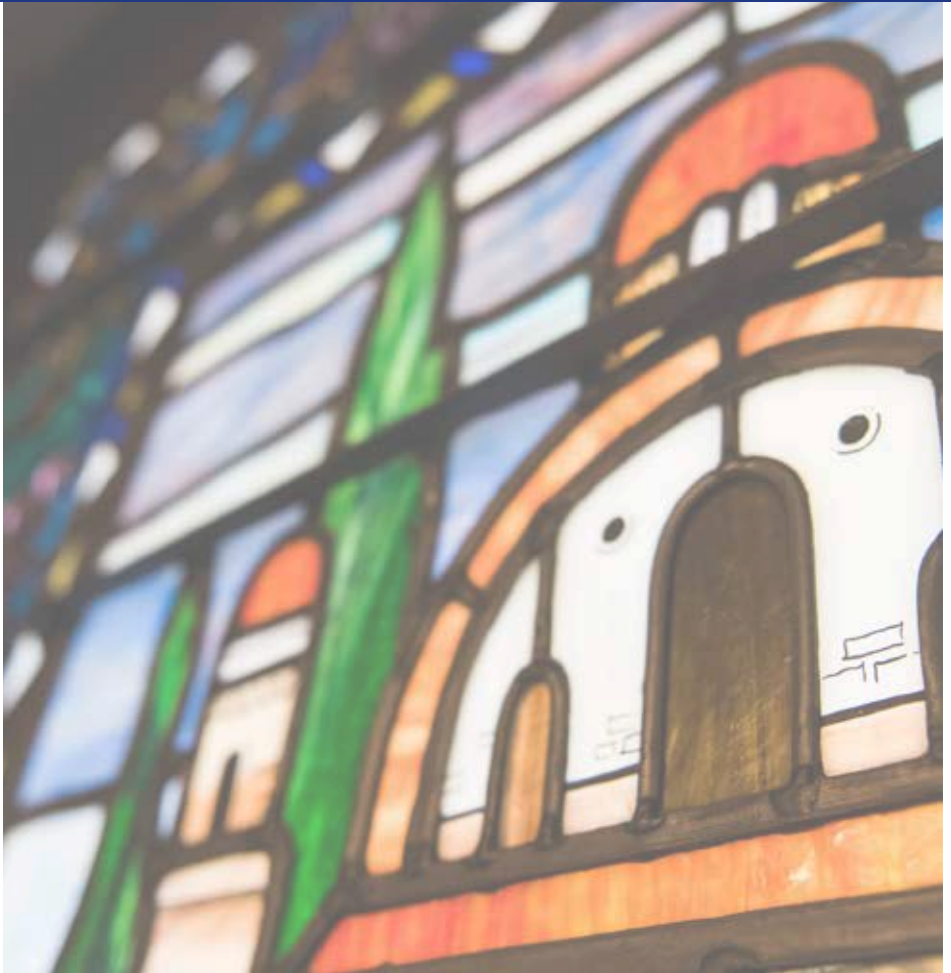


KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון
The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



October 20-27, 2017 • 30 Tishrei-7 Heshvan, 5778

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 • Felicia L. Sol • Marcelo R. Bronstein

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

BJ RABBINIC FELLOWS: Sarah Krinsky • Tobias Divack Moss

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 YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

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

- Paul and Danielle Taubman, their son, Liam, and their entire family on the death of Paul's mother, Sylvia Taubman.
- Moira Jaffe Solomon and Steven Solomon, and their son, Jack Solomon, on the death of Moira's mother, Arlene Jaffe.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Zachary Raphael Feig, his parents Jeff and Michelle Feig, and his brothers Benjamin and Jacob Feig on Zachary becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- David Litt, BJ member since birth, on his *New York Times* bestselling book, *Thanks, Obama: My Hopey, Changey White House Years*.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Linda Drury and Heschel Day School students, Northridge, California.
- Rabbi Gary Pokras 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 the warm, transformative, open place that it is.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● Tzedek Minyanim: Registration Open!

We are offering over 20 different Tzedek Minyanim—small groups focusing on advocacy, service, or study—exploring the themes of Faith & Public Life. Each group will be led by a BJ member. Visit www.bj.org/faith to see the exciting minyanim your fellow community members have created, and to register.

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

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

TEEN DOMESTIC TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 11-15, 2018

MINDFULNESS RETREAT IN COSTA RICA, Jan. 14-21, 2018

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | ROSH HODESH HESHVAN

Teen Retreat (through 10/22)

- **Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat** 6:30 PM – BJ Community House 3rd Floor
Led by Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, Rabbi Rachel Cowan, Rabbi Shuli Passow, and Hazzan Ari Priven, this service involves meditation, reflection, deep listening, and personal engagement with the parashah. Please contact Kristen at kkersey@bj.org with any questions.

