

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

b'nai jeshurun
בני ישרון



February 10-17, 2017 • 14-21 Shevat, 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 mourns the death of our member Jeffrey Zadeh, and we extend our sincere condolences to his partner, Carlos Hamilton, his cousin, Judith Lipton, and their entire family.

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

- Michael Gertzman and Rabbi Carole Balin, and their children, Nate, Eve, and Joey Gertzman, on the death of Michael's father, Arthur Gertzman.
- Deedy and David Goldstick on the death of Deedy's brother, Robert Dorfman.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Anna Jules Horowitz Bookstaber, her parents, Janice Horowitz and Richard Bookstaber, her brothers, David, Daniel, Paul, and Stephen Bookstaber, and her sister, Erica Bookstaber, on Anna becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Joshua Peck, his mother, Sabrina Peck, and his grandfather, Harvey Peck, on Joshua becoming 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:

● Action Alert List Sign-Up

In this fast-paced and uncertain environment, our Action Alert List will be the primary way we communicate about community rallies, events, and other calls to action with short lead times. Sign up at www.bj.org/action.

SAVE THE DATES! Visit www.bj.org/retreats for more information:

YOUNG FAMILIES RETREAT, April 28-30

WOMEN'S RETREAT, May 19-21

PRAYER RETREAT, March 19-22

6TH GRADE B'NAI MITZVAH SPRING RETREAT, April 28-30

"ISRAEL CELEBRATES 70" COMMUNITY TRIP TO ISRAEL, Dec. 25, 2017-Jan. 3, 2018



Auction to Action: The difference is 

The BJ **Celebrate Community Auction** • **March 1, 2017**

Online bidding is now open! All proceeds provide essential resources for BJ's diverse programming. From fighting for the rights of refugees to feeding and sheltering those in need, these initiatives require resources. Support BJ's work and make your winning bid at www.bj.org/auction.

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

● Ongoing: JIBC Salons and Insights Online Forum (Members Only)

Join the conversation on Jewish identity and intermarriage. More at www.bj.org/identity.

● ● BJ Families Helping Refugee Families: Donation Drive

All day – through Tuesday, 2/28
Help refugee parents by donating new diapers and wipes, gift cards, gently used strollers, and Pack 'n Plays. Contact Sandy Soffin at sdssoffin@gmail.com or Susan Gesundheit at suszky@gmail.com for more info.

● Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:30 PM – 89th St. 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.

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

● ● Tu Bishvat Community Shabbatluck Following Services – 89th St. Reception Room

Usher in Shabbat and “The New Year of the Trees” with food, song, and community. Free admission. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian dish for 8-10 people. Register at www.bj.org/tubishabbatluck.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 | TU BISHVAT

● Soulful Start: Shira Yoga: An Integrated Practice for Body and Soul 9:00 AM – 86th St. 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.

● Siah: A Monthly Minyan for Learners and Seekers 9:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel

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 those who hope to build confidence in their Hebrew language and prayer skills.

● ● Hazak: Torah Chanting for 3rd-6th Graders 9:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall

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

Bat Mitzvah

Anna Bookstaber

● ● Family Breakfast 10:00 AM – 86th St. Parlor

● ● Kulanu Kids (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

● The Israeli Progressive Camp: Challenges and Future Plans Following Kiddush – 86th St. Chapel

The Israeli progressive camp has been facing a conservative, neo-liberal government in Jerusalem for years. What can the liberal American Jewish community learn from the Israeli experience? Join us for a presentation by Mickey Gitzin, leader of Israel Hofsheet.

● Minḥa Service 5:15 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

Bar Mitzvah

Joshua Peck

● Havdalah and a Movie Night 6:30 PM – 89th St. 4th Floor

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

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

● Jewish Community Action for Refugees 10:40 AM – Battery Park

● Kadima@BJ Basketball 11:00 AM – 89th St. Gym

● Purim Spiel Rehearsals 11:30 AM – 88th St. Sanctuary

● Celebrate Tu Bishvat with Israeli Folk Dances 2:00 PM – 89th St. Gym

Celebrate “The New Year of the Trees” with Israeli folk dances and songs exploring the land of Israel, from its trees and waters to the seven species. Register at www.bj.org/tubishvat.

