

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

KI TISA

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 30:11 - 34:35
TRIENNIAL Exodus 30:11 - 31:17

- 1: 30:11 - 30:13
- 2: 30:14 - 30:16
- 3: 30:17 - 30:21
- 4: 30:22 - 30:33
- 5: 30:34 - 30:38
- 6: 31:1 - 31:11
- 7: 31:12 - 31:17
- Maftir: 31:15 - 31:17

HAFTARAH I Kings 18:20 - 39

NEXT WEEK: **VAYAKHEL**

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 35:1 - 38:20
TRIENNIAL Exodus 35:1 - 37:16

HAFTARAH I Kings 7:40 - 50

February 18–25, 2011

14 Adar I–21 Adar I, 5771

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Shabbat Morning Services 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
K & 1st Grade Alternative Shabbat Program 9:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor
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

Minḥa Service 5:15 PM – 88th St.
Bat Mitzvah Maia Offitzer

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

BJ OFFICE CLOSED
Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.
BJ Hebrew School Closed today
Limud: Introduction to Judaism No class this week

Presidents Day

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: The Book of Exodus 8:30 AM – 88th St.
Limud: The Rabbinic Mind and Imagination 12:30 PM – BJ Office [SEE P.3]
Limud: Know Before Whom You Stand 6:30 PM – Drisha [SEE P.3]

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St.
Limud: More 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
Limud: Comparative Literature Interfaith Class 7:00 PM – 88th St. [SEE P.3]

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Bim Bam 9:30 and 10:45 AM – 88th St.

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

• **Community Cafés: Talking, Listening, Envisioning Change**

Pick a date: Monday, February 28, 6:15-8:30PM OR Sunday, March 6, 4:30- 6:45PM OR Tuesday, March 29, 6:15-8:30PM, all at 88th Street: Join us at one of three Community Cafés, where we will break bread, have warm soup, and share interesting conversations about the issues that affect us as concerned New Yorkers. It is 2011 and our city has changed since our last round of community conversations. Panim el Panim needs to hear from you, our fellow BJ members. Your input will guide the direction of BJ's social justice efforts. Help us create a kehillah kedoshah, a sacred community, within our congregation as well as within our city and state. Register at www.bj.org/communitycafes.

We are proud to announce that both B'nai Jeshurun and the Abraham Joshua Heschel School have signed a formal contract for the purchase of the building at 270 West 89th Street. This is a great moment in the growth of the BJ community, and it is only fitting that this momentous day occurs during Adar, a month of joy and celebration. Mazal tov to all who will learn, grow, and make new connections in this building, a new part of our home.

Besiman tov uvemazal tov,

Roly, Marcelo, Felicia, and Ari

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

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

- Rose Alpert on the death of her beloved sister, Marion Gass.
- Fretta Reitzes on the death of her beloved father, Samuel Fields.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Maia and Noah Offitzer and Shirley Abraham on Maia becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

- Rabbi Joel and Sandy Soffin on the marriage of their son, Jeremy Soffin, to Lauren Berrol.
- Jordana Kremnitzer, Juan Sanchez and Jordon, Elijah and Yael on the birth of their son and brother, Amit Luke.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Barbara AB Symons and 8th and 9th Grade students, Pittsburgh Reform Congregations: Temple David, Temple Sinai and Temple Emanuel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Rabbi Jonathan Roos, Rabbi Jessica Oleon and 10th Grade class, Temple Sinai, Washington, D.C.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

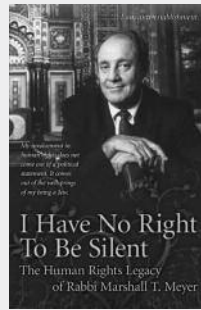
• **The Gift of Grief—A Paradoxical Journey Toward Our Light Within**
Tuesday, April 5, 7:30-9:00PM, 88th Street: Please join us for the annual Bikkur Holim Teaching with Rabbi Matthew Gewirtz. Rabbi Gewirtz is a regular contributor to numerous professional publications, including the *CCAR Journal* and *The American Rabbi*. He is the author of *The Gift of Grief: Finding Peace, Transformation and Renewed Life after Great Sorrow*. He began his tenure as the Senior Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Short Hills, NJ in July 2006. Previously he served as Senior Associate Rabbi of Congregation Rodeph Shalom.