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:30 PM – BJ Sanctuary

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

- **Soulful Start: Hakhanah laTefillah — Preparing for Prayer** 8:45 AM – BJ 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. Every other Saturday (upcoming sessions: 11/4, 18; 12/2, 16).

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary

- **Tzedek Minyanim Kickoff** During Services – BJ Sanctuary

- **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – BJ Reception & Middle Rooms

- **Kulanu** 10:45 AM – BJ Chapel

- **Community Kiddush** Following Services – BJ Community House 3rd Floor

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – BJ Chapel

- **Middle East Security: Fresh Takes on Long-Standing Challenges** 2:00 PM – Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center, 1 E. 65th St.
Join Israel Policy Forum's conference focused on shared US-Israel national security challenges in the region. Featuring plenary and break-out sessions by high-level policy experts. For more information, visit: www.bj.org/ipf.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel

- **The Book of Genesis with Rabbi Hillel Friedman** 9:30 AM – BJ Middle Room
Join Rabbi Hillel Friedman for a perusal of the Book of Genesis and to learn how our ancestors carved out a spiritual worldview while dealing with the culture surrounding them and their own family lives. More info at www.bj.org/genesis.

- **"Soul Food" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol** 12:30 PM – BJ Middle Room
Bring a bag lunch and 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. Register at www.bj.org/soulfood. Weekly through 12/12.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel

- **Teen Learning** 6:00 PM – BJ Community House

- **BJ Community Fair and Sanctuary Tour** 6:30 PM – BJ Sanctuary
Come learn about ways to get involved at BJ! Committee leaders and volunteers from all areas of synagogue life will be available to talk about their work, answer any questions, and help you connect. Tours of the Sanctuary will also take place. Info and registration at www.bj.org/communityfair.

- **Introduction to Judaism** 7:30 PM – BJ Community House, Room 408
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/introjudaism: individuals \$435/\$660; couples \$645/\$975. Weekly through 5/2/18.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel
- **BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee Meeting and Research Action Training** 7:00 PM – BJ Reception Room
Join the new BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee as we begin to research potential partners and action steps. R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org/justicemeeting.
- **The Other Peace Process: Interreligious Dialogue, A View from Jerusalem** 7:30 PM – location given upon registration
Join Rabbi Dr. Ron Kronish as he talks about the issues addressed in his book, *The Other Peace Process*, including the message and methods of interreligious dialogue and action with regard to the peace process in Israel. For details, visit www.bj.org/israelsalon.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel
- **Bim Bam & Bim Bam Hebrew Immersion** 9:15, 10:15, and 11:15 AM – BJ Chapel

WHAT'S NEXT

- **IAC KesheTOT@BJ**
Tuesdays through December 12, 4:00-5:00PM, BJ Community House: An innovative program for families with infants and toddlers from birth until 3.5 years. Children learn about Israeli culture and Jewish heritage through music, stories and movement. Contact Itay Asaf at itay@israeliamerican.org.
- **Bo-i Kallah**
Friday, October 27, 6:30PM, BJ Chapel: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon and Music Director 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 workweek anxieties behind, welcoming Shabbat.
- **How The Light Gets In: A Tribute Concert to Leonard Cohen**
Sunday, October 29, 7:00-9:00PM, BJ Sanctuary: Join BJ Music Director Dan Nadel, Hazzan George Mordecai, Shira Averbuch and others for a tribute celebrating Leonard Cohen's life and music. Rabbi Aubrey Glazer will speak about the Jewish influences found in Cohen's body of work. Register at www.bj.org/leonardcohen.
- **BJ and JCC Manhattan Host Renowned Israeli Author Eshkol Nevo**
Wednesday, November 1, 6:30-9:00PM, JCC Manhattan: Join us to hear Nevo speak about his latest novel, *Three Floors Up*. Reception for Israeli Book Club members followed by lecture, Q&A, and book signing. Visit www.bj.org/nevo for more details and to register.
- **Caregivers Support Groups**
First Thursdays (November 2, December 7, January 4, February 1), 4:15PM, BJ Community House 4th Floor Conference Room; **Second Thursdays (November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8)**, 9:00AM, BJ Community House 4th Floor Conference Room: A monthly support group for BJ members to draw strength, insight, and information from each other and our tradition. Choose either the morning or afternoon sessions. Registration required. More info at www.bj.org/caregivergroups.
- **Fresh Perspectives on the Boycott, Divest, Sanctions (BDS) Movement**
Thursday, November 2, 7:00-8:30PM, location given upon registration: Join political analyst and human rights pioneer Bassem Eid, and Rabbi Jill Jacobs, Executive Director of T'ruah, as they share their opposing and nuanced approaches to BDS and engage in conversation. Registration required. More information at www.bj.org/bdsperspective.

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 2*

● **Haleli Nafshi: Communal Singing and Havdalah**

Saturday, November 4, 5:30PM, BJ Chapel: Join us for our monthly gathering as we spend the final moments of Shabbat together, singing beautiful niggunim and zemirot as havdalah approaches. Please bring a vegetarian snack and/or drink to share.

