

קול ישרון

KOL JESHURUN



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

KI TISA

SHABBAT PARAH
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 30:11 - 34:35
TRIENNIAL Exodus 33:12 - 34:35
1: 33:12 - 33:16
2: 33:17 - 33:23
3: 34:1 - 34:9
4: 34:10 - 34:17
5: 34:18 - 34:21
6: 34:22 - 34:26
7: 34:27 - 34:35
Maftir: Numbers 19:1 - 22
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 36:16 - 38

NEXT WEEK: VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI

SHABBAT HAḤODESH
MEVARKHIM HAḤODESH
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 35:1 - 40:38
TRIENNIAL Exodus 39:22 - 40:38
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

• **Social Justice Shabbaton: Retreat in the City**
Friday, March 12–Saturday, March 13, 88th Street and 86th Street: Immerse yourself in a meaningful and spirited Shabbat at BJ with a focus on social justice, spirituality, and Jewish thought. Members will have the opportunity to get to know one another, learn together, share music and dance, joy and prayers, and build a stronger community. The Shabbaton will include a catered dinner on Friday night, a festive home-cooked Kiddush lunch, Havdalah snacks, and a full day of engaging programming for the low cost of \$48 members/\$58 non-members. For information and to register, please visit www.bj.org/sjshabbaton.

BJ RESPONDS—EARTHQUAKE IN CHILE
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is accepting donations to aid victims of the devastating earthquake last week in Chile. To make a donation, visit www.jdc.org/donation and select “Chile Earthquake Relief” from the drop-down menu.

March 5-12, 2010

19-26 Adar, 5770

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Tot Shabbat Service 5:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel
Young Families Shabbat Dinner 5:30 PM – 86th St. Social Hall
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:45 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
BJHS Gimmel & Dalet Class Shabbat Dinner Following 5:45 PM Service – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
Tze’irim Shabbat Potluck Dinner Following 7:00 PM Service – 86th St. Social Hall (SEE P.3)

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

5th Grade Learning Program 9:30 AM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.3)
Shabbat Morning Services 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah Sarah Herring
Bar Mitzvah William Herring
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
Report on Interfaith Trip to Jordan, Israel, and the West Bank Following Kiddush – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

Minḥa Service 5:30 PM – 88th St.
Bar Mitzvah Daniel Picciotto

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, MARCH 8

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM
Limud: Introduction to Judaism 7:00 PM – BJ Office

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: The Book of Exodus 8:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: The Rabbinic Mind on the Exodus 12:30 PM – BJ Office (SEE P.3)
Limud: Heschel’s Quest for God 6:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
Limud: Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis 12:30 PM (SEE P.3)
BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM
Limud: Parashat Hashavu’a 7:00 PM – BJ Office

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Bim Bam 10:45 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

To register for classes and events, please visit www.bj.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHĒM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Alexander Winberg and extends sincere condolences to his family and all his loved ones.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Naava and Alona Katz on the death of their beloved grandmother, Lillian Tashlik.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Sarah, William, Paul, Marlene and Laura Herring on Sarah and William becoming B'nai Mitzvah.
- Daniel, Solomon, Lisa and Amanda Picciotto on Daniel becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Martin, Jill, Charlie and Eli Lebowh on the birth of their daughter and

sister, Jenny Helen.

- Stephanie and Victor Brener on the birth of their grandson, Jacob Oliver Saltzman.
- Ami Weil and Todd Chanko on receiving the Bonei Beit Rabban Award from the Beit Rabban Day School.
- Lois Alexander and Robert Mandel on their recent engagement.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Cantor Penny Kessler and the student and parent group from United Jewish Center, Danbury, Connecticut.
- Rabbis Joshua Caruso and Aturo Kalfus and Cantor Sarah Sager and Confirmation group, Anche Chesed Fairmount Temple, Beachwood, Ohio.
- Rabbi Mitchell Delcau and Confirmation Class, Temple Emanuel, Denver, Colorado.
- Joel Davidson and the 11th grade class, Solomon Schechter School of Westchester, White Plains, New York.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• **Report on an Interfaith Trip to Jordan, Israel and the West Bank**
Saturday, March 6, following Kiddush after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Chapel: In December 2009, fifteen American Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious leaders traveled together to Jordan, Israel and the West Bank. The trip was arranged and led by Ron Young, who has led a dozen such trips and has done interreligious work for Arab-Israeli-Palestinian peace since 1985. In 1987, Rabbi Marshall Meyer helped Ron organize the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East. Ron will discuss both the advantages and the challenges of interfaith work for peace.

