

RABBIS:

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

HAZZAN & MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOW: Rabbi Michelle Dardashti

BJ RABBINIC FELLOW: Jason Fruithandler

CANTORIAL INTERN: Shoshi Rosenbaum

VAERA

MEVARKHIM HAHODESHEH

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 6:2 - 9:35

TRIENNIAL Exodus 6:2 - 7:7

- 1: 6:2 - 6:5
- 2: 6:6 - 6:9
- 3: 6:10 - 6:13
- 4: 6:14 - 6:19
- 5: 6:20 - 6:25
- 6: 6:26 - 6:28
- 7: 6:29 - 7:7

Maftir: 7:5 - 7:7

HAFTARAH Ezekiel 28:25- 29:21

NEXT WEEK: **BO**

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 10:1 - 13:16

TRIENNIAL Exodus 10:1 - 11:3

HAFTARAH Jeremiah 46:13- 28

UPCOMING LIMUD

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

• **The Rabbinic Mind and Imagination:**

Pirke deRabbi Eliezer

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

6 Tuesdays (January 11, 18, February 1, 8, 15, 22; no class January 25), 12:30-1:45PM, BJ Office Conference Room: Explore the way the Sages understood the Torah through the close textual reading of the 9th century midrashic work Pirke deRabbi Eliezer. Come to know how the rabbis thought, their creative imagination, and their responses to questions in the Torah. No Hebrew reading necessary. Free of charge; registration required at www.bj.org.

• **Looking Toward Shabbat Shira: A Teaching in Memory of Shira Palmer-Sherman Paradox, Poetry, and Prayer: Giving Voice to the Sacred Ambiguities of Our Lives**

Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld

Saturday, January 8, 3:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: The Exodus story is not a straightforward, linear journey from bondage to liberation. Like the story of our lives, it is a far more complex journey, in which we must hold and embrace many competing realities at once. Through the study of classical and contemporary midrashim, we will explore the spiritual significance of paradox in Judaism, and the role of poetry and prayer in giving expression to the sacred ambiguities of our lives. Sharon Cohen Anisfeld has been Dean of the Rabbinical School at Hebrew College since 2006.

December 31, 2010-January 7, 2011

24 Tevet-2 Shevat, 5771

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

BJ OFFICE CLOSED

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

Shabbat Morning Services 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary

Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

Community Kiddush Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

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, JANUARY 4

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

Limud: The Book of Exodus 8:30 AM – 88th St.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St.

BJ Hebrew School 4:00-6:00 PM

Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a 7:00 PM – BJ Office

Limud: Rosh Hodesh Women's Group 7:00 PM – 88th St.(SEE BELOW)

ROSH HODESH SHEVAT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

HISTORIC NEWS

The Heschel School has accepted our bid to buy the 89th Street building.

The outpouring of support from the community has been tremendous, but we still need everyone's help. Contributions we receive now will help reduce financing costs, and are needed to pay for planning, renovation, and move-in costs. Please help secure BJ's future. Pledge or donate at www.bj.org/89th-street or contact Nancy Gad-Harf at ngad-harf@bj.org or 212-787-7600 x262.

BJ STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP.

• **Rosh Hodesh Women's Group for Shevat**

Thursday, January 6, 7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Each new month on the Hebrew calendar, we will have an opportunity to study, discuss, celebrate, and pray together on this holiday traditionally associated with women. Contact erosenblum@bj.org to be added to the Women's Group email list.

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.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Israel Fires

Tragic fires in Israel have devastated the area of the Carmel. Forty percent of the buildings at Yemin Orde, home to more than 500 immigrant, disadvantaged and at-risk children and youth from 20 countries around the world, have been damaged or destroyed in the fire and many people have lost everything. We suggest you consider making a donation at www.yeminorde.org to help Yemin Orde rebuild.

• Mekusharim Premiere: "Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg"

Tuesday, January 11, 6:30-8:30PM, 88th Street: Mekusharim—meaning "connections"—is a new group for ages 55+. Like Tze'irim and Bekef, Mekusharim coordinates programs that are interesting, fun and offer opportunities for socializing. Our theme for the year is Our Routes and Roots in New York. The premiere event is a screening

• Marriage Equality Hevra Meeting

Tuesday, January 11, location and time given upon R.S.V.P.: The BJ Marriage Equality Hevra invites you to attend their next meeting to learn about how we are working to achieve marriage equality for gay couples in New York State. For more information, please contact Dale at bernstein.dale@gmail.com or Lisa at lsafier@yahoo.com.

