

קול ישראל

KOL JESHURUN

**B'nai
Jeshurun**
בני ישראל

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

HAYYEI SARAH

MEVARKHIM HAHOODESH

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 23:1 - 25:18

TRIENNIAL Genesis 24:53 - 25:18

1: 24:53 - 24:58

2: 24:59 - 24:61

3: 24:62 - 24:67

4: 25:01 - 25:06

5: 25:07 - 25:11

6: 25:12 - 25:15

7: 25:16 - 25:18

Maftir: 25:16 - 25:18

HAFTARAH I Kings 1:1 - 1:31

NEXT WEEK: **TOLEDOT**

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 25:19 - 28:9

TRIENNIAL Genesis 27:28 - 28:9

HAFTARAH Malakhi 1:1 - 2:7

NEW SERVICE TIMES

Please note that beginning December 4, Kabbalat Shabbat services will be at 5:45PM and 7:00PM.

Please note additional holiday weekend service time changes:

There will be only one Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6:30PM on November 27, December 25, January 1 & 15, and February 12.

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 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 for information about how you can prepare to donate and learn about any restrictions that may apply.

November 13-20, 2009

26 Heshvan-3 Kislev, 5770

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

5:45 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

Teacher-in-Residence Shabbat Dinner

Following 5:45 PM Service -

with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:30 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Shabbat Morning Services

9:30 AM - 86th St. Sanctuary

Bat Mitzvah

Nava Kidon

Bat Mitzvah

Samantha Mozes

Children's Services

Community Kiddush In Honor of

Ari's 20th Anniversary at BJ

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

Following Services - 86th St. Social Hall (SEE P.2)

K-2 Shabbat Afternoon Program

12:30 PM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

5th and 6th Grade Family Learning Program

3:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

Shabbat Afternoon Teaching

3:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

Community Minḥa Service

4:45 PM - 88th St.

Bar Mitzvah

Ari Kantor

Se'udat Simḥa

5:30 PM - 88th St.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM - 88th St. Sanctuary

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

7:00 PM - BJ Office

Limud: Rosh Hodesh Women's Group*

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

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

Heavenly Torah*

ROSH HODESH KISLEV

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Blood Drive

4:00-9:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE SIDEBAR)

ID Blues Film Screening/Panel Discussion

7:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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 20

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Bim Bam

10:45 AM - 88th St. Frankel Hall

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

SYNAGOGUE: 257 W. 88th St. • OFFICE: 2109 Broadway (Ansonia), Suite 203, New York, NY 10023 • TEL: 212.787.7600 • FAX: 212.496.7600 • WEBSITE: www.bj.org BJ

BJ's Ner Tamid at 88th St. is powered by the light of the sun.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Irene Siegel, and sends condolences to her entire family.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Arthur, Kim and Elias Birnbaum on the death of their beloved sister, sister-in-law and aunt, Ruth Roth.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Nava and Adi Kidon and Naomi Kleinberg on Nava becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Samantha Mozes, Daniel Mozes and Miriam Bensimhon, Cynthia Nixon and Christine Marinoni and Charlie Mozes on Samantha becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Ari, Steven and Max Kantor and Ilene Lainer on Ari becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

- Hollis and Ari Gauss on the birth of their son, Aaron Edward Gauss.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is co-sponsored by Naomi Kleinberg and Adi Kidon in honor of Nava becoming a Bat Mitzvah, and by the Mozes family in honor of Samantha becoming a Bat Mitzvah, and by BJ in honor of Hazzan Ari Priven's 20th anniversary at BJ.
- This week's Seudat Simcha following the Mincha service is sponsored by Ilene Lainer and Steven and Max Kantor in honor of Ari becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Lapidus, Rabbi Rau, Jon Amsler and Confirmation Class from The Temple, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Rabbi Joseph Eiduson, Ellyn Shriber and 9th grade students from Congregation B'nai Shalom, Westborough, Massachusetts.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Synagogue 3000 Report About BJ Published

A report about BJ prepared under the auspices of Synagogue 3000, *Spirituality at B'nai Jeshurun: Reflections of Two Scholars and Three Rabbis*, which combines the perspectives of outsiders and insiders as well as rabbis and social scientists, has just been published. It features the perspective of BJ's Rabbis in the article they wrote, *Jewish Spirituality: Far More than Prayer—Take BJ from its Rabbis' Point of View, For Instance*. Links to both the report and the Rabbis' article can be found at www.bj.org.

• 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.

