

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון
The Voice of BJ This Week

b'nai jeshurun
בני ישרון



October 28-November 4, 2016 • 26 Tishrei-3 Heshvan, 5777

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**
- **Family Life & Learning**
- **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: Arielle Rosenberg • Sarah Krinsky

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OUR COMMUNITY

HA-MAKOM YENAHM / CONDOLENCES

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

- Susan Thal on the death of her mother, Ruth Thal.
- Mimi and Alan Frank, and their children, Jarod and Ilana Frank, and Samantha and Jason Wexler; Judith and Robert Safran, and their children, Elana, Amalia, and Matthew and Maren Safran; on the death of Mimi's and Judith's mother, Elsie Levy.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Larry Kligman and students, Heschel Day School, Northridge, California.
- Rabbi Baht Weiss and Confirmation Class, Temple Beth Ami, Rockville, Maryland.
- **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 BRING:

● **Community Composting Initiative at BJ**

Join us in our first community compost drop off program. Collect your food scraps at home and bring them to 89th Street whenever the building is open. For more information visit www.bj.org/compost.

SAVE THE DATES! Contact Billie at bdistefano@bj.org for more information:

MINDFULNESS RETREAT IN COSTA RICA, January 15-22, 2017

Registration open now at www.bj.org/CR17

PRAYER RETREAT, March 19-22, 2017

WOMEN'S RETREAT, May 19-21, 2017

YOUNG FAMILIES RETREAT, April 28-30, 2017

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Reach for Shabbat Retreat (through 10/30)

- **Hitoreri Teen Shabbat Service & Dinner** 7:00 PM – 89th St. Reception & Middle Rooms
- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
- ● **Family Breakfast** 10:00 AM – 86th St. Parlor
- ● **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – 86th St. Chapel and Parlor
- ● **Community Kiddush** Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall
- **Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi Present Marc Chagall's Musical World** 8:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary



Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi present a concert featuring music from Strom's new musical, "Chagall". Come hear new original and traditional tunes that bring the great Chagall's artwork to life. \$10 for BJ members/students/seniors; \$18 non-members. Register at www.bj.org.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – 88th St. Sanctuary
- **Moving Traditions Groups** 6:00 PM – 89th Reception & Middle Rooms

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **From the Bible with Rabbi Hillel Friedman** 9:00 AM – 89th St. First Floor
Join Rabbi Friedman, longtime member of the BJ community, for a weekly class that will study selections from our Biblical literature, with emphasis on the commentaries and their implications for our lives today. Members \$100/Non-members \$150. Through 5/23. Register at www.bj.org.
- **"Soul Food" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol** 12:30 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
Bring a bag lunch and/or open up your soul to the nourishment and challenge of Hassidic rabbis. Join Rabbi Felicia Sol as we imagine old world wisdom for everyday life. Upcoming classes: 11/8, 15, 11; 12/13, 20. Register at www.bj.org.
- **Open Rehearsals of Shabbat Music** 6:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
Join us for a monthly open rehearsal with music director Dan Nadel, Hazzan Ari Priven, and the rabbis to sing, learn new melodies, and delve deeper into prayer and music. Future open rehearsals: 12/6, 1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Mindfulness Class: Tikkun HaNefesh with Rabbis Rachel Cowan and Marcelo Bronstein** 7:00 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
Tikkun HaNefesh: a mindful approach to developing and strengthening some of the soul qualities most valued in Jewish tradition. Free of charge. Future sessions: 11/9, 16, 30; 12/7, 14, 21. Please register at www.bj.org. Note: The 11/9 class will attend the "Jewish Identity" lecture in the 88th St. Sanctuary.
- **Introduction to Judaism Class** 7:00 PM – 89th St.
This course offers an overview of the core beliefs, practices, and history of Judaism and the Jewish people. No prior knowledge or experience necessary. Registration required at www.bj.org: individuals \$435/\$660; couples \$645/\$975.

continued on panel 3

WHAT'S NEXT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

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

WHAT'S NEXT

- **Politics as Unusual: A Time of Prayer for Our Nation**

Wednesdays through November 2, 7:15PM, 86th Street Sanctuary: SPSA opens its doors to the community for this weekly interfaith prayer vigil with reflections from spiritual leaders and individual silent prayer, followed by conversation and snacks. Free and open to the public.

- **Tot Shabbat**

Friday, November 4, 5:15-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Families enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by dinner at 5:45PM in Frankel Hall, complete with Shabbat blessings and songs. Register at www.bj.org/young-families.

- **Bo-i Kallah: A Monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service**

Friday, November 4, 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.

- **Kristallnacht Speaker: Ziggy Chador**

Saturday, November 5, during Shabbat morning services and following Kiddush, 86th Street Sanctuary and Chapel: Ziggy Chador will share the story of how his family hid a 10-year-old girl during the Holocaust.

- **BJSINGS: A Tribute to the Memory of Jules Frankel**

Saturday, November 5, 1:00PM, 86th Street Sanctuary: BJSINGS invites all to join us for songs, prayers, and stories as we honor the memory of Jules Frankel, BJSINGS founder, on the occasion of his first yahrtzeit and unveiling of his memorial plaque.

- **Get Out The Vote in Pennsylvania**

Sunday, November 6, 10:00AM-8:30PM (times are approximate), Philadelphia, PA: Get on the bus and get out the vote! We are partnering with POWER Interfaith and Grace Christian Fellowship. If you are interested in coming along, R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org/gotv.