• **Aliyah and Kiddush to Honor BJ Volunteers**
Saturday, April 9, during Shabbat morning services, 86th Street: The BJ community thrives on the activity and support of over one thousand volunteers. Volunteers personify one of the three pillars upon which BJ was built and demonstrate commitment to serving our community through many meaningful initiatives. We invite you to join together for the honor of being called to the Torah for an aliyah during services, with a special Kiddush in your honor at the 88th Street Sanctuary immediately following. R.S.V.P. to Belinda Lasky at blasky@bj.org or 212-787-7600 x224 by April 1.

• **Community Second Night Pesah Seder**
Tuesday, April 19, 6:00-10:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: For the fourth year, Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein will be leading the Community Second Night Pesah Seder. This event is for members only. Reservations will be honored strictly on a first-come, first-served basis. Download the registration form from the BJ website, www.bj.org, and mail your check to Naomi Goodhart, B'nai Jeshurun, 2109 Broadway, #203, New York, NY 10023. Please reserve early.

• **Do You Love To Cook?**
Join our new *hevra* to cook Shabbat meals for new families. We will meet at the BJ kitchen on Thursday evenings following the birth or adoption of a new baby. Make new friends and learn new recipes while providing new parents with a chance to relax and enjoy Shabbat. To volunteer or for more information please contact Carol at cgandpoppy3@hotmail.com.

• **Traveling Exhibit: I Have No Right To Be Silent—Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer**
Through Sunday, February 27, daily for 45 minutes after morning services; for 45 minutes after Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services; for 45 minutes before classes, 88th Street Sanctuary: We are proud to host a traveling exhibit that commemorates the social activism and human rights work of Rabbi Marshall Meyer, who led BJ's resurgence from 1985 until his death in 1993. An ordinary man



whose extraordinary convictions, faith, and impetuous personality impelled him to become one of the most important human rights activists during Argentina's Dirty War (1976-1983), Rabbi Meyer articulated why we are all responsible for speaking out against injustice. The exhibit draws on the Marshall T. Meyer papers including intimate family photos, moving letters from prisoners, internal government memos, and rare human rights publications.

• **Donate Your Photos of BJ**
We are looking for photos of BJ people and events to add to the BJ archive. If you have one or more to contribute, especially of the period between 1985-1995, please contact Denise Waxman at dwxman@bj.org to find out about the information we want for each photo (date, photographer, etc.) and how to submit them.

• **BJ Communications Appeal for Design Software**
Our plans are exceeding the capability of our tools. Do you own a recent version of Adobe® Creative Suite (Design Basic or similar)? Are you willing to donate it (transfer the license) to BJ for use in the office? If so, it is our design to connect with you. Please contact Denise Waxman at dwxman@bj.org.

2011 Women's Retreat
Friday, May 20–Sunday, May 22
Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center
Register at www.bj.org

CREATING KEHILLAH

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• **2nd Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter**
Tuesday, March 1, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: 2nd 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 2nd graders may participate. R.S.V.P. to Jessica Forman at jessicalforman@yahoo.com.

• **March Tot Shabbat and Dinner**
Friday, March 4, 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, March 2, and contact Kristen Kersey at kkersey@bj.org with questions or dietary requests.

(continued on page 3)

• **K-2 Shabbat Family Program**

Saturday, March 5, 9:45AM-10:45AM, 88th Street Parlor: This program allows families to come together and meet other families while engaging in educational activities. Parents will learn with other parents, led by BJ's educators, while students and teachers interact. Families then attend Children's Services, followed by participation in Minyan Bet (for children ages 4-6), or Junior Congregation (grades 2-6). Other activities include family projects, learning, eating and lots more. Contact Kristen Kersey at kkersey@bj.org for more information.

TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

• **Tze'irim Cooks for the Shelter**

Monday, February 28, 6:00-7:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join Tze'irim as they prepare dinner for the guests of the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter. We'll meet at 6:00PM, downstairs in the BJ kitchen (88th Street between Broadway and West End Ave). 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, February 25 to the Tze'irim SASJ committee at volunteers@tzeirim.bj.org.

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

Friday, March 11, following the service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us for a dinner with Rabbinic Fellow Jason Fruithandler, a fully catered meal with wine in an intimate setting. A great chance to get together with friends, make new ones and start Shabbat together with beautiful z'mirot.

\$23 members; \$28 non-members. To register, visit the BJ website at www.bj.org.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

• **Bridge of Hope Information Sessions for Host Families**

Sunday, February 27 and Friday, March 4, Long Island, NY, and **Sunday, February 13**, Mid-Hudson, NY: Bridge of Hope is now recruiting NY host families for our summer 2011 program. Russian and Ukrainian children, ages 6-12, will participate. For the first time, Chinese adoption authorities have agreed to send children, ages 6-9, from Chinese orphanages. Children will visit U.S. families for summer camp and home stays of about three weeks in July and August. Hosts must meet program and country requirements, and have a current, completed home study by June 15. These information sessions are for prospective host families who would like to learn more about our program and our children. For more information, please contact Bridge of Hope Director Patrice Gancie at pgancie@cradlehope.org.

• **Cantorial School Recital at JTS**

Sunday, March 6, 5:00PM, Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway: Yakov Hadash, BJ's education intern this year, along with three other talented cantorial students, will be performing a variety of material at their Senior Recital. Hebrew, Yiddish, and art songs, *hazzanut*, and some light-hearted material will be included. The performance will be followed by a hearty reception.

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 (remaining class February 22), 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.

• **Know Before Whom You Stand—Teachings on Prayer by the Hassidic Masters, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi**

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

6 Tuesdays (remaining classes February 22, March 1), 6:30-8:00PM, Drisha Institute for Jewish Education (37 West 65th Street, 5th floor): How do we stand in God's Presence? How do we pour out our heart to God? Does God need our prayers? How do we enter the language of prayer? How do we balance fixed prayers and spontaneity? We will explore these and other questions through the study of inspiring teachings in order to help us deepen our own prayer experience. This class is co-sponsored by B'nai Jeshurun and Drisha. Free of charge; registration required at www.bj.org.

• **More Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis**

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

7 Thursdays (remaining classes February 24, March 3), 12:30-1:30PM, Midtown location TBA, Lunch and Learn (please bring your own lunch): How do we stand in God's Presence? 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. Registration required at www.bj.org.

• **Comparative Literature: Interfaith Class**

Co-taught by Dr. Fran Snyder and Dr. Michael Pettinger, faculty at The New School

4 Thursdays (remaining class February 24), 7:00-8:30PM, 88th Street: Judaism and Christianity derive their ideas from the same sacred text, the Hebrew Bible, which seems on the face of it to be straightforward and clear. If that's the case, how do the Rabbis of the earliest midrashim come to the conclusion that the Torah preceded Creation, while one of the earliest Church documents insists that Jesus Christ was there before all else? In this course, we will investigate four themes of particular interest to both the Rabbis and the Church Fathers, who were the first composers of Church Bible commentary. Discussions will be based on readings from the early foundational texts of both religions. Registration required at www.bj.org.

• **BJ Israel Salons**

Rabbi Marcelo R. Bronstein

Tuesdays, March 1 and 8, 7:00-9:00PM, Upper East Side location: Marcelo will again facilitate Beit Midrash Salons, all dedicated to Israel. We'll be looking into Israeli society through documentary films, text and sometimes a guest speaker to foster meaningful conversations about Israel, its beauty and complexity. Each Salon is a 2-session series. March Salons are targeted to long-time members who joined before 1990. Location provided upon R.S.V.P. to ngoodhart@bj.org.

