

קול ישורון

KOL JESHURUN

**B'nai
Jeshurun**
בני ישורון

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

VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI

SHABBAT HAḤODESH
MEVARKHIM HAḤODESH
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 35:1 - 40:38
TRIENNIAL Exodus 39:22 - 40:38
1: 39:22 - 39:26
2: 39:27 - 39:32
3: 39:33 - 39:43
4: 40:1 - 40:08
5: 40:9 - 40:16
6: 40:17 - 40:27
7: 40:28 - 40:38
Maftir: 12:1 - 12:20
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

NEXT WEEK: VAYIKRA

TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26
TRIENNIAL Leviticus 4:27 - 5:26
HAFTARAH Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23

March 12-19, 2010

26 Adar-4 Nisan, 5770

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:45 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary
Social Action Shabbaton Community Dinner Following 5:45 PM Service - 88th St. Frankel Hall
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Social Action Shabbaton Shabbat Morning Services All Day - 88th St. and 86th St.
9:30 AM - 86th St. Sanctuary
Bar Mitzvah Farris Bienstock
Naming Jennie Helen Lebwohl
Children's Services 10:45 AM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor
Community Kiddush Following Services - 86th St. Social Hall
Shabbat Teaching: Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education Following Kiddush - 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)
4th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Learning Program 4:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)
Community Minḥa Service 5:45 PM - 88th St.
3rd-5th Grade Havdalah and Movie Night 6:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM - 88th St.
Concert: The Music of the BJ Musicians 5:30 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM
Limud: Rosh Ḥodesh Women's Group Mini Retreat 6:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)
Limud: Introduction to Judaism 7:00 PM - BJ Office

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

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)
Limud: BJ Salon 7:00 PM (SEE P.3)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
Hazon Reception 7:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE SIDEBAR)
Conversation with Jonathan Safran Foer 8:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE SIDEBAR)

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

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 19

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

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

• **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 Ḥavurah 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.

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

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 YENAHĒM

To the following members and their families:

- Valerie, Mark, Mia and Liza Gerstein on the death of Valerie's beloved mother, Louisa Levin, and Mark's beloved grandmother, Ina (Wally) Rosenbluth.
- Shakeara Hatchett, BJ's receptionist, and Eric Jones on the death of Eric's beloved mother, Jannie Jones.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Farris, Scott, Ruth and Phoebe Bienstock on Farris becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

- Barbara Simon and Wayne, Debbie and Gabrielle Zeiler on their granddaughter, daughter and sister, Rebecca Aviem, becoming a Bat Mitzvah in Paramus, New Jersey.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Reverend Claire Woodley-Aitchison and St. Mary's Episcopal Church "Where's the Light?" class participants from Mohegan Lake, New York.
- Rabbi Jonathan Singer and the 10th Grade Covenant Renewal class, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, Washington.
- Teri Rube Hochberg and Confirmation Class, Park Synagogue, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• **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 Orĥim**
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 Orĥim (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.

• **Morning Service, Siyyum and Se'udat Mitzvah**
Monday, March 29, 7:30AM, 88th Street: Following Morning Minyan, all are welcome to join in a siyyum, completion of a tractate of rabbinic literature, taught by Len Wasserman, followed by a se'udat mitzvah, a meal accompanying the performance of a mitzvah (here the completion of study). All first born in attendance are then permitted to eat and break the Fast of the Firstborn (Ta'anit Bekhorim).

Yom HaShoah Service and Events

Sunday, April 11, 6:45PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Join us for our Yom Hashoah Service when we will be reading and hearing of the names of relatives of BJ members who were murdered during the Shoah. Our commemoration service will be followed by a screening of "Out Of Europe," followed by remarks and Q&A by Richard Lerner, Director and Producer, moderated by Myriam Abramowicz. The all-night vigil of the Reading of the Names will be at the JCC in Manhattan starting at 10:00PM on Sunday, April 11 to 8:30AM on Monday, April 12. The BJ reading slot is at 2:30AM.

A special notice to Shoah survivors, their children and relatives: Please take a moment to submit the names (and stories) of your family members so we can add them to the list read by BJ members at the Reading of the Names. With so many of the survivors disappearing and the rise of Holocaust deniers it is vital that the memory of those horrific years be documented and preserved. You may use the Shoah Names form at www.bj.org. If you prefer, you can email this information to Sarah at sguthartz@bj.org or fax it to 212-787-8529.

Save the Date: Annual Bikkur Holim Teaching

Tuesday, April 27, 7:00-9:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Please join us as we honor our Bikkur Holim volunteers and gather together as a community with Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg. During this evening of learning, we will explore the many facets of compassion. What is it? Where does it come from? How does it relate to pain and suffering? How does it function in my life as I grow older, as I support and nurture those who are ill and failing? How is compassion related to power and control, to fixing, to fear and anxiety? How does loss stimulate compassion? What are the obstacles to compassion? Is there a down side to compassion? How is compassion related to joy? How is compassion different from pity? Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinber, is the author of *Surprisingly Happy: An Atypical Religious Memoir* and is the Director of Outreach and Community Development of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. Free; registration not required.

