

**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

## VAYERA

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 18:1 - 22:24  
**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 21:1 - 22:24  
1: 21:1 - 21:4  
2: 21:5 - 21:13  
3: 21:14 - 21:21  
4: 21:22 - 21:34  
5: 22:1 - 22:8  
6: 22:9 - 22:19  
7: 22:20 - 22:24  
Maftir: 22:20 - 22:24  
**HAFTARAH** II Kings 4:1 - 4:23

NEXT WEEK: **HAYYEI SARAH**  
MEVARKHIM HAHODESH

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 23:1 - 25:18  
**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 24:53 - 25:18  
**HAFTARAH** I Kings 1:1 - 1:31

## November 6-13, 2009

## 19-26 Heshvan, 5770

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**Tot Shabbat Service** 5:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary  
**Young Families Shabbat Dinner** Following 5:00 PM Service – 88th St. Frankel Hall  
**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 5:45 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary  
**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 7:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

**Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary  
**Bar Mitzvah** Adam Kern  
**Bat Mitzvah** Rachel Calnek-Sugin  
**Junior Congregation** 10:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall  
**Children's Services** 10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor  
**Community Kiddush** Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall  
**BJ Book Club** 2:00 PM [SEE P.2]  
**Grades 3-5 Havdalah and a Movie** 6:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall [SEE P.2]

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

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

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
**Limud: Introduction to Judaism\*** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

**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  
**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 11

**Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
**Limud: Creating a Meaningful Jewish Practice\*** 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall [SEE P.3]

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 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.3]  
**Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a\*** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

**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.

## ! 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 are afraid and 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 [shasmessitte@gmail.com](mailto:shasmessitte@gmail.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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Adam, Frank, Julie and Melanie Kern on Adam becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Rachel and Talia Calnek-Sugin, Anthony Calnek and Linda Sugin on Rachel becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

### TODAH RABBAH

- This week's flowers for the bimah are sponsored by Frank, Julie and Melanie Kern in honor of their son and brother, Adam Kern, becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and Anthony Calnek, Linda Sugin and Talia Calnek-Sugin in honor of their daughter and sister, Rachel Calnek-Sugin, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Gordon Mehler and Ariel Zwang in honor of their daughter, Grace, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

### B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Face to Face/Faith to Faith alumni from around the world celebrate the third annual Peace Is Possible benefit event.
- Joanna and David Greenstone and Aimee and Ross Parker and the Leadership Development Group for The Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### • 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!

### • Rabbi Arik Ascherman Speaks about the Work of Rabbis for Human Rights (RHR)

**Wednesday, November 11**, 6:00PM, 160 West End Avenue (between 68th and 69th Streets) at the home of Andrea Bardfeld: Rabbi Ascherman will address: In the Olive Groves, Fighting the Israeli Wisconsin Plan, Educating Young Israelis, Calling for an Independent Israeli Investigation of Operation Cast Lead, and Advocating for Sudanese and Eritrean Refugees in Israel. Please R.S.V.P. to Barbara Gish at 917-655-1488 or barbgish@gmail.com. You will have an opportunity to support the work of RHR.

### • Jews for Racial & Economic Justice Invites You to JFREJ'S 13th Annual Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Risk-Taker Awards

**Thursday, November 12**, Reception 6:00PM, Program 7:00PM, 88th Street: Honoring the following groups and individuals: Picture the Homeless, a grassroots organization founded and led by homeless people; David Rothenberg, founder of the Fortune Society, whose work supports the re-entry of formerly incarcerated persons; and Himmelstein, McConnell, Gribben, Donoghue & Joseph, the pro-tenant law firm that represents tenant associations and individuals in the struggle for housing justice. With special guest and performances by Jennifer Miller, Rude Mechanical Orchestra, Jenny Romaine, Circa '95, and Crosby. Sliding scale tickets are available in advance and at the door. For more information, contact Dana Schneider at dana@jfrej.org or call 212-647-8966 x13.

### • Teacher-in-Residence Shabbat Dinner—The Jewish Future: What is at the Essence?

**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. The topic of the teaching is "The Triumph of Orthodoxy: What Can We Learn?" To register, please visit [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

### • Shabbat Afternoon Conversation

**Saturday, November 14**, 3:00PM, 88th Street: Join us for a conversation with teacher-in-residence Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller. This conversation is the first in the series "The Jewish Future: What is at the Essence?" The topic will be "Mitzvot, The Grammar of Jewish Identity; Torah Study, The Language of Jewish Unity and Creativity." 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.

### • ID Blues Film Screening and Panel Discussion

**Wednesday, November 18**, 7:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us for a film screening as part of the Manhattan JCC's Other Israel Film Festival. *ID Blues*, a travelogue by legendary news person Chaim Yavin, examines different sectors of Arabs living in Israel, and presents matters of life, history, and culture in Arab society in Israel. A panel discussion featuring Jewish and Arab Israelis will follow the screening of one chapter of this five-part series. Purchase tickets through the JCC at [www.jccmanhattan.org](http://www.jccmanhattan.org) until November 17 at 9:00PM. All subsequent tickets must be purchased at the door. Donate blood at the BJ Blood drive that day and get in for FREE! For further inquiries, contact Guy at [gflexbrodt@bj.org](mailto:gflexbrodt@bj.org).