• **New and Expecting Parents Group**
Mondays beginning March 8, 3:30PM, location given with R.S.V.P.: Please join us in a member's home for an opportunity for new and expecting parents. All those expecting babies in the next nine months or who have had children in the past year are invited to participate in this group to get to know one another, share ideas on Jewish parenting, and begin to build community. The group is led by Sarah Guthartz, social work intern and mom. For more information, please contact Sarah at x234 or sguthartz@bj.org.

• **Shabbat Teaching: Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education**
Saturday, March 13, following Kiddush after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Chapel: Join Lee Gordon and Amin Khalaf, co-founders of the Hand in Hand Schools in Israel and Maura Milles, Development Director, as they demonstrate the values of Parashat Vayakhel Pekudei in action. This parasha teaches that we are all part of Tikkun Olam, and this organization proves that families with shared hopes for peace can live together. This award-winning network of bilingual and multicultural accredited public schools for Arab and Jewish citizens of Israel has a far-reaching impact on educators, entire communities, and government leadership across Israel and around the world.

• **Fifth Annual Concert: The Music of the BJ Musicians**
Sunday, March 14, 5:30-7:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Celebrate with BJ's

resident musicians as they honor our music director Ari Priven and his 20th anniversary at BJ. The concert features the world premiere of "A Hazzan's Gift" by Amanda Monaco as well as performances by David Buchbut, Eugene Carr, Saskia Lane, Amanda Monaco, Daphna Mor, Jessie Reagen Mann, Basya Schechter, Uri Sharlin and Matt Turk. Tickets: \$20 adults/\$15 seniors/\$10 students, available at the door only. Children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult. Signed posters and CDs will be available for sale.

• **First and Third Shabbat at Members' Homes—Hakhnasat Orhim**
Friday, March 19, following the 5:45PM service: You are welcome at other members' homes every 1st and 3rd Shabbat of the month! After a few successful runs of BJ members opening their homes to host Shabbat dinners as part of the Hakhnasat Orhim (welcoming guests) initiative, we are continuing it through April. BJ members *only* may register and be matched on first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested, please contact Guy at gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255 by Tuesday, March 16 to register for the March 19 dinner. Preference will be given to members who have not yet been hosted. Space is limited!

• **Men's Havurah**
Saturday, March 27, 5:00-7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: This month features a conversation with the leaders of Feminenza about the relationship between gender inequality and human rights abuses in Africa. This program will include schnappsing and socializing.

• **Community Retreat Update and In-City Shabbatons**
We would like to update you that the Community Retreat originally planned for the beginning of June has been canceled. Instead, we are hosting in-city Shabbatons and highly encourage you to participate. The next Shabbaton, on March 12-13, will focus on social action/social justice. We look forward to seeing you at one of these event-filled weekends right here "at home."

CREATING KEHILLAH

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **2010 New York Ride Hazon Reception**
Wednesday, March 17, 7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Immediately preceding the Jonathan Safran Foer event, join the BJ Revolutionaries bicycle team for a reception in celebration of Hazon's 10th Anniversary and the opening of the 10th New York Ride. The reception, co-sponsored by B'nai Jeshurun, will feature local, kosher, delicious treats.

