

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun  
בני ישרון



May 6-13, 2016 • 28 Nisan-5 Iyar, 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

**SANCTUARY:** 257 West 88th Street • **OFFICE:** 270 West 89th Street, New York, NY 10024-1705  
**TEL:** 212-787-7600 • **FAX:** 212-496-7600 • **www.bj.org** • **facebook.com/bjnyc** • **Twitter:** @bjnyc

## OUR COMMUNITY

### HA-MAKOM YENAHM / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends our sincere condolences to Sandee Brawarsky and Barry Lichtenberg, and their entire family, on the death of Sandee's mother, Muriel Brawarsky.

### MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Ethan Weisberg and his parents, Rhonda Shafner and Eric Weisberg, on Ethan becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Bernie Plum and Charlotte Behrendt on their upcoming wedding.

### TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Steve Stulman in honor of his 85th birthday.

### B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- **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.



### REPAIR THE WORLD TODAY WITH BJ

#### ● BJ: A Caring Community

We can all help make BJ a caring community. Here's a simple way for us to take care of each other: Whenever you're at BJ, look around and notice who you see. If someone is missing who is usually there, please reach out to them. If your fellow BJ member needs support, or if you need support, let us know. Contact the rabbis at rabbis@bj.org or call us at x264.

**THE BJ CELEBRATE COMMUNITY AUCTION • Wednesday, May 18 • Everybody has a gift to share.**

**"Piety is a mode of living. It is the orientation of human inwardness toward the holy. It is a predominant interest in the ultimate value of all acts and feelings and thoughts. With his heart open to and attracted by some spiritual gravitation, the pious man moves, as it were, toward the center of a universal stillness, and his conscience is so placed as to listen to the voice of God."**

—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

*"An Analysis of Piety" 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.

**Participate in this month's webinar:** Go to [www.bj.org/mayheschelwebinar](http://www.bj.org/mayheschelwebinar) on Wednesday, May 11, at 12:00 noon.

**For more info, visit [www.bj.org/heschel](http://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](http://www.bj.org/learning/classes). All classes are free of charge except where noted.

# THIS WEEK AT BJ

## FRIDAY, MAY 6

- **Special Yom Ha'atzmaut Exhibit— Journeys: The Land of Milk and Honey** Through May 20 – 89th St. Reception and Middle Rooms  
Michal Nachmany's work explores the process of layering and recreating memory and history using mixed media, printmaking, collage, and installation. This exhibit explores the process of imagination, memory, and community building during the years leading to the founding of Israel.

- **Tot Shabbat** 5:15 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary and Frankel Hall  
Register at [www.bj.org/young-families](http://www.bj.org/young-families).

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 7:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 14 (Malkhut Shebegevurah)

## SATURDAY, MAY 7

- **Soulful Start: Shabbat Morning Learners' Minyan** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Chapel  
Build and strengthen your Shabbat morning tefillah foundation. Led by BJ Rabbinic Fellows and Rabbis.

- **Gimmel Shabbat** 9:30 AM – 86th St. 2nd Floor

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

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

**Aliyat Hatan veKallah** **Bernie Plum and Charlotte Behrendt**

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

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

- **Environmental and Food Justice Kiddush** Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall  
Celebrate BJ's commitment to environmental stewardship and food justice with a "Green" Kiddush, featuring foods that meet environmental and labor standards, environmentally friendly dishes and utensils, and "green" activities for kids—a new frontier for BJ's leadership.

- **Minha Service** 4:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

**Bar Mitzvah** **Ethan Weisberg**

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 15 (Hesed Shebetiferet)

## SUNDAY, MAY 8 | ROSH HODESH IYAR

- **Mindfulness Meditation and the Counting of the Omer** 8:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel  
Join a journey of personal transformation during the counting of the Omer, the seven-week period between the holidays of Pesah and Shavuot. More info at [www.bj.org/meditation](http://www.bj.org/meditation).

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

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 16 (Gevurah Shebetiferet)

## MONDAY, MAY 9 | ROSH HODESH IYAR

- **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 AM – 89th St. (2-4 years)

- **Parents' Corner** 5:00 PM – 89th St. 2nd Floor Conference Room

- **BJHS Open House (K-2nd Grades)** 5:00 PM – 89th St.  
Learn more about our Hebrew School in an informative session with Director of Education Ivy Schreiber. Please email [ebedolla@bj.org](mailto:ebedolla@bj.org) to register.

