

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week


B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



December 23-30, 2016 • 23 Kislev-1 Tevet, 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**
-  **Hanukkah 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 YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

- The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Nancy and Howard Feinglass, their children, Gillian and Benjamin, and their entire family, on the death of Howard's father, J. Leonard Feinglass.

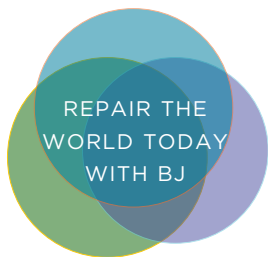
TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is supported by:

- Tom Buchler and Zakai Ben-Chaim in honor of their upcoming wedding.
- Bob and Amy Pollack in honor of their 55th anniversary and Mark Lehrman's birthday.
- Mark Lehrman in honor of his 55th birthday.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Hazzan Tahl Ben-Yehuda and Confirmation Class, Congregation Beth Shalom, Overland Park, Kansas.
- **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:

● 8 Nights of Tzedek and Hesed

This Hanukkah, join us in 8 Nights of Tzedek and Hesed. In taking one action each day, we can all bring more light into someone's life. To learn more, go to www.bj.org/eightnights.

● Toiletry Collection for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Volunteer Opportunity

Bring your small travel-sized toiletries to help us with a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day project. Drop them off at the 89th Street Community House at your convenience. On Monday, January 16, we will package them up for our Lunch Program guests.

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

YOUNG FAMILIES RETREAT, April 28-30, 2017

WOMEN'S RETREAT, May 19-21, 2017

THE BJ CELEBRATE COMMUNITY AUCTION, March 1, 2017

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 1ST CANDLE HANUKKAH

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
- **Aliyat Re'im Ahuvim** Zakai Ben-Chaim and Tom Buchler
- **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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 2ND CANDLE HANUKKAH

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


MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 | 3RD CANDLE HANUKKAH

BJ Office closed • BJ Hebrew School closed

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 | 4TH CANDLE HANUKKAH

BJ Office closed

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
-  **Hanukkah Potluck Dinner with Connections** 6:00 PM – 89th St. Reception Room
Connections (formerly called Mekusharim) will be hosting a Hanukkah potluck dinner for the entire community. Bring a dairy or vegetarian dish to share, along with your own hanukkiyah and candles to participate in our group lighting of the menorah.


WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 | 5TH CANDLE HANUKKAH

BJ Office closed

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 6TH CANDLE HANUKKAH

BJ Office closed • BJ Hebrew School closed

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
-  **Open House for Hag HaBanot-Hanukkah and Rosh Hodesh Tevet for BJ Women** 6:00 PM – location provided upon R.S.V.P.
Join Rabbi Felicia Sol for candle-lighting and a potluck dairy/vegetarian dinner at her home. We will eat, bring in the light with study, and come together to light the hanukkiyah. Open to BJ women members. R.S.V.P. to Beth at btarson@bj.org.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 | ROSH HODESH TEVET | 7TH CANDLE HANUKKAH

BJ Office closed

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

WHAT'S NEXT

- **BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Book Study: *Just Mercy***

Thursday, January 5, 7:00PM, 86th Street: Join us as we dive into Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, "a powerful true story...and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice." Sign up at www.bj.org/justmercy.

- **Bim Bam and Bim Bam Hebrew Immersion**

Fridays, January 6-May 19, 9:15-10:00AM, 10:15-11:00AM, 11:15-12:00PM, 89th Street Chapel: Children ages 3 and under explore Shabbat through song and story while learning traditions such as lighting candles, saying Kiddush, and giving tzedakah. Registration is available for both standard and Hebrew immersion classes at www.bj.org.

- **Ice Skating in Central Park with Ilanot**

Sunday, January 8, 1:30-4:30PM, Lasker Rink at Central Park: 6th and 7th grade students are invited to an afternoon of winter fun. Ilanot members get in for free and should email Michelle at mgeisler@bj.org to sign up. All other members should register at www.bj.org.

