

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון
The Voice of BJ This Week

B'naiJeshurun
בני ישרון



February 5-12, 2016 • 26 Shevat-3 Adar I, 5776

WELCOME TO BJ! We build our kehillah kedoshah—sacred community—with creativity and intention to present a compelling, energizing, and transformational vision of Judaism in the 21st century.

PLEASE JOIN US:

- **Prayer & Spirituality**
- **Limud / Learning**
- **Youth & Family**
- **Community Events**
- **Tzedek & Hesed / Justice & Acts of Loving-Kindness**
- **Israel Programming**

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

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

SENIOR RABBINIC FELLOW: Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

BJ RABBINIC FELLOWS: Alex Braver • Arielle Rosenberg

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OUR COMMUNITY

HA-MAKOM YENAHM / CONDOLENCES

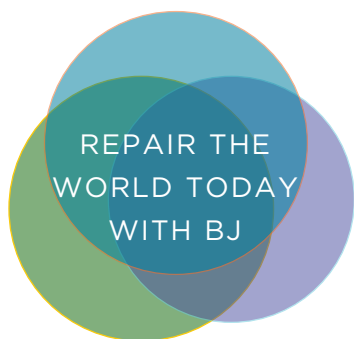
The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends our sincere condolences to James Wagman and Anne Landsman, their children, Tess and Adam Wagman, and their entire family on the death of James's mother, Fredrica Barris Wagman.

TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Claire and Peter Wolf Smith in honor of Nathan having become a Bar Mitzvah.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Judy Van Der Stelt and Confirmation Class, Congregation Rodeph Sholom, Tampa, Florida.
- **Welcome to all who are visiting us for the first time!** If we haven't approached you already, come say hi to one of the rabbis, a staff member, or an usher, and we'll introduce you to the people who make BJ a warm, transformative, and open place.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● **Support Our Shelter: Become a Sleepover Volunteer**

Sign up for a monthly shift or fill in where we need volunteers most. Sleepover shifts are from 9:00PM-7:00AM at either SPSA or BJ. Contact Larissa at lwohl@bj.org or call x272 to learn more.

WHAT YOU CAN BRING:

● **Feeding Our Neighbors: An Interfaith Response**

Help distribute 1 million meals to hungry New Yorkers by donating nonperishable food items. You can drop them off in the labeled bins at 89th Street. For a list of recommended items, contact Larissa at lwohl@bj.org or x272.

"A Jew is asked to take a leap of action rather than a leap of thought: to surpass his needs, to do more than she understands in order to understand more than he does. In carrying out the word of the Torah she is ushered into the presence of spiritual meaning. Through the ecstasy of deeds he learns to be certain of the presence of God."

—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

"Towards an Understanding of Halakhah" in *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*

PARTICIPATE IN OUR YEARLONG COMMUNITY HESCHEL STUDY

Join a study group: Contact Billie at bdistefano@bj.org or x264.

Watch the latest webinar: Visit www.bj.org/januaryheschelwebinar.

Participate in this month's webinar: Go to www.bj.org/februaryheschelwebinar on Wednesday, February 10, at 12:00 noon.

For more info, visit www.bj.org/heschel.

We hope you love your *Kol Jeshurun* and will take it home. If you choose not to do so, we kindly ask that you leave it on your chair.

Please note: For detailed class descriptions and to register for classes, please visit www.bj.org/learning/classes. All classes are free of charge except where noted.

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

7th Grade Trip to Washington, DC (through 2/7)

- ● **Tot Shabbat** 5:15 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary and Frankel Hall
Families enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a dinner at 5:45PM in Frankel Hall, complete with Shabbat blessings and songs. Register at www.bj.org.

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- **Hakhanah laTefillah: Preparing for Prayer** 8:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel
Please join Rabbi Roly Matalon to prepare the soul and open the heart for Shabbat morning prayers through the singing of piyutim and reflections on kavannah. Upcoming sessions: 2/20, 3/5, 19; 4/2, 16, 30; 5/14, 28; 6/11.

- **Shabbat Morning Learners' Minyan** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Chapel
Build and strengthen your Shabbat morning tefillah foundation with our pilot 5-session Learners' Minyan. Explore liturgy, melody, and mechanics with those of all levels of experience while engaging in meaningful prayer. Led by BJ Rabbinic Fellows and Rabbis.

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

- ● **Hazzak Torah Skills Training** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall

- ● **Junior Congregation—Kids & Families** 10:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall

- ● **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel, Parlor, and 2nd Floor

- ● **Community Kiddush** Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall

- **The Paris Agreement on Climate Change: A Conversation with Ruben Kraiem** Following Services – 86th St. Chapel
BJ member Rubén Kraiem, advisor to the Coalition for Rainforest Nations, will share his impressions of last December's multilateral climate-change negotiations and report on what was (and what was not) achieved in the resulting Paris Agreement.