### • Men's Havurah

**Saturday, November 21**, 5:00-7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Esther Perel will be speaking on "Masculinity... A Post-Feminist Reading." Esther is a leading psychotherapist and expert on the subject of relationships and the author of the bestseller *Mating in Captivity, Reconciling the Erotic and Domestic*. Esther will start promptly at 5:00PM. Later we will be davening, schnappsing, and socializing. This event is for men only.

## CREATING KEHILLAH

### YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

#### • 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, those who have pre-registered are invited to join us for a Shabbat dinner after the service downstairs in Frankel Hall.

#### 3rd-5th Grade Havdalah and Movie Night

**Saturday, November 7**, 6:00-8:30PM, 86th Street Social Hall: Parents and siblings are invited to join us at 6:00PM for a family Havdalah ceremony, and then it's a kids-only (3rd-5th graders) movie night watching *Ratatouille*. The cost is \$10 per child, which can be paid that night, and includes pizza and ice cream sundaes! Please R.S.V.P. by November 5 to Leora Frankel at x271 or [Lfrankel@bj.org](mailto:Lfrankel@bj.org).

(continued on page 3)

**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 or x243.

**• 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.

**Morning Minyan for B'nai Mitzvah Families**

**Sunday, November 22**, 9:30AM, 88th Street: This special learner's minyan is perfectly designed for b'nai mitzvah students and their families who want to get a feel for what a weekday morning minyan is like at BJ. Come early at 9:00AM if you want to learn to lay tefillin, and there will be plenty of moments throughout the entire morning to learn about different

prayers. A light breakfast will be served following the service, and families will have the opportunity to ask more questions as well as get to know each other better. To R.S.V.P. or for more information, contact Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org.

**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](http://www.bj.org) or contact Guy at gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255.

**AFFILIATES**

**• Resources in Response to the Economic Downturn**

UJA-Federation of New York's Connect to Care initiative provides employment services and financial services and legal counseling free of charge for those impacted by the economic downturn. For more information about this program or to make an appointment in Manhattan, Riverdale and Brownstone Brooklyn, call JBFCFS, a lead agency for UJA-Federation's Connect to Care, at 212-399-2685 x206 or [connect-to-care@jbfcs.org](mailto:connect-to-care@jbfcs.org). For full description and workshops, go to [www.jcprograms.org/connect-to-care](http://www.jcprograms.org/connect-to-care). For UJA-Federation's Connect to Care Centers in other regions, contact [connect-to-care@ujafedny.org](mailto:connect-to-care@ujafedny.org).

**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** (next salon November 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](mailto: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 class 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](mailto: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).

## A Nightmare Becomes Reality

By Amir Shaviv

A "Jewish-Israeli-Terrorist" was, for many years, an oxymoron. Jews are good, terrorists are bad, and the two do not fit together. Yet the news this week of the arrest of Jack Teitel in Jerusalem forces us again to face an ugly image in our national mirror. Teitel, according to his own confession, was fueled by hatred. Hatred of Arabs—he murdered two. And hatred of Jews with a political and sexual orientation different from his—he booby-trapped the residence of Professor Ze'ev Sternhal. He did not just cultivate hateful thought. He planned, prepared and executed his ideological hatred, killing and maiming individuals and branding an entire community as terrorists. Israelis around the world were united in their shock and condemnation.

Should it really be such a shocking surprise to Israel? Some doubt it.

In May 1986, Yitzhak Zamir, then Attorney General of Israel (and later Supreme Court Justice) warned publicly against ideologically-motivated criminals. "Leniency towards them can destroy the rule of law and damage the fabric of society," was his message. He was ahead of the times and as often happens to prophets, many thought he was exaggerating. Today, his warning is a fact of life—we have been living through a continuous process of growing tolerance towards ideologically-motivated criminals. Beginning with Meir Kahana, who managed to be elected to the Knesset in the 80's, to Baruch Goldstein's massacre in the 90's, to Yigal Amir's murder of Prime Minister Rabin 14 years ago this week. The scary part of the phenomenon is that Jack Teitel may no longer be alone, nor be ignored as "just a mutation." To the contrary, he may represent a sizeable group of Jews who think like him and, under some politically dramatic circumstances, may act like him. One need only read talkbacks on Israeli press websites to witness an overwhelming hate of the "Other."

The irony is, that as early as 1981, the Israeli Security Service unearthed the infamous "Jewish Underground" of West Bank Jewish Settlers who killed and maimed Arabs. They were tried, sentenced and jailed, to the loud sigh of relief of many Israelis:

"Now we have purified our camp; the nightmare is over." Jack Teitel's arrest is a testimony to the sad reality. Our camp is not pure. The bad dream is, actually, a reality.

*Amir Shaviv is an executive with the rescue and relief agency, the Joint Distribution Committee. In the 1980s he was a journalist and newscaster with Israel Television.*

*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:**

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

Printed on Recycled Paper  Please Recycle