- **Economic Justice Hevra Meeting** 6:30 PM – 89th St. Reception Room

- **Reimagining Bikkur Holim** 6:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary  
Join us for an inspiring evening of learning, training, and personal stories. We welcome new and current volunteers and fresh ideas. A light supper will be served. Register at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

- **TefiLab: Niggunim & TefiLab Cycle Siyyum** 7:00 PM – 89th St. Chapel  
R.S.V.P. to [arosenberg@bj.org](mailto:arosenberg@bj.org).

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 17 (Tiferet Shebetiferet)

## TUESDAY, MAY 10

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Keshet & KesheTOT** 4:00 PM – 89th St.
- **Post-Pesah Challah Baking** 7:30 PM – location provided upon R.S.V.P.  
Join fellow BJ parents for learning, laughing, and enjoying a glass of wine. Register at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 18 (Netzah Shebetiferet)

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 | YOM HAZIKARON

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Heschel Webinar: "An Analysis of Piety"** 12:00 Noon – online  
Please visit [www.bj.org/mayheschelwebinar](http://www.bj.org/mayheschelwebinar) to participate.

- **Yom Ha'atzmaut Ceremony: Exploring Culture and Democracy Through Learning, Song, and Connection** 7:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary  
An ongoing tradition at BJ, this moving ceremony marks the transition between Israel's Remembrance Day and Israel's Independence Day. Breakout study sessions, an Israeli sing-along, and a dessert reception will follow.

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 19 (Hod Shebetiferet)

## THURSDAY, MAY 12 | YOM HAATZMA'UT

*BJ Office closed*

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Judith Bernstein Lunch Program** 12:00 Noon – 88th St. Frankel Hall
- **BJHS Open House (3rd-6th Grades)** 5:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary  
Learn more about our Hebrew School in an informative session with Director of Education Ivy Schreiber. Please email [ebedolla@bj.org](mailto:ebedolla@bj.org) to register.

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 20 (Yesod Shebetiferet)

## FRIDAY, MAY 13

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Heschel Friday** 8:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel  
Start your day with Heschel (and Rabbinic Fellows Alex and Arielle) as we discuss Heschel's article "An Analysis of Piety" from *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*. All are welcome. Please read the article before the session.

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 21 (Malkhut Shebetiferet)

## WHAT'S NEXT

- **BJ Celebrate Community Auction: Register Now To Bid!**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-9:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary:** Close to 350 auction items have been donated by the generous BJ community. Register at [www.bj.org/auction](http://www.bj.org/auction) to bid on items, purchase an ad in the electronic journal, and buy a ticket to attend the event!

## WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 3*

### ● **Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat Service**

**Friday, May 13, 7:00PM**, 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](mailto:btarson@bj.org) with any questions.

### ● ● **UWS Celebrates Israel: Children's Show, *Dira Lehaskir—Apartment to Let***

**Sunday, May 15**, English: 11:00AM, Hebrew: 3:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: BJ hosts MusicTalks for an interactive performance of Leah Goldberg's famous children's book. Enjoy this timeless classic narrated by actress Shira Averbuch, including stop-motion animation, and accompanied by an eleven-piece orchestra. \$5 entrance fee, registration required at [www.bj.org/music](http://www.bj.org/music).

### ● **Gallery Talk—"Journey: The Land of Milk and Honey"**

**Sunday, May 15, 12:30-1:30PM**, 89th Street Reception Room: Michal Nachmany will talk about dreams, realizations, and her new exhibition "Journey: The Land of Milk and Honey." Nachmany's work explores the process of layering and recreating Israeli collective memory and history using mixed media, printmaking, collage, and installation.

### ● **Israeli Folk Dancing for Yom Ha'atzmaut**

**Sunday, May 15, 2:00-5:00PM**, 89th Street Gym: Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with the best of Israeli folk dances. We'll help you learn the steps, but a little experience in Israeli folk dancing is helpful. The program ends with a mix of circle, line and partner dances, most by request.

### ● **Identity and Family Building in the 21st Century—Multicultural and Multiracial Families**

**Thursday, May 19, 6:30-8:00PM**, 89th Street Reception Room: We invite multicultural families, seeking to blend or balance Jewish birth heritage in their everyday lives, to join us in supportive conversation facilitated by the BJ social workers. Contact Billie at x264 to R.S.V.P. Free and open to the public.

### ● **Bo-i Kallah—A Monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service**

**Friday, May 20, 7:00PM**, 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.

### ● **Justice for Farmworkers March and Shabbat Morning Speaker: Get Involved!**

**Saturday, May 21**, during Shabbat morning services and Shabbat afternoon, 88th Street and 89th Street: Support the Economic Justice Hevra's campaign: hear stories from the field on Shabbat morning, welcome farmworkers and supporters marching to Albany on Shabbat afternoon, and lobby in Albany on June 1. Learn more and sign up to welcome marchers at [www.bj.org/march](http://www.bj.org/march).

