

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

AHAREI MOT-KEDOSHIM

TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 16:1 - 20:27
TRIENNIAL Leviticus 19:15 - 20:27
1: 19:15 - 19:18
2: 19:19 - 19:22
3: 19:23 - 19:32
4: 19:33 - 19:37
5: 20:01 - 20:07
6: 20:08 - 20:22
7: 20:23 - 20:27
Maftir: 20:25 20:27
HAFTARAH Amos 9:7 - 15

NEXT WEEK: EMOR

TORAH: Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23
TRIENNIAL: Leviticus 23:23 - 24:23
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 44:15 - 31

! SPRING/SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Evening Service: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME! Beginning *Friday, May 7*, and through October 1, there will be only one Friday evening service starting at 7:00PM.

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

• **Meet the Farmer Shabbat**
Saturday, April 24, following Kiddush after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Chapel: You are invited to meet the farmers of Free Bird Farm and learn about BJ's new Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project. Ken Fruehstorfer and Maryellen Driscoll run an organic, small-scale, diversified farm in New York's Mohawk Valley and will deliver their produce to our community once a week this summer. BJ Hazorim CSA, a chance for BJ members to buy a 22-week share of organic produce, is still accepting members. More information at www.bj.org/csa.

• **Join the BJ AIDS Walk Team!**
Sunday, May 16, 9:00AM-2:00PM, Central Park: Please join the B'nai Jeshurun AIDS Walk Team this year! The Teen Leadership team is taking the lead on planning this year's walk and are excited to welcome the entire community to walk and fundraise with them. They would like to raise \$1,944 to contribute to the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and all other AIDS Walk beneficiaries so if you cannot walk with the BJ Team, please consider making a donation. Sign up and learn more at www.bj.org/aidswalk.

April 23-30, 2010

9-16 Iyar, 5770

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:45 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 25 (Netzah Shebenetzaḥ)

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Shabbat Morning Services 9:30 AM - 86th St. Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah Talia Dolny-Lipsy
Bar Mitzvah Boaz Dolny-Lipsy
Aliyat Hatan veKallah Robert Mandel and Lois Alexander
Aliyat Hatan veKallah Brad Hoffman and Faya Gene
Children's Services 10:45 AM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor
Community Kiddush Following Services - 86th St. Social Hall
Meet The Farmer Following Kiddush - 88th St. Chapel (SEE SIDEBAR)
Minḥa Service 5:00 PM - 88th St.
Bat Mitzvah Ariel Cohen

■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 26 (Hod Shebenetzaḥ)

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM - 88th St.
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 27 (Yesod Shebenetzaḥ)

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM
Limud: Introduction to Judaism 7:00 PM - BJ Office
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 28 (Malkhut Shebenetzaḥ)

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
Limud: The Book of Exodus 8:30 AM - 88th St.
Limud: BJ Salon 7:00 PM (SEE P.3)
Cultivating Compassion: 7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)
The Annual Bikkur Holim Teaching
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 29 (Hesed Shebehod)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
Limud: DNA and Neshama 6:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 30 (Gevurah Shebehod)

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall
BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM
Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a 7:00 PM - BJ Office
Limud: Psalms in a New Translation 7:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 31 (Tiferet Shebehod)

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

6th Grade Retreat
Morning Minyan 7:30 AM - 88th St.
Bim Bam 10:45 AM - 88th St. Frankel Hall
■ **OMER COUNT:** Tonight begins DAY 32 (Netzah Shebehod)

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 YENAH'EM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to the following members and their families:

- Bonnie Roche-Bronfman and Charles Bronfman on the death of Bonnie's beloved father, Max Booke.
- Shari Kenner on the death of her beloved father, Sam Kenner.
- Jonathan, Daniella, Abigail and Noah Lipnick and Susan Scheuer on the death of Jonathan's beloved uncle, Rabbi Bernard Lipnick.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Boaz Dolny-Lipsy and Talia Dolny-Lipsy and Mark Lipsy on Talia and Boaz becoming B'nai Mitzvah.
- Ariel and Michael Cohen and Tanya and David Reiff on Ariel becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Ron and Sam Guncler and Alison Loeb on Ron becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Robert Mandel and Lois Alexander on their upcoming wedding.
- Brad Hoffman and Faya Gene on their upcoming wedding.