Pesah Mailing Gone Green

In an effort to save trees and money, we have decided to provide our usual Pesah mailing online. You will find everything that you may need to prepare your home and your spirit for Pesah including: the Rabbinic Assembly Guide, Hametz Sale Form, Social Action and Social Justice Opportunities, Community Seder Options, and the BJ Pesah CD and Cookbook. If you would prefer to receive these materials in the mail, contact Sarah Guthartz at sguthartz@bj.org or call the BJ office.

BJ Mastermind Group Forming

Attention BJ Entrepreneurs! Are you interested in meeting with other BJ entrepreneurs regularly to get free advice, encouragement, and inspiration for your business goals? We are forming a Mastermind Group for BJ entrepreneurs, facilitated by Pamela Judd. This group is for BJ members only! If interested, please contact Les Judd at 718-530-5074 or Les@greenboroughs.com by March 26.

CREATING KEHILLAH

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• Habitat for Humanity Service Opportunity

Sunday, March 21, 9:00AM-4:30PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Join a group of 20 BJ volunteers for a day of service! Through Habitat for Humanity, we will be working on family condo units in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn. Our team will be completing tasks such as painting and flooring installation. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ariel at aschneider@bj.org to R.S.V.P.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• 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.

• 3rd-5th Grade Havdalah and Movie Night

Saturday, March 13, 6:30-8:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Parents and siblings are invited to join the Community Minḥa service in the main sanctuary at 5:45 which will end with Havdalah. Then it's a kids-only movie night watching "The Prince of Egypt" in honor of our upcoming celebration of Passover. The cost is \$15 per child if you register in advance or \$20 at the door, which includes pizza, drinks, and ice cream sundaes! Register at www.bj.org or contact Leora Frankel at Lfrankel@bj.org for more information.

• 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 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

• Networking: A Critical Ingredient in Your Job Search/Career Transition

Monday, March 15, 7:00-9:00PM, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, 125 East 85th Street: A panel of KJ members will discuss how networking helped them land jobs in the early days of the recession and recruiters will share strategies for communicating your professional value. Roundtable networking opportunities with other participants and volunteers from the Career Initiative (representing various professions such as finance, law, real estate and marketing) will follow. R.S.V.P. is required to ramazkcareers@gmail.com by March 12 (affiliation and profession must be included).

• 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 Ḥodesh 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 prepare for Pesah. Pizza dinner included, and each participant will contribute something additional for the meal. Cost: \$5. R.S.V.P. required at www.bj.org. Contact Yaffa, ygarber@bj.org with 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; 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. 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.

• **LinkedIn and Network Out!**

Want to expand your network? Want to make more connections within the BJ community? Then join over 450 BJ members who already joined the "B'nai Jeshurun–New York City" BJ group on LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com. There you can share your professional network, post jobs, and respond to any ongoing discussions 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.

Purging the Hametz of Society

By Amir Shaviv

Only two weeks before Passover, and the list of social-value hametz items that must be eradicated from everyday life in Israel is rather overwhelming. Do you wish to see some examples? No need to travel far. Come read with me some headlines from one week—last week's media in Israel. The headlines are authentic; the comments are mine.

- "Teachers' Violence against Students on Rise." (Now that's news: usually it is students' violence against teachers!)
- "Cops Raid Bank Hapoalim Head Office in Tel Aviv, Seize Documents." ("Well—that's where the money is," bank robber Willy Sutton said once.)
- "El Al Pilot Mistakenly Took Sleeping Pill, Forced to Leave Cockpit." (The safest airline in the world—but only against terrorists, not its own crew)
- "Indictments Filed against 12 Minors, One Adult, for Gang Rape of Tel Aviv Girl." (A shocking story—the minors belong to regular, "normative" families.)
- "Education Ministry Chief Scientist Vows to Tow the Line on Darwin." (Yes—he previously stated that he doubted evolution!)
- "Petah Tikva Man Gets 38 Days for Threatening to Shoot Judge."
- "Lieberman Allegedly Received Probe Info from Former Ambassador to Belarus." (He happens to be the Foreign Minister of Israel.)

How did we get to this point?

Evidently, the hametz is everywhere: in the educational, judicial, banking, and political system. And we have not taken a look at the Israel-Palestinian conflict, an area that customarily is full of hametz AND maror (bitter herbs). This hametz of social and civic values can appear in our life in many forms: as an act of negligence, as indifference to the lives of others, as a criminal offense, or as greed.

For us, Israelis who grew up on the hope of being a light unto the nations, there is a sense of disappointment whenever we encounter the "social hametz" of Israel. If Rosh Hashanah is a time for soul searching, perhaps Passover is a time for purging the hametz from among us!

Happy Passover!

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Amir Shaviv, a former journalist in Israel and a current executive of the Joint Distribution Committee, has monitored changes in Israeli society for many years.

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.

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