### ● ● **20s and 30s Shabbat Afternoon: Sing, Study, Schmooze**

**Saturday, May 21, 7:30PM**, location provided upon R.S.V.P.: Join Tze'irim for a Shabbat afternoon of study (based on the Heschel essay of the month, "An Analysis of Piety" in *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*, song, food, and Havdallah together. R.S.V.P. to [shorwitz@bj.org](mailto:shorwitz@bj.org) for location.

### ● **Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit—The Renee Kaufman Memorial Lecture**

**Sunday, May 22, 4:30PM**, 89th Street Reception Room: Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Linda Thal will share insights from their book, *Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit*, that can help us face the challenges of aging. Visit [www.bj.org/aging](http://www.bj.org/aging) for more information and to register.

### ● **Tze'irim 20s and 30s: Celebrate Gay Pride Month with a Special Screening of *Oriented***

**Tuesday, May 24, 7:00-9:00PM**, 89th Street: Join Tze'irim and Keshet in celebrating Gay Pride Month with the screening of the acclaimed Israeli documentary *Oriented*, followed by a Q&A with one of the movie's heroes. Light refreshments will be served. Free admission. Register at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org).

# A TASTE OF TORAH: AHAREI MOT

וְכַפֵּר עַל-הַקֹּדֶשׁ, מִטְּמֵאת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וּמִפְּשְׁעֵיהֶם, לְכָל-חַטָּאתָם; וְכֹן יַעֲשֶׂה, לְאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד, הַשֵּׁכֵן אִתָּם, בְּתוֹךְ טְמֵאתָם.

He [the high priest] shall make atonement for the Shrine, for the uncleanness and transgression of the Israelites, whatever their sins; and he shall do it the same for the Tent of Meeting, which abides with them in the midst of their uncleanness  
—Leviticus 16:16

It's quite curious that the Mikdash has to be cleansed. We often view the Mikdash as the structure through which we serve God and ritually cleanse ourselves. The Mikdash is the primary mechanism used by the Israelites to communicate with God. So why does it need atoning for? When we keep using the Mikdash in order to get close to God, but forget that the Mikdash itself is holy, we clutter and dirty it. That cloudiness will inhibit the way that we connect to God if we don't see the maintenance of the mechanism as integral to that connection. If we shift our thinking about the Mikdash from it being a device that we use, to being something holy in and of itself, the imperative to take care of it is clear. This feels particularly relevant on a Shabbat in which we are exploring the implications of our actions towards the environment. The world itself is one of the ways in which we communicate with God, and we have let that channel become clouded and polluted, literally and metaphorically. Our physical world IS our sanctuary; our engagement with it is one of the ways we serve God. Let's take collective responsibility for the ways in which our communal actions have tarnished our sense of spirituality and the way we are in relationship with God. What are the ways that we can rebuild that connection?

— Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

## WHAT'S LATER *continued from panel 4*

### ● The Global Refugee Crisis: How We Can Respond

**Tuesday, May 31**, 7:00-8:30PM (doors open at 6:30PM), 88th Street Sanctuary: More information and registration at [www.bj.org/refugee](http://www.bj.org/refugee).

### ● Bim Bam Summer Session

**Fridays, June 10-August 19**, 9:15 and 10:15AM, 89th Street Chapel: Children ages 3 and under explore Shabbat through Hebrew and English songs, stories, and traditions. Registration is now open at [www.bj.org/earlychildhood](http://www.bj.org/earlychildhood).

## TORAH PORTION

### AHAREI MOT

MEVARKHIM HAHODESHEH

**Torah: Annual** Leviticus 16:1 - 18:30

**Triennial** Leviticus 17:1 - 18:30

- 1: 17:1 - 17:7
- 2: 17:8 - 17:12
- 3: 17:13 - 17:16
- 4: 18:1 - 18:5
- 5: 18:6 - 18:21
- 6: 18:22 - 18:25
- 7: 18:26 - 18:30
- Maftir: 18:26 - 18:30

**Haftarah** I Samuel 20:18 - 20:42

### NEXT WEEK: KEDOSHIM

**Torah: Annual** Leviticus 19:1 - 20:27

**Triennial** Leviticus 19:23 - 20:27

**Haftarah** Amos 9:7 - 9:15

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](http://www.bj.org/minyan)**.

 Printed on Recycled Paper

**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.