- **The Legacy of My Father** 4:00 PM, snacks; 4:30 PM, program – 89th St. Reception Room
As part of our yearlong study of Abraham Joshua Heschel, come hear his daughter, Dr. Susannah Heschel, share stories of her father, read some of her favorite passages, and address questions about Rabbi Heschel.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Teen Day of Service

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

- **Coffee on Your Corner With Senator Espaillat** 9:30 AM – 89th St. Middle Room
Meet with New York State Senator Adriano Espaillat over a cup of coffee to discuss your concerns in the community. Coffee and a light breakfast will be provided. For more information or to pre-register: 212-544-0173, eventsRSVP@adrianoespaillat.org.

- **Purim Play Rehearsals** 10:00 AM – 89th St. Reception Room

- **Spoonful of Hesed: Cook and Deliver Meals to BJ Members** 11:00 AM – 88th St. Kitchen
We will gather to cook and deliver meals to BJ members in need of a little extra care. If you would like to volunteer, or if you know someone who needs a meal, contact Billie at bdistefano@bj.org.

- **Welcome the Stranger and Stand Up for Love** 11:00 AM – 89th St.
Learn about the global refugee crisis with a screening of *Refugee Kids*, a documentary by Renée Silverman. Make signs for the February 14 Love Rally. This BJ Teen Day of Service event is open to all ages. Register at www.bj.org/dayofservice.

- **IDI Session: Religion and State in Israel** 4:00 PM – 89th St.
Join Rabbi Matalon for a conversation about the Orthodox rabbinate monopoly and its impact on religious freedom in the Jewish State. Featuring co-panelists Shmuel Rosner, renowned Israeli journalist, and Rabbi Joy Levitt, executive director of the JCC in Manhattan.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **PJ Library Story Corner** 9:30 AM – 89th St. (18 months-4 years)
- **Open Play** 10:00-11:00 AM – 89th St. (2-4 years)
- **Economic Justice Hevra Meeting** 6:30 PM – location given upon R.S.V.P.
Join us as we continue our work to support the Justice for Farmworkers campaign to ensure that laborers who produce the food we depend on in NYS can have the dignity and equality they deserve. For questions and to R.S.V.P. contact Larissa at lwohl@bj.org.
- **TefilLab: Home Rituals—Bedtime Shema** 7:00 PM – 89th St. Chapel
It's been a long and busy day in a big and noisy city. How does Jewish tradition help us calm our hearts in preparation for sleep? Join Rabbinic Fellow Arielle Rosenberg for a night of reflection, study and music. Free of charge. To register: arosenberg@bj.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9 | ROSH HODESH ADAR I

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **The Book of Genesis** 8:30 AM – 89th St. 1st Floor
- **“Soul Food” Lunch and Learn** 12:30 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
Rabbi Felicia Sol: Bring a bag lunch and/or open up your soul to the nourishment and challenge of the Hassidic rabbis. Join us as we imagine old-world wisdom for everyday life. Free of charge. Please register at www.bj.org.
- **Keshet & KesheTOT** 4:00 PM – 89th St.
- **Day School Parent Gathering** 7:00 PM – location given upon R.S.V.P.
Calling all Day School parents! Please join us for an informal get-together to connect with fellow parents in the community and learn about all that BJ has to offer you. R.S.V.P. to awasser@bj.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 | ROSH HODESH ADAR I

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Heschel Webinar: “Towards an Understanding of Halakhah”** 12:00 PM – online
Please visit www.bj.org/februaryheschelwebinar to participate.
- **Musical Playground** 3:30-4:15 PM – 89th St. (0-4 years)
- **Introduction to Judaism (registration closed)** 7:00 PM – 89th St. 2nd Floor Conference Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Creative Kids Art Studio** 9:30-10:15 AM – 89th St.
- **New Parents Get-Together and Tummy Time** 11:30 AM-1:00 PM – 89th St. (0-6 months)
- **Judith Bernstein Lunch Program** 12:00 Noon – 88th St. Frankel Hall
- **PJ Library Story Corner** 2:00-2:30 PM – 89th St. (18 months-4 years)
- **Open Play** 2:30 PM – 89th St. (2-4 years)
- **Identity and Family-Building in the 21st Century: Interfaith Families** 6:30 PM – 89th St. Reception Room
The “21st-Century Family” can mean different things to different people as new family constellations emerge. Share your thoughts in supportive conversation facilitated by the BJ social workers. Contact Billie at x264 to R.S.V.P. Free and open to the public.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Bim Bam Spring Session** 9:15, 10:15, and 11:15 AM – 89th St. Chapel

WHAT'S NEXT

● Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday, February 12, 6:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Led by Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, Rabbi Rachel Cowan, Karina Zilberman, and BJ Rabbinic Fellow Arielle Rosenberg, this service involves meditation, reflection, deep listening and personal engagement with the parashah. Contact Beth at btarson@bj.org with any questions.

● Shira Yoga: An Integrated Practice for Body and Soul with Rabbi Shuli Passow

Saturday, February 13, 9:30-10:20 AM, 86th Street Board Room (1st floor): Bring voice, breath and body together in this pilot 5-session series that combines Asana Yoga and Piyut (Hebrew liturgical poetry). Each month we will explore a new piyut through a gentle yoga practice and chanting. Visit www.bj.org/yoga for more details.

