

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

b'naiJeshurun
בני ישרון



January 6-13, 2017 • 8-15 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**

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 YENAH^{EM} / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our member Malcolm Sheldon, and we extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Ruth Sheldon, and their entire family.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends our sincere condolences to Marcy Kopakin and her entire family on the death of her mother, Edith Kopakin.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

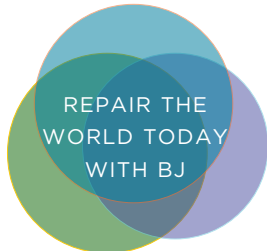
- Matthew David Muro, his parents, Deborah and Bradley Muro, and his brothers, Liam and Alexander Drew Muro, on Matthew becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Jordan Kohn, her parents, Danna and Mark Kohn, and her sister Talia Kohn on Jordan becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Talia Horn, her parents, Moshe and Leslie Horn, and her sister, Ayelet Horn, on Talia becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Dahlia Etra Yoeli and Paul Weinger; Michael Yoeli and Susan Etra; Matthew Etra Yoeli and Erin, Sofia, and Jacob Yoeli; and Belle Etra Yoeli, on Dahlia and Paul's upcoming wedding.
- Judith and Carl Felsenfeld on the birth of their great-grandson, Otto Alfred Haager.

TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is supported by the Greenberg-Liran, Ruskay and Ruskay-Kidd families in honor of the first yahrtzeit of Hilda Greenberg.

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.



WHAT YOU CAN BRING:

● **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.

● **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:

YOUNG FAMILIES RETREAT, April 28-30, 2017

WOMEN'S RETREAT, May 19-21, 2017

THE BJ CELEBRATE COMMUNITY AUCTION, March 1, 2017

ANA BEKHOAH

Ana bekhoah gedulat yeminkha tatir tzerura
Kabel rinat amekha sagevenu taharenu nora

אָנאַ בֶּכּוֹה גְּדוּלַת יְמִינְךָ תַּתִּיר צְרֻרָה.
קַבֵּל רִנַּת עַמְּךָ, שְׂגַבְנוּ טַהֲרֵנוּ נוֹרָא.

Please, with the power of Your great right hand, free the bound.
Accept the song of Your people, empower us, make us pure, Awesome One!

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

- **Tot Shabbat** 5:15 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
- **Bo-i Kallah: A Monthly Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:30 PM – 89th St. Reception Room
Join Rabbi Roly Matalon and musician Dan Nadel at this service that weaves soulful Sephardic melodies, verses of Shir haShirim (Song of Songs), piyutim (liturgical poems), and Psalms to transition gently from work-week consciousness into a Shabbat state of being. (Takes place on the first Friday of every month.)
- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

- **Soulful Start: 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. (Meets every other Shabbat morning.)
- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 86th St. Sanctuary
- Bar Mitzvah** **Matthew Muro**
- Aliyat Hatan veKallah** **Paul Weinger and Dahlia Etra Yoeli**
- **Family Breakfast** 10:00 AM – 86th St. Parlor
- **Kulanu (3rd-6th Grades)** 10:20 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** 4:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
- Bat Mitzvah** **Jordan Kohn**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Ice Skating in Central Park with Ilanot** 1:30 PM – 89th St.
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.
- **Conversational Hebrew Salon** 5:30 PM – location given with registration

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **Parents' Corner** 5:00 PM – 89th St. Conference Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
- **From the Bible with Rabbi Hillel Friedman** 9:00 AM – 89th St. First Floor
- **"Soul Food" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol** 12:30 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
Bring a bag lunch and open up your soul to the nourishment and challenge of Hassidic rabbis, and imagine old world wisdom for everyday life. Upcoming classes: 1/17, 24, 31; 2/7, 14, 21, 28; 3/7, 14, 21; 28; 4/4. Register at www.bj.org.
- **Holiday Train Show Tour with Connections** 2:00 PM – Botanical Garden Visitor Center, 2900 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY
Join Connections (formerly known as Mekusharim) for a guided tour of the famous New York Botanical Garden Holiday Train Show. Register at www.bj.org.

● **Refugee Committee Meeting**

6:30 PM – 89th St. 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 to get involved in this important work. R.S.V.P. to cheiten8644@gmail.com.

● **Economic Justice Hevra Meeting**

6:30 PM – 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.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

● **Morning Minyan**

7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

● **Introduction to Judaism Class (registration closed)**

7:00 PM – 89th St. Room 408

● **Jewish Identity, Belonging, and Community: Shalom Hartman Lecture with Dr. Christine Hayes**

7:00 PM – 88th St. 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 at stake for you in the exploration about Jewish identity and intermarriage? Share your thoughts on our new BJ Insights website (bj.insights.us). All BJ members should have received an email with their personal Insights login information. Questions? Email insights@bj.org.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

Teen Domestic Trip (through 1/16)

● **Morning Minyan**

7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

● **“In the Mirror” Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Roly Matalon**

12:30 PM – Location given upon registration

Class is full; contact Beth at btarson@bj.org to be added to the waiting list. Upcoming classes: 1/19, 26; 2/2, 9, 16, 23; 3/2, 9, 16.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

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

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.