• **Rosh Hodesh Adar II Women's Group and Havdalah:**

A Second Chance at Happiness

Rabbi Michelle Dardashti

Saturday, March 5, 5:00-7:00PM, 86th Street Social Hall: Tradition holds "When the month of Adar arrives, we must increase our joy..." and Adar arrives twice this year! Join us in ushering in Adar II, with an exploration of what it might mean to have a "second chance at *simcha*/happiness," followed by Havdalah. Please bring a dairy/kosher snack to share with the group.

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 Belinda Lasky, Assistant Executive Director, x224 or blasky@bj.org. We look forward to welcoming you to our community!

• **A Note from the Ushers: *There is now one Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service.*** To prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before services begin. As the weather cools, please time your arrival accordingly. After services on Friday nights, please leave siddurim (prayer books) on the seats. Men are asked to wear kippot during services. Photography, cell phone use, and food are not permitted in the Sanctuary. To give the siddurim and humashim (Torah text) the respect they merit, they should not be placed on the floor

when not in use. Tallitot and damaged books may be brought to the back of the Sanctuary after Shabbat 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.

Excerpts from *Man's Quest for God*, by Abraham Joshua Heschel

But there is a wider voluntary entrance to prayer than sorrow and despair—the opening of our thoughts to God. We cannot make Him visible to us, but we can make ourselves visible to Him. So we open our thoughts to Him—feeble our tongues, but sensitive our hearts. We see more than we can say. The trees stand like guards of the Everlasting; the flowers like signposts of His goodness—only we have failed to be testimonies to His presence, tokens of His trust. How could we have lived in the shadow of greatness and defied it?

Agadelcha—I Will Praise You

I will praise You, God of all souls, and I will thank you with great fear and awe

As I stand among your worshipers, Lord, and exalt you before you I will kneel and bow head and body

The high heavens—has He not stretched them forth with His speech? and the earth He founded upon nothingness

Can a man explore the secret of his Creator? and who is He at the far ends of the East and West?

He is exalted by every mouth and tongue, He who did wonders, and has done all with wisdom

His name will be magnified among the holy nation—may His great name be sanctified in His world!

Agadelcha Elohei kol neshama

ve-odecha berov pachad ve'ema

Be-omdi toch kehalcha tzur leromem

lecha echra ve'echof rosh vekomah

Reki'ei rom halo nata bemivta

veha'aretz yesadah al belimah

Hayuchal ish hakor et sod yotzro

u'mi hu zeh bechol kedma veyama

Meromam hu alei kol peh velashon

asher hifli ve'asa kol bechochma

Veyitgadal begoy kadosh ve'elyon

veyitkadash shemeh raba be'alma

R. Avraham Ibn Ezra, Spain, 12th Century

אֲגַדְלֶךָ אֱלֹהֵי כָל-נִשְׁמָה
וְאוֹדֶךָ בְּרֹב-פַּחַד וְאֵימָה
בְּעַמְדֵי תוֹךְ קְהֵלְךָ צוּר לְרוֹמֵם
לְךָ אֶכְרַע וְאֶכְף רֹאשׁ וְקוֹמָה
רְקִיעֵי רוֹם הֵלֵא נְטָה בְּמִבְטָא
וְהֶאֱרַץ יִסְדָּה עַל בְּלִימָה
הַיּוֹכֵל אִישׁ חֶקוֹר אֶת סוֹד יִצְרוּ
וּמִי הוּא זֶה בְּכָל-קִדְמָה וְיִמָּה
מְרוֹמֵם הוּא עָלֵי כָל-פֶּה וְלָשׁוֹן
אֲשֶׁר הִפְלִיא וְעָשָׂה כָל בְּחֻכְמָה
וַיִּתְגַּדֵּל בְּגוֹי קָדוֹשׁ וְעֲלִיוֹן
וַיִּתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמִיהָ רַבָּא בְּעֵלְמָא

Please visit BJ online at www.bj.org for more information: Membership at BJ • Class and Event Registration • BJ Publications • Calendar of Events
ASL Interpreter available upon request.

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