- Craig Charney and Shari Cohen on the birth and adoption of their son, Ariel Nathan.
- Joni and Israel Brenner on the birth of their granddaughter, Emilia Rebecca.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is co-sponsored by Robert Mandel and Lois Alexander in honor of their upcoming wedding, and by Mark Lipsy in honor of Boaz and Talia becoming B'nai Mitzvah.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Arthur and Mrs. Nemitoff and Confirmation Class, The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah, Overland Park, Kansas.
- Rabbi Jonathan Woll and the Progressive Havurah of Northern New Jersey.
- Rabbi Stephanie Alexander and congregants, Temple Beth El, Dubuque, Iowa.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Cultivating Compassion: The 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 to explore the many facets and aspects of compassion. What is it? Where does it come from? How does it function in my life as I grow older, as I support and nurture those who are ill? Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg is the author of *Surprisingly Happy: An Atypical Religious Memoir* and Director of Outreach and Community Development of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. Free; registration not required.

• First and Third Shabbat at Members' Homes: Hakhnasat Orhim

Friday, April 30, following the 5:45PM service, members' homes: As part of the Hakhnasat Orhim (welcoming guests) initiative, BJ members only may register and be matched for Shabbat dinners on a first-come, first-served basis. To attend the April 30 dinner, please contact Guy by Tuesday, April 27 at gfelixbrodt@bj.org or x255. Preference will be given to members who have not yet been hosted. Space is limited!

• Gidi Grinstein Speaks at BJ

Saturday, May 1, during Shabbat morning services, 86th Street: Join us as Gidi Grinstein of the Reut Institute speaks about his work providing real-time, long-term strategic decision-support to the government of Israel. For Prime Minister Ehud Barak, he served as Secretary and Coordinator of the Israeli negotiation team on the Permanent Status Agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

• Piyut Concert Lecture

Sunday, May 2, 3:00PM, Museum of Biblical Art, 1865 Broadway at 61st Street: Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon will present a program of liturgical poems of medieval Spain by R. Abraham ibn Ezra, R. Yehuda Halevi, R. Shelomo ibn Gavirol and others, in conjunction with the Museum of Biblical Art's exhibit "Uneasy Communion: Jews, Christians and the Altarpieces of Medieval Spain." Rabbi Matalon will be accompanied by musicians Basya Schechter, Dan Nadel, Daphna Mor, and David Buchbut. Free; pre-registration required through MoBIA at 212-408-1251 or rsvp@mobia.org.

• U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) in Conversation with BJ

Sunday, May 2, 6:00–8:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: This is a special opportunity for our U.S. Senator and BJ to get to know each other through a discussion about issues of concern to our community. Topics will include unemployment, immigrant rights, the environment, Israel, predatory lending, and marriage equality. Don't miss this chance to be in dialogue with one of our U.S. senators. R.S.V.P. and suggest a question at www.bj.org/gillibrand.

• From "Women of the Wall" to "Savta Bikorta": Active Jewish Feminism in Israel Today

Monday, May 3, 7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Join women from the Elga Stulman Women's Institute of Jewish Studies at Hamidrasha in Israel to talk about how women in Israel today are working to enhance knowledge, raise consciousness and bring about change in their public and private Jewish lives. Free; registration not required.

• "The Fire Within: Jews in the Amazon Rainforest"

Monday, May 3, 6:00-8:00PM, Kraft Center for Jewish Life, 606 West 115th Street, 5th Floor: This documentary follows the conversion process of a contemporary Peruvian community descended from indigenous women and Jewish men who settled the Amazon during the 19th century. Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein and Bob Pollack will follow up with a discussion on the biological meaning of being Jewish. Free; no registration required.

• Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday, May 7, following the 7:00PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Want to get together with long time BJ friends and make new ones? Interested in meeting visitors from a Jewish community in Argentina? Then join us for a three-course dinner with wine in an intimate setting. The night will include music and stories from the communal life of both congregations. \$29 members/\$39 non-members. Register at www.bj.org.