- **Tot Shabbat**

Friday, January 6, 5:15-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Families enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by dinner with Shabbat blessings and songs at 5:45PM in Frankel Hall. Register at www.bj.org/young-families.

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

Friday, January 6, 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 work-week anxieties behind, welcoming Shabbat

- **Refugee Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, January 10, 6:30-8:30PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Through a partnership with HIAS and emerging relationships with other organizations, we are educating our community about the refugee crisis and developing opportunities to volunteer, advocate, and raise our Jewish voice. Join us at our next meeting to get involved in this important work. R.S.V.P. to cheiten8644@gmail.com.

- **Economic Justice Hevra Meeting**

Tuesday, January 10, 6:30-8:30PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Help BJ support the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign so that laborers who produce the food on which we depend can have the dignity and equality they deserve. For questions and to R.S.V.P., contact Lisa at lisagzucker@gmail.com.

- **Jewish Identity, Belonging, and Community:**

- Shalom Hartman Lecture with Dr. Christine Hayes**

Wednesday, January 11, 7:00-9:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Join us for the next installment of the Shalom Hartman lecture series: "Forging Jewish Identity: Models and Middles in Jewish Sources," presented by Dr. Christine Hayes, Weis Professor of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica at Yale University. Register at www.bj.org/hartmanlectures.

WHAT'S LATER

- **Weekend Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Get Involved**

Friday, January 13-Monday, January 16, various times and locations: Join us in honoring the legacy of one of the most powerful civil rights figures in history. Over the course of the weekend, Repair the World and other organizations will be offering more than 30 volunteer opportunities in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Visit www.bj.org/mlk to learn more and sign up.

- **BJ/SPSA Shabbat Potluck**

Friday, January 13, following the Kabbalat Shabbat service, 89th Street: Continue celebrating the SPSA/BJ partnership and our racial justice work by joining together for a "Shabbatluck." Let's honor the legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. by sharing a meal and our commitment to creating a just world. Sign up at www.bj.org or call x272.

WHAT'S LATER

● Community Conversations on Social Justice: Next Steps and Where We Go From Here

Wednesday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 24, 5:00-7:00PM and 7:30-9:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Through a series of table discussions and one-on-one conversations, we will evaluate where there is momentum, passion, and a desire to act. Join us for a community conversation to share what issues are most important to you. Sign up for one session at www.bj.org/nextsteps.

● Save the Date: BJ Joins the Women's March on Washington and Women's March on NYC

Saturday, January 21, varying times and locations: Join other BJ members in either D.C. or NYC to participate in these historic marches. Find out more at www.bj.org/march.c

YEMEI HAḤANUKKAH

Yemei haḥanukkah, ḥanukkat mikdashenu

begil uvesimḥa memal-im et libenu;

laila vaiom svivonenu yisov,

sufganiyot nokhal bam larov.

Ha-iru, hadliku, nerot ḥanuka rabim!

al hanisim ve'al hanifla-ot,

asher ḥolelu hamakabim!

מִי הַחֲנֻכָּה, חֲנֻכַּת מִקְדָּשֵׁנוּ

בְּגִיל וּבְשִׂמְחָה מְמַלְאִים אֶת לִבֵּנוּ;

לַיְלָה וַיּוֹם סְבִיבוֹנֵנוּ יִסּוֹב,

סֻפְגָּנִיּוֹת נֹאכַל בָּם לָרֹב.

הָאִירוּ, הַדְּלִיקוּ, גְּרוֹת חֲנֻכָּה רַבִּים!

עַל הַנִּסִּים וְעַל הַנִּפְלְאוֹת,

אֲשֶׁר חוֹלְלוּ הַמַּכַּבִּים!

O Ḥanukkah, O Ḥanukkah, come light the menorah, let's have party, we'll all dance the hora.

Gather round the table, we'll give you a treat, s'vivonim to play, with levivot to eat.

And while we are playing, the candles are burning low.

One for each night they shed a sweet light to remind us of days long ago.

HANUKA LINDA

Ḥanuka linda sta aki, ocho kandelas para mi.