• Community Kiddush and Shabbat Sharing in honor of Ari's 20th Anniversary at BJ

Saturday, November 14, following Shabbat Morning Services, 86th Street Social Hall: Join us as we mark Hazzan Ari Priven's 20 year anniversary at BJ with a special community kiddush followed by an opportunity to share stories and memorable moments with Ari over the years. The book of reflections and stories by BJ members and a gift from the community will also be presented to Ari on this occasion. There will be an activity for kindergarten-second graders in the Parlor running simultaneously to allow parents to participate in the sharing as well.

• Shabbat Afternoon Teaching

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 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.

• 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.

• Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 25, 7:00PM, 86th Street: Join with our neighbors of all faith traditions to give thanks on the eve of Thanksgiving. There will be a light reception after the service. Clergy from several churches and synagogues will be participating. Please bring checks made out to the West Side Campaign Against Hunger. For more information, please contact Rabbi Ezra Weinberg at eweinberg@bj.org or x264.

CREATING KEHILLAH

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

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

(continued on page 3)

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

Saturday, November 14, 3:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: This exciting event is the opening ritual for 5th and 6th graders as they begin their ascent toward becoming bar/bat mitzvah. Together, with Rabbi Felicia Sol and educators, families will unroll the Torah and students will find their bar/bat mitzvah portion. This memorable experience will also include a discussion of mitzvot, which families can begin to think about exploring together with the community and on their own. After the program, families are invited to join our once-a-month Community Minḥa upstairs in the sanctuary where Ari Kantor will become Bar Mitzvah.

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 or contact Guy at gafelixbrodt@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 JBFCS, a lead agency for UJA-Federation's Connect to Care, at 212-399-2685 x206 or connect-to-care@jbfcs.org. For full description and workshops, go to www.jcprograms.org/connect-to-care. For UJA-Federation's Connect to Care Centers in other regions, contact connect-to-care@ujafedny.org.

• **Negev Nectar Products Now Available in U.S.**

For those eager to support Israel's environment and its people, Negev Nectars is bringing gourmet, sustainably produced foods—the kind that rarely make the trip over the Atlantic—to shareholders in the US. Negev Nectar members will be sent olive oil, jams, chutneys, honey, dried herbs and other unique products in time for Hanukkah, Passover and Rosh Hashanah. Membership is an investment in Israeli farms employing responsible growing practices as well as in the future of the country and the region. For more information, visit www.negevnectars.com.

UPCOMING LIMUD Please visit www.bj.org for more info and to register.

• **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.

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

Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein
Tuesdays (December 1 and 8) • 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. December Salons are targeted for members who live in Brooklyn. Limited space is available; please respond to ngoodhart@bj.org.

• **Know Before Whom You Stand: An Exploration Of Prayer And Theology**

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol
Three Wednesdays (December 2, 9, 16) • 7:00-8:30PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. Whether we pray on a daily or weekly basis, the notions of whom we are praying to and for what purpose can be a stumbling block to having a meaningful and authentic prayer experience. Over this three-session course, we will explore traditional and contemporary texts on prayer so as to more clearly understand our purpose in prayer and how that influences our experience of it.

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. 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, 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.

Right in Jerusalem

By Joanne Palmer

In Jerusalem, you can meet almost anybody.

It was the summer of 1976, and Marty Lebson was in Jerusalem with his rebbe, Arthur Hertzberg (who was to become my rebbe as well, some quarter-century later).

As they walked down the street in the new part of the city, an extremely elderly man teetered toward them, bent over a cane, head down, moving tentatively over the cobblestones. As he inched toward them, Rabbi Hertzberg pointed him out to Marty. "Look, here comes Mordecai Kaplan," Hertzberg said.

Hertzberg, the editor of *The Zionist Idea* and a classic public intellectual, was in his mid-50s then and still a congregational rabbi in New Jersey, vigorous, hydrant-shaped, curmudgeonly, combative, throwing off ideas like sparks. He did have a tendency to name-drop. He and Marty Lebson, then a young businessman, watched Rabbi Kaplan, author of *Judaism As A Civilization* and founder of the Reconstructivist movement and the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, shuffle closer to them. He was 95 years old then, and had another five years to live.

"I read what you wrote in the journal," Kaplan told Hertzberg. (Which journal it might have been is a detail lost to time, Marty tells me.) "You were right."

With those words, precious to anyone but mother's milk to Hertzberg, he tottered off down the street.

In Jerusalem, you never do know.

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Joanne Palmer works for United Synagogue, where she edits CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

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

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