• Renee Kaufman Lecture Series Presents: Author Michael Rosen

Thursday, May 13, 7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Join us for a reading and discussion of Michael Rosen's *What Else But Home: Seven Boys and an American Journey Between the Projects and the Penthouse*. The Rosens' journey across boundaries of race and class began when their son joined a baseball game. He was the only white player. He invited his teammates home afterwards. Five boys—African American and Latino, from public housing, with loving moms and no fathers home—moved in with the Rosens and became family.

• BJ is Back at the Israel Day Parade

Sunday, May 23, 12:00PM, 5th Avenue at 57th Street: Want to be surrounded by BJ friends at the world's biggest celebration of Israel's independence? Then join us as BJ returns to the Israel Day Parade! The parade's theme this year is "Lights... Camera... Action... Israel," and so we will bring BJ's "soundtrack" of wonderful music and great ruah with Ari and other BJ musicians. Bring yourself and a musical instrument. To R.S.V.P. and for more details, contact Guy at gfelixbrodt@bj.org.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES *(continued from page 2)*

• **Movie Screening of "Departures"**

Thursday, May 27, 6:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: The Hevra Kadisha Committee invites the community to a screening of this Japanese film about death, which won the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign

Language Film. A discussion of the film's implications will follow. Free; registration not required. Contact Yaffa at ygarber@bj.org with any questions.

CREATING KEHILLAH

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **Counter-Revolutionary Bike Ride**

Sunday, May 2, 10:00AM-3:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Found out that the 5 Boro Bike Tour is already sold out? Want to enjoy the amazing spring weather on your bike? Cycle with the BJ Revolutionaries Bike Team on our own easy-riding 25 mile Counter-Revolutionary Ride! We will end with a Lag Ba-Omer picnic with free haircuts as a way of celebrating the special 33rd day of the Omer and the end of no grooming. Feel free to stop by just for the picnic beginning at 1:00PM. Please plan to purchase or bring your own food to share. R.S.V.P. to Mark at remark1@gmail.com or Carol at cberfeld@gmail.com.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• **3rd Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter**

Tuesday, May 4, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: 3rd graders and their families are invited to cook for the BJ/SPSA Shelter. Every month, a different grade of students and their families prepare a meal for the guests of the BJ Shelter. Together, we cook, set and decorate the table, and engage in age-appropriate study and discussion about the Jewish value of feeding the hungry. This is a community-wide program; all families of 3rd graders are invited to participate, no matter where your children receive their Jewish education. To R.S.V.P. and sign up for what you'll bring, please contact Lauren Kogod at lauren.kogod@mac.com. Please include your name and the name of your child in the email. You must R.S.V.P. to participate.

• **Tot Shabbat and Dinner**

Friday, May 7, 5:00-7:00PM, 88th Street: Families will enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service in the sanctuary beginning at 5:00PM, followed by a dinner at 5:30PM in Frankel Hall complete with Shabbat blessings

and songs. Dinner will include delicious choices for adults as well as children, and vegetarian options will be available; dietary laws observed. While adults are finishing their meal, children will be engaged in games and more songs! Register at www.bj.org by May 3, and contact Emily Walsh at ewalsh@bj.org with any questions or specific dietary requests.

HAVUROT

• **New Health and Nutrition Havurah Forming**

Open to members in health care profession (doctors, nutritionist, chiropractors, acupuncturist) who are interested in meeting to share ideas, new developments, and networking and referral opportunities. Please contact Shelly at simpson.shelly@gmail.com for more information.

AFFILIATES

• **Infertility, Adoption and the Family Conference**

Sunday, April 25, 9:00AM-5:00PM, UJA Federation, 130 East 59th Street: The Jewish Child Care Association-Ametz Adoption Program annual conference with 50 workshops about adopting domestically or internationally, or living as an adoptive family. Attorneys and adoption agencies will be on hand.