O... Una kandelika, dos kandelikas,

tres kandelikas, quatro kandelikas,

sintyu kandelikas, sej kandelikas,

siete kandelikas, ocho kandelas para mi.

Muchas fiestas vo fazer, kon alegriyas y plazer.

O... Una kandelika, dos kandelikas ...

Los pastelitos vo kumer,

kon almendrikas y la myel.

O... Una kandelika, dos kandelikas ...

A TASTE OF TORAH: VAYESHEV

וַיִּמְצְאוּ אִישׁ, וְהִנֵּה תֵעָה בַשָּׂדֶה; וַיִּשְׁאַלְהוּ הָאִישׁ לֵאמֹר, מַה-תְּבַקֵּשׁ.
 וַיֹּאמֶר, אֶת-אָחִי אֲנֹכִי מִבְּקֶשׁ; הַגִּידָה-נָּא לִי, אֵיפֹה הֵם רְעִים. וַיֹּאמֶר
 הָאִישׁ, נָסְעוּ מִזֶּה-כִּי שָׁמַעְתִּי אִמְרִים, גְּלֹכָה דְתִינָה; וַיִּלְךָ יוֹסֵף אַחֵר אַחֲרָיו,
 וַיִּמְצְאֵם בְּדוֹתָן.

A man (*ish*) found him wandering in the field. The man asked him, "Who are you looking for?" He answered, "I am looking for my brothers. Tell me, please, where they are shepherding?" The man said, "They have gone from here. I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dotan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dotan. — *Genesis 37:15-17*

This man (*ish*) was the angel Gabriel, as it says in the Book of Daniel (9:21) "the man, *ish*, Gabriel." —*Rashi*

Jacob has sent Joseph off to find his brothers, but Joseph gets lost. This anonymous man, only described by the Torah as an *ish*, finds Joseph and points him in the direction where he knows the brothers are. Rashi's curiosity is piqued when he reads that it was an anonymous man who helped deliver Joseph into the hands of his brothers, furthering the plot of the story in a dramatic way. Rashi knows, as we do, that when Joseph reaches his brothers, they will strip off his coat and throw him into a pit. So why does Rashi call this person an angel?

We are familiar with the person/angel paradigm. When three anonymous people (*anashim*, plural of *ish*) come to visit Abraham in his tent, we are told they are angels. They deliver the news that he and Sarah will have a child, changing their lives forever. When Jacob wrestles with an unnamed person (*ish*) in the middle of the night, we are told it is angel. It is through this encounter that Jacob sees God and his name is changed to Yisrael. Now we have Joseph, who meets this mysterious man on the road who shifts the story of his life, and we are similarly asked to think of him as an angel. These stories tell us something about what it means for angels to show up in the form of humans, and even moreso, what it means for regular humans to be seen as angels.

These are the encounters that shift the trajectories of our narratives, like Joseph, Jacob, and Abraham. Fascinatingly, the commentator Ibn Ezra, when trying to describe who this *ish* is, states that it was just a fellow traveler. Indeed, most of his life he may have just been a normal person going about his way, but Rashi teaches us that in this moment, he became an angel. There are times when we are just a passerby on the road, and we point someone in a direction that shapes the next chapter of their story. We never know when we might be the *ish* for someone else.

— *Rabbi Sarit Horwitz*

TORAH PORTION

VAYESHEV

Torah: Annual Genesis 37:1 - 40:23

Triennial Genesis 37:1 - 37:36

- 1: 37:1 - 37:3
- 2: 37:4 - 37:7
- 3: 37:8 - 37:11
- 4: 37:12 - 37:17
- 5: 37:18 - 37:22
- 6: 37:23 - 37:28
- 7: 37:29 - 37:36
- Maftir: 37:34 - 37:36

Haftarah Amos 2:6 - 3:8

NEXT WEEK: MIKETZ

Torah: Annual Genesis 41:1 - 44:17

Triennial Genesis 41:1 - 41:52

Haftarah Zechariah 2:14 - 4:07

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