● **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

● **Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat Service**

Second Friday of the month (next sevice January 13), 6:30PM, 89th Street Gym: 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. Please contact Beth at btarson@bj.org with any questions.

continued on panel 3

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 2*

- **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.
- **Shabbat Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with Guest Speaker Pastor Brian Ellis-Gibbs**
Saturday, January 14, during Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Sanctuary: More information to come at www.bj.org.
- **Soulful Start: Shira Yoga—An Integrated Practice for Body and Soul**
Second Saturday of the month (next session January 14), 9:00AM, 86th Street Chapel: Bring voice, breath, and body together in this session that combines asana yoga and piyut (Hebrew liturgical poetry). All levels welcome. Visit www.bj.org/yoga for more details.
- **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.
- **Tze’irim 20s and 30s Shabbatluck Dinner**
Friday, January 20, 7:45PM, 89th Street Middle Room: Make new friends and eat good food! Join fellow BJ members in their 20s/30s for a potluck Shabbat dinner after Kabbalat Shabbat services. Visit www.bj.org/shabbatluck or contact Rabbi Sarit Horwitz at shorwitz@bj.org to sign up.
- **Siah: A Monthly Minyan for Learners and Seekers**
Third Saturday of the month (next service January 21), 9:30AM-12:00 noon, 89th Street Chapel: BJ introduces a new monthly Shabbat service led by Rabbinic Fellow Arielle Rosenberg. This intimate, conversation-based service is geared towards those who are exploring Jewish prayer for the first time or who hope to build confidence in their Hebrew language and prayer skills.
- **Israeli Book Club Discusses *The Secret Book of Kings* by Yochi Brandes**
Saturday, January 21, 5:00-6:30PM, 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 Joins the Women’s March on NYC: UWS Jewish Contingent and Women’s March on Washington**
Saturday, January 21, 9:45AM service, 11:00AM rally, 88th Street Sanctuary: Join BJ members and members of other UWS Jewish congregations in NYC, or connect with BJ members in DC to participate in these historic marches. Find out more at www.bj.org/march.

WHAT'S LATER

- **Experience the Magic of Camp: K-2 Family Shabbat Dinner and Services**
Friday, January 27-Saturday, January 28, 5:15PM on Friday through 8:00PM on Saturday, various locations: Experience the magic of summer camp. Sing camp tunes, share your favorite camp memories, and discover the positive impact that Jewish camp can have on your life. We begin with a camp-themed Shabbat dinner on Friday night and end with camp-style Havdalah on Saturday evening. For more information, contact Ayala at awasser@bj.org.
- **Teaching in Memory of Shira Palmer-Sherman, with Author Lizzie Skurnick**
Saturday, February 4, 4:00PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Free and open to the public, no registration necessary.

A TASTE OF TORAH: VAYIGASH

וַיִּגַשׁ אֱלֹוֹי יְהוּדָה, וַיֹּאמֶר בִּי אֲדֹנָי, יְדִבֶּר-נָא עִבְדְּךָ דְבָר בְּאַזְנֵי אֲדֹנָי,
וְאַל-יַחַר אַפְּךָ בְּעִבְדְּךָ: כִּי כְמוֹךָ, כִּפְרֵעָה.

Yehudah approached him and said, "Please, my lord, let your servant appeal to my lord, and do not become angry with your servant, you who are the equal of Pharaoh." —Genesis 44:18

The sages taught that "approaching" always means prayer. It seems that our verse alludes to this. And "Yehudah approached him" refers to any Jewish person, since we are called Yehudim. When you arise to pray before the Blessed one, this is how you should act: the entire intention of your prayer should be to bring blessing to God's presence...this is the explanation of "and Yehudah approached" in prayer. Saying, fulfill my request for Your sake, for I am a portion of God above. —Or Torah

This verse from the beginning of our parashah opens Yehudah's final appeal to Yosef. It is after this speech that Yosef reveals his identity to the brothers and is able to once again see his father. Yehudah's speech clearly compelled Yosef, so commentators seek to understand what made Yehudah's words influence Yosef to end the drama. While Rashi believes that Yehudah spoke in a harsh way to Yosef, the Or Torah sees Yehudah's plea as one that is based in prayer, and ultimately, says something profound about the nature of who we are as Jews and how prayer is meant to affect us. Yehudah didn't just approach Yosef physically, he approached him in a spiritual way, a way that incorporated prayer into his plea. Prayer is meant to move us in ways that it moved Yehudah and also in the way that it moved Yosef. Prayer is supposed to be an outlet for us when we feel the deepest emotional sentiments stirred inside of who we are. It's meant to help us connect to other people, and it's meant, in some way, to be open to the possibility to change.

The trope marks on the first two words of the verse (indicating how we chant them), if you look in your humash, look like two apostrophes opening towards each other. This trope pairing is called "kadma v'azla" which could roughly translate as "get up and go." This trope, connecting to the words of Yehudah approaching Yosef, also teaches us something about how prayer is ideally meant to create a sense of movement inside of us. Our prayers should instill in us a sense of "get up and go," should create a spiritual upward moving motion. Our most intimate and personal moments of prayer are recited while standing, perhaps to indicate that prayer actually has the ability to incite change inside of us, to help us realize that we can get up and go.

— Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

TORAH PORTION

VAYIGASH

Torah: Annual	Genesis 44:18 - 47:27
Triennial	Genesis 44:18 - 45:27
1:	44:18 - 44:20
2:	44:21 - 44:24
3:	44:25 - 44:30
4:	44:31 - 44:34
5:	45:1 - 45:07
6:	45:8 - 45:18
7:	45:19 - 45:27
Maftir:	45:25 - 45:27
Haftarah	Ezekiel 37:15 - 37:28

NEXT WEEK: VAYEHI

Torah: Annual	Genesis 47:28 - 50:26
Triennial	Genesis 47:28 - 48:22
Haftarah	I Kings 2:0 - 2:12

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