● Genius Bar: Unleash the Power of Your Electronics	2:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
Wondering how to make the most of your mobile devices? Let BJ's digital whiz kids teach you how to use the features and functions you were afraid to touch. Adults, R.S.V.P. to bdistefano@bj.org . Teens, sign up to volunteer at www.bj.org/geniusbar .	
● Tu Bish-Build!	3:30 PM – 89th St.
3rd-5th graders are invited to join Shorashim as we celebrate Tu Bishvat by teaming up and competing to build the greatest structure using only recycled materials. Register at www.bj.org/tubishbuild .	
● Israel Salon: The History of Israeli Fashion	5:00 PM – Location given with R.S.V.P.
Fashion lecturer and blogger Liraz Cohen Mordechai tells the story of Israel from the late 19th century to the present day through the lenses of both history and fashion. Register at www.bj.org/israelifashion .	
● Brotherhood	6:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
● Moving Traditions	6:00 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13	
● Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
● Parents' Corner	5:00 PM – 89th St. 4th Floor Conference Room
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14	
● Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
● "From the Bible" with Rabbi Hillel Friedman	9:00 AM – 89th St. Middle Room
● "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: 2/21, 28; 3/7, 14, 21; 28; 4/4. Register at www.bj.org .	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15	
● Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 89th St. Chapel
● Introduction to Judaism Class (registration closed)	7:00 PM – 89th St. Room 408
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 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.	
● Making Sense of Israeli Politics: A Guide For the Perplexed	7:00 PM – 89th St. Middle Room
In this 8-session course taught by BJ member Prof. Bryan Daves, we explore the ideological and institutional foundations of the Israeli political system and some of the key issues in Israeli politics. Register at www.bj.org/politics .	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17	
● 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

- **Hitoreri, Hitoreri: Teen Only Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner**
Friday, February 17, 6:00PM, 89th Street Reception Room: Join Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein and Youth Director Michelle Geisler for a teen only Kabbalat Shabbat service of singing, kavannot, and mindfulness practice, followed by Shabbat dinner. Register at www.bj.org/hitoreri.

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 3*

● ● Tze'irim 20s and 30s Shabbatluck Dinner

Friday, February 17, 7:45PM, 89th Street: 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.

● ● BJ Sings Salon

Saturday, February 18, 4:00-5:30PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Based on the vision and success of the past havurah, this salon will feature a wide variety of Hebrew songs, including traditional Shabbat melodies, contemporary American Jewish compositions, and classic and contemporary Israeli pieces. Sign up at www.bj.org/bjsings.

● Bystander Intervention Training

Sundays, February 19 and March 19, 10:30AM-2:00PM, 89th Street: What do you do when you witness racial, ethnic, or other forms of harassment? At this training, learn tools to help defuse volatile situations. Facilitated by Rachel Levy, trained by the Center for Anti-Violence Education. Spots limited for each session. Register at www.bj.org/bystander.

● Community Organizing Training Session

Monday, February 20, 10:00AM-4:00PM, 89th Street Gym: This session is led by our partners at Manhattan Together and designed to provide a foundation in community organizing. All levels of experience welcome. Sign up at www.bj.org/organizing.

● ● All of Us Are Guarantors: The Significance of Interest-Free Lending

Saturday, February 25, during and after Shabbat morning services, 86th Street Sanctuary and Chapel: Rabbi David Rosenn, executive director of the Hebrew Free Loan Society, will discuss the social, theological, and philanthropic meaning of interest-free lending.

● ● Economic Inequality in the Present American Landscape: A Jewish Response, with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

Saturday, February 25, 5:00PM, 89th Street Chapel: Social and political analysts note with alarm the nation's growing economic inequality. We will discuss the possibility of embracing an ethic of dayenu (enough) that is the core of a sufficiency economy.

● Men's Havurah Discussion Group

Sunday, February 26, 10:30AM-12:00 noon, 89th Street Middle Room and 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join us for a continuation of our discussion on Jewish identity and intermarriage. We will start with brunch in the 89th Street Middle Room, celebrating Rosh Hodesh with other BJ members before beginning our discussion in Frankel Hall at 11:00AM. \$15 donation requested. R.S.V.P. to Lee at lee.rimsky@gmail.com.

● The Israeli Book Club Discusses *Khirbet Khizeh* by S. Yizhar

Sunday, February 26, 6:30-8:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Published just months after the founding of the state of Israel, *Khirbet Khizeh* was an immediate sensation and has continued to challenge and disturb. Register at www.bj.org/khirbetkhizeh.