• Men's Havurah

Saturday, January 15, 5:00-7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join Esther Perel in a conversation about "What do men want? Honest men speak about today's masculinity." Recognized as one of the world's most original and insightful voices on erotic intelligence, Esther Perel is the author of the international best-seller *Mating in Captivity, Reconciling the Erotic and Domestic*. Esther's bold new take on sex and intimacy has shaken up traditional thinking and ranked her as a top relationship expert among therapists and lay audiences alike. Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein will host this gathering.

• Update Our Mi Sheberakh List

Every Shabbat, we recite a Mi Sheberakh and pray for the healing of those in our community and in our families who are ill. Twice a year, we will renew the list. Therefore, we kindly ask that you let us know if you or any of your loved ones are still in need of healing so we can update the list and continue to pray for those who need it. Requests can be made to Liz at erosenblum@bj.org.

■ SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

Sunday, January 16 and Monday, January 17, various times and locations: Join fellow BJ members in a day of service this Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Choose from a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout New York City including visiting with the elderly, helping to organize a food pantry, and neighborhood beautification. A complete list of the volunteer opportunities can be found at www.bj.org/mlk. If you have any questions, please contact Ariel at aschneider@bj.org.

■ YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• January Tot Shabbat and Dinner

Friday, January 7, 5:30PM, 88th Street: Families will enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service, followed by dinner at 6:00PM in Frankel Hall with Shabbat blessings and songs. Dinner will include delicious choices for adults and children, and vegetarian options will be available; dietary laws observed. While adults are finishing their meal, teen volunteers will engage children in games and songs! Register at www.bj.org by Tuesday, January 4, and contact Kristen Kersey at kkersey@bj.org with questions or dietary requests.

• 4th Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter

Tuesday, January 11, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: 4th graders and their families are invited to cook for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter. Every month, a different grade of students prepares a meal for the shelter guests. Together, we cook and set the table while engaging in study about the Jewish value of feeding the hungry. This is a community-wide program; all families of 4th graders may participate. R.S.V.P. to Lori Beth Singer at maxandbensinger@aol.com by Friday, January 7.

• Bim Bam Spring Session

Fridays, January 21-May 20, 9:30-10:15AM or 10:45-11:30AM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Bim Bam is a pre-Shabbat class for children ages 3 and under to sing songs, hear stories, make Shabbat blessings, and give tzedakah. Register for the 9:30AM or 10:45AM section at www.bj.org. The cost is \$175 for members and \$250 for non-members per family (new members can register for free). Contact Kristen Kersey at kkersey@bj.org with questions. Please note that class will not meet on April 22.

■ TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

• Tze'irim Cooking for the Shelter

Monday, December 27, 6:00-7:30PM, BJ Kitchen at 88th Street: Come join us as we make dinner at BJ for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter. As usual, all the cooks will split the cost of the groceries (\$8-10), and no cooking experience is necessary. R.S.V.P. by Friday, December 24 to the Tze'irim SA/SJ committee at volunteers@tzeirim.bj.org.

• Tze'irim Shabbat Dinner, 30s ONLY

Friday, January 21, following the service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join Rabbinic Fellow Jason Fruithandler 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'mirov led by the BJ musicians. \$23 members; \$28 non-members. To register, visit www.bj.org.

• Tze'irim Goes to the Knicks

Monday, January 24, 7:30PM, Madison Square Garden: Join Tze'irim at Madison Square Garden to watch the New York Knicks take on All-star Gilbert Arenas, First Overall Pick John Wall, and the Washington Wizards. Tickets are in the 300s section and only \$35.00, which includes a \$10.00 food and beverage voucher. Seats are limited, so please register online at www.bj.org. Please note that this new date is a change from our original plan. We had an overwhelming response of interest, so decided to find a game for which we could get more tickets.

■ BEKEF: 35+

• Bekef Tu Bishvat Seder

Thursday, January 20, 7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us as Bekef hosts a Tu Bishvat Seder with a three-course meal and wine in an intimate setting. Get to know new people and join with your friends as we honor the "birthday of the trees" at this traditional seder. Open to all. \$20 members/\$25 non-members. Register on the BJ website at www.bj.org.

■ HAVUROT

• Environmental Havurah Tu Bishvat Seder

Thursday, January 20, 7:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Join the Shomrei Adamah Environmental Havurah in a Tu Bishvat Seder in a member's home on the Upper East Side. Tu Bishvat is often called the "Jewish Arbor Day" and celebrates the birthday of the trees with a feast of many different kinds of fruits, nuts and wine, of course! All members of BJ are welcome to attend but seating is limited. To reserve your seat, please contact Les Judd at 718-530-5074 or LesJudd@aol.com by January 10.