• **Conversation With *Eating Animals* Author Jonathan Safran Foer**
Wednesday, March 17, 8:00PM, 88th Street: The new BJ Shomrei Adamah Havurah is excited to welcome critically acclaimed author Jonathan Safran Foer. He will speak on the topics raised in his groundbreaking new book *Eating Animals*. All are invited to hear him discuss what our culture encourages us to put inside our bodies and which aspects of this critical conversation are hidden from the public eye. This event is free and open to the public. Contact Rabbi Ezra Weinberg at eweinberg@bj.org for more information.

(continued on page 3)

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• **BJHS Gimmel and Dalet Shabbat Class Dinner**

Friday, March 5, following the 5:45PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Get together with classmates and friends, make new ones and start Shabbat together with beautiful z'mirot led by one of BJ's musicians.

• **5th Grade Learning Program**

Saturday, March 6, 9:30AM, 86th Street Chapel: Last fall we unrolled the Torah at our opening program, and learned about performing mitzvot at the Mitzvah Fair. Now 5th grade students and their parents will continue to "unroll" the teachings of Torah and mitzvot with Rabbi Roly Matalon. After the program, families are encouraged to join Junior Congregation downstairs in the Social Hall.

• **4th Grade Families Unroll the Torah: B'nai Mitzvah Learning Program**

Saturday, March 13, 4:30-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: This exciting event is the opening ritual for all 4th graders as they begin their ascent toward becoming bar/bat mitzvah. Together with Rabbi Roly Matalon and educators, families will unroll the Torah and students will find their bar/bat mitzvah portion. After this memorable experience, families will be invited to attend the Community Minḥa service in the sanctuary. R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org.

• **6th Grade Retreat**

Friday, April 30-Sunday, May 2, Camp Ramah Nyack: The highlight of the year is just around the corner! All 6th graders, regardless of where they receive their Jewish education, won't want to miss this amazing retreat! Students will participate in exciting programs that bring them closer to becoming b'nai mitzvah while building community with each other. Transportation will be provided. All meals are kosher, and include snacks and dinner on Friday through breakfast on Sunday. Cost is \$225; register at www.bj.org by April 8. Discount is \$175 for those who register by March 22. Please contact Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org with questions.

TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

• **Tze'irim Shabbat Potluck Dinner**

Friday, March 5, 8:30PM, 86th Street Social Hall: Please join Tze'irim for a vegetarian potluck dinner after the 7:00PM service. Please bring a dairy dish or dessert to share. Muslim and Jewish students from the University of Michigan will join us for the meal.

• **Tze'irim Shabbat Dinner: 20s ONLY**

Friday, March 19, following the 7:00PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us 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'mirot led by one of BJ's musicians. To register, visit www.bj.org.

AFFILIATES

• **"The Legacy Lives On" Concert at Salvation and Deliverance Church**

Saturday, March 6, 6:00PM, 37 West 116 Street: The Salvation and Deliverance Church Radio and TV Choir and the Salvation and Deliverance Church of Tarboro, North Carolina, have invited the BJ community to "The Legacy Lives On" musical concert. This is the same choir that sang at MLK weekend Shabbat services. For more information, call 212-722-5488.

• **Helen Suzman: Fighter for Human Rights; Exhibition from South Africa**

Through March 28, Barnard College—Columbia University, 3009 Broadway: One of the most extraordinary women of the twentieth century, Helen Suzman devoted her career to the fight against apartheid and for human rights in South Africa. As a tribute to her exceptional efforts, the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research at the University of Cape Town has organized a graphic panel exhibition that captures her work, her courage, and her voice through photographs, personal letters, and journalism. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.helensuzmanexhibition.com.

UPCOMING LIMUD

Please visit www.bj.org for more information and to register.

• **Rosh Hodesh Nisan Mini Retreat: The Merit of Women in the Redemption from Egypt**

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

Monday, March 15 • 6:00-9:30PM • 88th Street Sanctuary. Join Rabbi Felicia Sol for a special in-city mini retreat to explore the women in our story of redemption. Encounter Serah, Shifra, Pu'ah and Miriam as we learn together and prepare for Pesah. The retreat will include a pizza dinner and each participant will contribute something additional for the meal. The cost is \$5. R.S.V.P. required at www.bj.org. Contact Yaffa at ygarber@bj.org with any questions.