WHAT'S LATER

● Fourth Grade B'nai Mitzvah Journey: Opening Ritual

Saturday, March 4, 4:30-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Register at www.bj.org/openingritual.

● Fifth Grade B'nai Mitzvah Sleepover

Saturday, March 4, 6:45PM, 89th Street: Register at www.bj.org/sleepover.

● A New Agenda For Israel

Sunday, March 5, 5:00-6:30PM, 89th Street: Register at www.bj.org/gutwein.

● Leading on Campus (for High School Juniors & Seniors)

Tuesday, March 14, 5:00-7:00PM, Congregation Rodeph Shalom (7 West 83rd Street): In partnership with Congregation Rodeph Shalom and The Jewish Education Project, BJ offers an exciting program that exposes students to the myriad of Jewish engagement opportunities on college campuses and the Israel-related challenges they may encounter. Register by March 1 at www.bj.org/leadingoncampus.

A TASTE OF TORAH: BESHALAH

וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת-עַצְמוֹת יוֹסֵף, עִמּוֹ כִּי הִשְׁבַּע הַשְּׁבִיעַ אֶת-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לֵאמֹר, פְּקֹד יִפְקֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶתְכֶם, וְהֶעֱלִיתֶם אֶת-עַצְמוֹתַי מִזֶּה אֶתְכֶם.

And Moshe took the bones of Yosef with him, for he had sworn the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely remember you; and you will carry up my bones away with you." —Exodus 13:19

But how did Moshe know where Yosef was buried? It is said that Serah, daughter of Asher, was a survivor of that generation. Moshe went to her and asked: "Do you know where Yosef was buried?" She answered him, "The Egyptians made a metal coffin for him which they fixed in the Nile so that its waters would be blessed." Moshe went and stood on the bank of the Nile and exclaimed: "Yosef, Yosef! The time has arrived which the Holy Blessed One swore, 'I will deliver you,' and the oath that you imposed upon the Israelites has reached its time. If you show yourself, well and good, otherwise, we are free of your oath." Immediately Yosef's coffin floated to the surface. —Talmud Bavli Sotah 13a

Serah bat Asher plays a crucial role in this Talmudic story. As the granddaughter of Ya'akov, she came down with him to Egypt, hundreds of years before Moshe lived. Yet, we also hear that Serah is counted in a wilderness census, after the Exodus (Numbers 26:46). This would make her life span hundreds of years, so the rabbis believe she must have lived so long in order to play a particular role. Some say she was born for this very purpose. The midrash understands her to be communal memory embodied. She is the one who tells Moshe where Yosef's bones are buried, allowing Moshe to fulfill the promise to carry out Yosef's bones. Through Serah bat Asher, we are reminded of the importance of holding onto communal memory.

Memory has played an important role throughout the entire Exodus story. At the very beginning of the book of Shemot, a new king arose who did not know Yosef. He did not remember the things that Yosef did for Egypt, nor the way Yosef helped Egypt throughout the famine. We see the negative consequences of forgetting. Serah reminds us to act from a place of memory. We can each be like Serah bat Asher, born for a purpose, living in a particular moment. This week the Israelites are liberated from slavery. Yet even after they reach freedom, we hold onto our communal memory. We act from that place of memory because we know our past experiences must inform the present and the future. — Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

WHAT'S LATER *continued from panel 4*

● Women's Retreat 2017

Friday, May 19-Sunday, May 21, Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center: Spend a weekend surrounded by the voices of women, partaking in beautiful services, and spending time with Rabbi Felicia Sol and Chen Ben-Or Tsfoni. For info, contact Billie at bdistefano@bj.org or x264. Register early for a discount!

TORAH PORTION

BESHALAH

SHABBAT SHIRAH

Torah: Annual Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

Triennial Exodus 13:17 - 15:26

- 1: 13:17 - 13:22
- 2: 14:1 - 14:4
- 3: 14:5 - 14:8
- 4: 14:9 - 14:14
- 5: 14:15 - 14:20
- 6: 14:21 - 14:25
- 7: 14:26 - 15:26
- Maftir: 15:22 - 15:26

Haftarah Judges 5:1 - 5:31

NEXT WEEK: YITRO

Torah Exodus 18:1 - 20:26

Haftarah Isaiah 6:1 - 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.