- **Election Day Volunteering and Viewing Party**

Tuesday, November 8, 6:00AM-9:00PM, 86th Street: Want to watch Election Day results with friends and community?. Volunteer to greet guests, bake treats, or assist with party set-up. Register at www.bj.org/electionday.

continued on panel 4

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 3*

- **Jewish Identity, Belonging, and Community: A Four-Part Public Lecture Series**
Wednesdays, November 9, January 11, March 8, May 10, 7:00-9:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: What does it mean to be Jewish in the 21st century? These lectures will address anxieties surrounding intermarriage, historical paradigms of the Jewish experience, and shifting conceptions of Jewish identity. Free and open to the public. Register at www.bj.org.
- **Attorney Training Session for Pro Bono Work to Aid Asylum Seekers**
Thursday, November 10, 6:00-9:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: BJ's Refugee Committee seeks attorneys who are interested in working in teams or individually on pro bono asylum cases for HIAS, BJ's principal partner in answering the call to respond to the global crisis of displaced people. R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org/probono.
- **Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat Service**
Friday, November 11, 6:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Led by Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, Rabbi Rachel Cowan, Rabbinic Fellow Arielle Rosenberg, and Karina Zilberman, this service involves meditation, reflection, deep listening and personal engagement with the parashah.
- **BJ/SPSA 25th Anniversary Weekend**
Friday, November 11-Sunday, November 13, BJ and SPSA: Celebrate our partnership with SPSA throughout the weekend. Friday night dinner (\$18 for BJ members), services together, Sunday potluck, and racial justice conversation. For more details and to register, visit www.bj.org.
- **Soulful Start: Shira Yoga: An Integrated Practice for Body and Soul**
Saturday November 12, 9:00-9:40AM, 89th Street Gym: \$18 for BJ members. Bring voice, breath, and body together in this session that combines asana yoga and piyut (Hebrew liturgical poetry). We will explore piyut through a gentle yoga practice and chanting. Visit www.bj.org/yoga for more details.
- **Israeli Book Club Discusses *Two She-Bears* with Author Meir Shalev**
Sunday, November 13, 4:00-5:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: The Israeli Book Club is more than just a typical reading group—it is an intimate encounter with Israeli culture and society.
- **BJ Hosts Renowned Israeli Author Meir Shalev**
Sunday, November 13, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: BJ is honored to host one of Israel's most celebrated novelists, Meir Shalev, for the launch of his latest novel, *Two She-Bears*. Join us in a conversation with Shalev, followed by a Q&A session and book signing. Registration required at www.bj.org.

WHAT'S LATER

- **Siah: A Monthly Minyan for Learners and Seekers**
Every 3rd Saturday, November 19-May 20, 2017, 9:30AM-12:00 noon, 89th Street Chapel: A monthly minyan for those looking to build comfort in Shabbat liturgy and deepen kavannah (prayerful intention). Join Rabbinic Fellow Arielle Rosenberg at this musical, participatory service.
- **"In the Mirror" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Roly Matalon**
Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15; January 5, 12, 19, 26; February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 12:30-1:30PM, location provided upon registration: Free of charge. Register at www.bj.org.

A TASTE OF TORAH: BERESHIT

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים, נַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כְּדִמוֹתֵנוּ; וַיְרִדוּ בְדִגְתַּת הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם, וּבַבְּהֵמָה וּבְכָל-הָאָרֶץ, וּבְכָל-הָרֶמֶשׂ, הֹרֵמֵשׁ עַל-הָאָרֶץ.

And God said, "Let us make a human in our image, after our likeness. They shall rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the cattle, the whole earth, and all the creeping things that creep on earth."
—Genesis 1:26

Let us make a human... The Hebrew word used for "human," *adam*, can be related to the word *dimayon*—"comparison." A human's advantage over all other creatures is in the power of comparison, for no other creature is able to comprehend anything but itself. Humans, on the other hand, were created with the powers of both the heavenly creatures and those of the earthly creatures, and are able to see and compare things beyond their own body. Thus, the meaning of "let us make a human in our image after our likeness" is "We will make a human who has the power of comparison, who will be able to compare one thing to another, to understand one comparison from other, and to deduce matters from such comparisons."

—Rabbi Simcha Bunim of Peshischa

This verse from Bereshit depicts the very first time that we as humans enter the scene. It is in this verse that God decides that creating humans would be a good addition to creation, and Simcha Bunim's commentary suggests that the wording, the connecting of adam (human) to dimayon (comparison) is noteworthy. We as humans have the ability to judge things in this world in a unique way. Simcha Bunim's teaching pushes us to think not just about that we are able to use the power of comparison, but how we use that power. When we make a decision, are we relying solely on the animalistic component of who we are, rushing to follow an instinct, or are we drawing on this God-given quality to truly, deeply discern? Simcha Bunim expands our understanding of what it means to be human, to be adam: it is to think outside of oneself, to comprehend things that are outside of our own experiences.

— Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

TORAH PORTION

BERESHIT

Torah: Annual Genesis 1:1 - 6:8

Triennial Genesis 1:1 - 2:3

1: 1:1 - 1:5

2: 1:6 - 1:8

3: 1:9 - 1:13

4: 1:14 - 1:19

5: 1:20 - 1:23

6: 1:24 - 1:31

7: 2:1 - 2:3

Maftir: 2:1 - 2:3

Haftarah Isaiah 42:5 - 42:21


NEXT WEEK: NOAH

Torah: Annual Genesis 6:9 - 11:32

Triennial Genesis 6:9 - 8:14

Haftarah Isaiah 54:1 - 55:5

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