• **The Jewish Oral Tradition: Jews as a Storytelling People**

Sunday, April 25, 12:00-4:00PM, The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning, 10 East 66th Street: A participatory workshop, led by BJ member Peninnah Schram and illustrated with a wide variety of stories from biblical, Talmudic, midrashic, Hasidic, Ashkenazi, and Sephardi sources, examines the Jewish oral tradition with its many-splendored genres and explores what forms a specifically Jewish tale. Register at www.adultjewishlearning.org, or call 212-507-9580 for more information.

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

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

Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein

Tuesdays (May 11 and 25), 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. May Salons are targeted for members who joined BJ between 2006-2008. We will talk about our personal relationship with nature. Limited space is available; please respond to ngoodhart@bj.org.

BOOK YOUR SPRING:

• **Radical Judaism: Rethinking God and Tradition**

Sunday, April 25, 10:00AM-12:00PM, The JCC in Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Avenue at 76th Street: How do we articulate a Judaism for the 21st century? We need a religious vision that embraces evolution and celebrates Divine presence throughout the world. We need an honest Judaism that accepts the human authorship of Scripture and moves beyond the critical stance, reinvigorating Judaism with new, contemporary Midrash. Join Jewish scholar Dr. Arthur Green as he draws on the Jewish mystical traditions of Kabbalah and Hasidism with the release of his new book, *Rethinking God and Tradition*. Register at www.jccmanhattan.org.

• **DNA and Neshama**

Bob Pollack

Wednesdays (April 28 and May 5), 6:00-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: During this two-session class, BJ member Bob Pollack will discuss this quote from Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel in the light of modern science: "The greatest problem is not how to continue but how to exalt our existence. The call for a life beyond the grave is presumptuous, if there is no cry for eternal life prior for our descending to the grave. Eternity is not perpetual future but perpetual presence. He has planted in us the seed of eternal life. The world to come is not only a hereafter but also a herenow." Free, no registration required. For more information, contact Naomi at ngoodhart@bj.org.

• **The Complete Psalms in a New Translation:**

Book Reading and Discussion with Author Pam Greenberg

Thursday, April 29, 7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us as we welcome Pamela Greenberg, a poet and translator, and author of *The Complete Psalms: The Book of Prayer Songs in a New Translation*. In her new translation, Greenberg approaches the psalms as a poetic and prayerful act, rekindling their relevance to our lives. Praised by Arthur Green as "an act of courage" and with a foreword by Susannah Heschel, this translation will awaken you to new ways of using the psalms in your spiritual life.

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.

Poverty in Perpetuity?

By Amir Shaviv

The State of Israel is 62 years old—an age that in the United States would entitle a person to apply for Social Security benefits. But can a country, too, apply for public assistance?

Consider this news item that exploded on the eve of Israel's 62nd Independence Day, yet remained in the shadow of other scandals. The percentage of ultra Orthodox men in Israel who are not working has more than tripled over the past 30 years. In 2008, some 65% of Haredi men did not work, compared to only 21% in 1979. This revelation is included in the Annual Report of the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel.

How did we get to this stage?

The Center Director, Professor Dan Ben David, an American-educated Israeli economist, explains that the State increased allowances and funding for ultra-Orthodox Jews, permitting them to choose nonparticipation in the workforce as a lifestyle.

"At the same time," explains Ben David, "years of neglect of the human infrastructure, in particular in education... prevent many people from acquiring the tools to manage in the modern competitive economy."

He adds that in the last decade, the number of students in elementary religious schools increased by 8%, while the number of kids in nonreligious schools has dropped by 3% since the year 2000.

Simply put, Israel is creating poverty in perpetuity. Kids attending inferior schools will grow up to be adults lacking skills for productive employment; thus they will depend on public welfare, sending their own kids, in turn, to poor schools. The catch is that in order for these elementary school children to be integrated into the labor market, they must receive an education appropriate for the needs of the modern economy. However, the level of elementary education in the ultra Orthodox schools (and in the Arab education system) is lower than Western standards.

Is there a way out? Sure there is, but it takes political courage, statesmanship and the power to empower. Let us hope that Israeli leaders with the necessary strength and vision will emerge in the years to come.

Amir Shaviv, a former Israeli journalist, is an executive at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC).

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.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

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