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

Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein

Tuesdays (March 16 and 23) • 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. March Salons are targeted for members who live on the Upper East Side. We will talk about how to navigate the tension between the spiritual and the material in our lives. Limited space is available; please respond to Naomi at ngoodhart@bj.org.

• **Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis: Lunch and Learn**

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

Seven Thursdays (through March 18) • 12:30-1:30PM • Location TBA. We will study stories that 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. Space is limited. Free of charge; registration required.

• **The Rabbinic Mind on the Exodus**

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

Eight Tuesdays (through March 23) • 12:30-1:45PM • BJ Office Conference Room. Beginning with a close read of the text of the Exodus, we will then take a step-by-step look at two different midrashic texts: Pirke deRabbi Eliezer and the Mekhilta deRabbi Ishmael. Come to understand how the rabbis think, different explanations and understandings of the story, and the ability to experience the Exodus through studying it. No Hebrew reading necessary. Free of charge; registration required.

• **Abraham Joshua Heschel's Quest For God**

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

Seven Tuesdays (through March 23) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th Street Sanctuary. We will read and reflect on Heschel's great contribution to the art of prayer. How do we stand in God's Presence? How do we pour out our heart to God? How do we enter the language of prayer? How do we balance fixed prayers and spontaneity? Join us to discover (or rediscover) Heschel's inspiring teachings and deep insights. Free of charge; registration required.

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 7:00PM 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.

• **We Want to See Your Face Every Day—on Facebook!**

Tired of knowing the faces in the crowd but not the names? Want to get to know more BJ members? Then join BJ's Facebook group, called B'nai Jeshurun NYC. You can see other members, post pictures and start discussions—all just a click away! We hope this tool will help build community at BJ from online to on-sight. Looking forward to seeing you there.

JOIN US AT THE BJ MORNING MINYAN:

See updated information about the Morning Minyan at www.bj.org/tefillah/minyan/. If you are interested in receiving a weekly minyan email, please contact Ari Priven at apriven@bj.org.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

Beit Tefilah Israeli—Finding a Path to Authentic Israeli Judaism

By Samara Minkin

During the BJ trip to Israel in November, we met with members of Beit Tefilah Israeli in Tel Aviv, a liberal spiritual community and one of BJ's partners in Israel. The members of BTI resembled our own membership: they were as diverse as we, and in spite of that diversity, they had come together because each wanted to make space for Judaism and spirituality in their lives.

We read texts that offered openings to discuss the paradoxes of a vital, dynamic Jewishness in Israel and in the Diaspora. One of the highlights of our discussion was sharing different challenges both of our communities have with Hebrew liturgy. BTI struggles with the God-language of liturgy; it is not always comfortable in contemporary life. BTI members wondered if we at BJ understand the prayers we daven with such passion (for, if we do, how could we still be so passionate?!). Of course, we at BJ struggle with the opposite issue—if we believe in the power of Hebrew prayer, how can it be that so many of us don't understand the Hebrew? How can we connect with the power we believe the Hebrew language gives our prayers?

We also heard from BTI on some of the issues we would come to hear all week long: how Jewish religion had come to feel synonymous with ultra-Orthodox Judaism, and how out of step (and racist and prejudiced and even immoral) ultra-Orthodox Judaism had become in the eyes of most Israelis; how members of BTI (and so many others) were actively creating a Judaism that felt authentic to them; and how gratifying it was to see attendance at their Kabbalat Shabbat services (held outdoors at the Tel Aviv port!) grow in numbers.

We were familiar with some of these issues. We understood the desire to create a Judaism that feels authentic and moral and just; we also know the joys (and the oys) of services that attract hundreds of people. The meeting was warm and wonderful, a room full of people sharing the same ideals and supporting each others' communities.

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Samara Minkin is Co-Chair of the BJ Membership Committee.

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 visit BJ online at www.bj.org for more information:

Membership at BJ • Class and Event Registration • BJ Publications • Calendar of Events

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