava Metzi'a Chapter 7) Lunch and Learn** (please bring your lunch)

**Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon**

**Six Thursdays** (through December 10; no meeting on November 26) • 12:30-1:30PM • Location: given upon registration • Free; registration required by contacting ygarber@bj.org. We will continue our study of 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 see ourselves in the mirror of the Talmud in order to understand and confront our own nature. No knowledge of Hebrew is required. Space is limited.

## 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:** We invite you to become a member of our living, thriving community. The simple act of joining BJ is transformative. It is an acknowledgement that BJ is your community, its rabbis are your rabbis, and its sanctuary is your space. Membership at B'nai Jeshurun includes: admission to High Holy Day services; special rates for classes, dinners, and events; support for life cycle events and in times of difficulty; group orientations for new members; vibrant Hebrew School; and more! Our fair share dues system ensures no one will be turned away based on financial considerations. For more information about becoming a member, please contact Sarah Verity, Senior Membership Associate at x250 or sverity@bj.org. We look forward to welcoming you to our community!

• **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 give the prayer book and the Torah text (the large red book) the respect they merit, we ask that they not be placed on the floor when not in use. To

prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before services begin.

• **Scent-Free Policy at Services:** In consideration of the many people who have adverse respiratory reactions to the smells of perfume, cologne, and other chemicals, please refrain from wearing perfume or strong cologne to services.

• **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.

• **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).

## Making Aliyah with Nefesh B'Nefesh

By Leslie Hyman

It was with mixed emotions of great pride, joy, and sadness that on September 7, I accompanied my 23-year-old niece, Suzanne, to JFK Airport for her Aliyah flight. After traveling to Israel on Birthright and returning to spend her junior year in college at Hebrew University, she returned to Israel after college to participate in Otzma, a year-long volunteer program. Within two weeks of returning from Otzma, she decided to move back to Israel—this time to begin her life as a "Jewish Israeli American Girl." Her decision to make Aliyah was eased with the help of Nefesh B'Nefesh ([www.nbn.org.il](http://www.nbn.org.il)), a nonprofit organization established in 2001 with the mission of revitalizing Aliyah from North America and Great Britain. NBN cooperates with the Jewish Agency and the Israel Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, offering resources to minimize the financial, professional, logistical, and social obstacles that new olim face. NBN has facilitated the arrival of over 22,000 new olim.

Upon arrival at JFK with Suzanne, we were greeted by NBN staff, who designed the experience to fully recognize the commitment that was being made by the 204 new olim on her flight from across America and Canada, ranging from 4 months to 89 years old. The scene reminded me of a modern-day version of the Jews leaving the shtetls in Eastern Europe with carts loaded with belongings of various sizes and shapes, but this trip was by choice, to fulfill dreams and hopes to participate in life in modern day Israel. There was a farewell ceremony at JFK and a larger welcoming ceremony at Ben Gurion Airport that included speeches by various dignitaries, including Tzipi Livni and a crowd of over 500 people singing and dancing. I watched the arrival ceremony live online and could see Suzanne take her first steps on Israeli soil as an Israeli citizen. She was in her new home ready to start a new life in a country she recognizes she will never fully understand, but loves with all her heart.

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*Leslie Hyman is a member of BJ's Israel Steering Committee. She is travelling to Israel in November with a BJ group to celebrate former Marshall T. Meyer Rabbinic Fellow Chen Tsfonti's ordination at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. Leslie is Professor and Head, Division of Epidemiology, Department of Preventive Medicine, Stony Brook University.*

*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.*

## FOCUS ON ISRAEL

**PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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

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