● Love: A Rally to Celebrate Our Common Humanity

Sunday, February 14, 1:00-3:00PM, Washington Square Park: Stand against intolerance and racism at this interfaith rally co-sponsored by BJ and faith groups from across NYC. Presenters include musicians, performers, faith leaders, activists, and government officials. More info and R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org/love.

● Helen Radin Memorial Lecture: "What Matters—Caring Conversations About End of Life"

Tuesday, February 16, 7:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Join Felicia, Sarit, and guests including Dr. Eliezer Diamond and Rabbis Mychal Springer and Joy Levitt for an evening dedicated to exploring Jewish responses to questions surrounding the end of life. Free and open to the public, no registration necessary.

● Tze'irim Heschel Session

Wednesday, February 17, 8:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Be a part of this month's discussion just for 20s and 30s on the Heschel essay of the month, "Toward an Understanding of Halacha." Please read the essay beforehand. R.S.V.P. to Rabbi Sarit Horwitz.

● A Talk by Author Alisa Solomon: "Wonder of Wonders: A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof"

Thursday, February 18, 6:30-8:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Join author and Columbia University Professor Alisa Solomon for a fascinating talk and multimedia presentation. Solomon will trace how Sholem Aleichem's Tevye stories became not only one of Broadway's greatest shows, but a cultural phenomenon embraced by audiences everywhere. Visit www.bj.org/fiddler to register.

● Bo-i Kallah—A Monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday, February 19, 6:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon and Dan Nadel for an alternative Kabbalat Shabbat. With soulful melodies, verses of Shir haShirim (Song of Songs), liturgical poems and Psalms we will transition gently and with full kavannah—leaving the work-week consciousness, welcoming Shabbat.

● Whitney Museum Exhibition Tour Led by Penny Dannenberg: "Collected by Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner"

Friday, February 26, 1:00-2:00PM, Whitney Museum of American Art, 99 Gansevoort Street: Join us for an exciting tour of this exhibition led by BJ member and Whitney docent Penny Dannenberg. This extraordinary collection celebrates American and international work from the 1960s to the present. Contact asya.berger@nyu.edu with questions. Visit www.bj.org/whitney to register.

● Fourth Grade B'nai Mitzvah Journey Opening Ritual

Saturday, February 27, 5:00-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Join Rabbi Felicia Sol for this extraordinary event that brings together all 4th-grade students and families as they begin their ascent toward becoming b'nai mitzvah.

A TASTE OF TORAH: MISHPATIM

כִּי-תִרְאֶה חֲמֹר שִׂנְאָה, רֹבֵץ תַּחַת מְשָׁאוֹ, וְחִדַּלְתָּ, מֵעֲזֹב לוֹ--עֲזֹב תֵּעָזֵב, עִמּוֹ.

If you see the donkey of your enemy lying under its burden and would refrain from raising it, you must nevertheless raise it with him. —Exodus 23:5

Surely you should abandon what you have in your heart against your enemy and help him unload. —Onkelos, 2nd century

We could imagine a world where someone might be inclined to help the enemy because the Torah instructs her to, but after doing so would remain hateful towards the enemy. Onkelos believes that the act of seeing that person and helping them might strip away the layers of hate. Through the act of doing we have the power to transform what's in our heart. Onkelos's interpretation of the verse provides a model for self-growth which pushes us to use external action as a way to influence our internal feelings. This notion is similar to the words that the Israelites use in this week's parashah to demonstrate their acceptance of the commandments —"na'aseh v'nishmah"—"we will do and we will listen." This doesn't mean that we accept the mitzvot without ever questioning them or analyzing them, but it does speak to the value of immersing ourselves into action in order to analyze it. Sometimes we have to try something on for size before we can assess its worth. Pushing ourselves to act is usually much easier than transforming our inner selves. Onkelos hopes that this push to act will actually be the first step towards inner transformation. —Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

TORAH PORTION

MISHPATIM

Torah: Annual	Exodus 21:1 - 24:18
Triennial	Exodus 23:20 - 24:18
1:	23:20 - 23:25
2:	23:26 - 23:30
3:	23:31 - 23:33
4:	24:1 - 24:6
5:	24:7 - 24:11
6:	24:12 - 24:14
7:	24:15 - 24:18
Maftir:	24:15 - 24:18
Haftarah	Jeremiah 34:8 - 34:22; 33:25 - 33:26

NEXT WEEK: TERUMAH

Torah: Annual	Exodus 25:1 - 27:19
Triennial	Exodus 26:31 - 27:19
Haftarah	I Kings 5:26 - 6:13

Coffee not delivering its usual zing? **Come to morning minyan** and get a spiritual jolt to start your day. Develop a daily Jewish practice, meet new people in an intimate setting, and help us make a minyan so our members can say kaddish for their loved ones. **Visit www.bj.org/minyan.**

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BJ RECYCLES AND COMPOSTS. Please look for bins throughout our spaces. BJ's Ner Tamid at the 88th Street Sanctuary is powered by the energy of the sun.



Visit us at www.bj.org