● **Mission-Driven Communities in Israel: A New Approach to Social Change**

Sunday, November 5, 7:00-8:30PM, location given upon registration: Join Tamar Gil, Director of Partnerships at Eretz-Ir, for a presentation on Mission-Driven Communities in Israel—groups of social activists who settle in underprivileged cities, and work within surrounding communities to make their cities better. More information at www.bj.org/missiondriven.

● **Drastic Changes in DACA, Immigration and Refugee Policy: Why Do They Matter To Us?**

Thursday, November 9, 7:00-8:30PM, Congregation Ansche Chesed, West 100th Street & West End Avenue: Join BJ's Refugee Committee and The Synagogue Coalition on the Refugee and Immigration Crisis for an evening to help us understand how current policy impacts refugees and immigrants. Hear from a DACA recipient about organizations working on these issues. R.S.V.P. at www.bj.org/daca.

WHAT'S LATER

● **Everybody Loves Hummus**

Saturday, November 11, 5:15-7:00PM, BJ Community House: Meet other young couples and parents at this presentation by leading Israeli culinary journalist and television personality, Gil Hovav, for an entertaining presentation on Israel's most popular dish: hummus. The evening will conclude with a catered dinner from Hummus Place. Babysitting for ages 2-5 and programming for grades K-2. Register now at www.bj.org/hummus.

● **Collaborating With Elie Wiesel: Slide Talk by Artist Mark Podwal**

Sunday, November 12, 11:00AM, BJ Reception Room: Artist Mark Podwal will visit BJ to talk about his career in connecting his artistic talent to his interest in Jewish legend and tradition. Fee: \$10/\$13 (members/non-members). Brunch included; registration required: www.bj.org/podwal.

● **B'nai Mitzvah Parent Orientation Meeting**

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00PM, BJ Reception Room: Parents of children in 4th grade, or whose birth dates fall between September 2007 and December 2008, are invited to an informational meeting detailing the B'nai Mitzvah planning process. Visit www.bj.org/bnai for more information.

● **Refugee and Immigration Committee Meeting**

Thursday, November 16, 6:30-9:00PM, BJ Reception Room: Through a partnership with HIAS and other organizations, we are educating our community about the refugee crisis and developing opportunities to get involved in this important work. Join us at our next meeting. More info at www.bj.org/immigration.

● **Thousand Turkey Challenge**

Sunday, November 19, 12:15-1:30PM, SPSA, 263 West 86th Street: This challenge is an effort to provide low-income families at WSCAH with Thanksgiving food. Activities include a turkey drawing contest for kids and tours of the emergency food pantry. More information at www.bj.org/turkeychallenge.

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

Thursdays, November 30; December 7, 14, 21; January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15, 22; March 1, 8, 15, 12:30-1:30PM, location provided upon registration: Reading stories about the lives of the Talmudic rabbis, we uncover layers of ourselves and become better equipped to wrestle with our human nature. Bring your lunch; BJ members only. Please email btarson@bj.org to be added to the wait list.

A TASTE OF TORAH: NOAH

As the BJ community entered the new year of 5778, we celebrated not just a turn of the calendar but also a new phase in the life of the community: the joining together of our two buildings. On the weekend of “Shabbat Under One Roof,” we experienced together the powerful influence that our physical space has on our communal life—a lesson highlighted in this week’s haftarah as well.

Our haftarah contains a verse that is the source for a famous midrash on Isaiah 54:13:

וְכָל-בְּנֵיךָ, לְמוֹדֵי יְהוָה; וְרַב, שְׁלוֹם בְּנֵיךָ.

And all your children shall be disciples of Adonai, and great shall be the happiness of your children.

Picking up on the linguistic connection between the word for “children” and the word for “builders,” the midrash asserts: “Do not read ‘your children’ [‘banayikh’], but ‘your builders’ [‘bonayikh’]. Torah scholars are those who ‘build’ peace for their generation.” Both linguistically and conceptually, the connection is clear: the way in which we interact with, and construct, physical space is intimately linked with the way in which we build community and transmit our values.

What, then, are tools our haftarah gives us that can help shape and guide this process of building?

One enlightening example can be found in an earlier verse, Isaiah 54:2:

הֲרַחֲבִי מְקוֹם אֹהֶלְךָ, וִירִיעוֹת מִשְׁכְּנֹתֶיךָ יִטוּ—אֶל-תַּחֲשֻׁכֶיךָ; הֲאַרְכִּיבִי, מִיַּתְרֶיךָ, וַיִּתְדֹתֶיךָ, תִּזְקֶי.

Enlarge the site of your tent, extend the size of your dwelling, do not hold back! Lengthen the ropes, and drive the pegs firm.

On the one hand, this verse calls for a radical opening—much like Noah was commanded to make an ark that could accommodate any and all animal species, Israel is called on to make a physical space that is spacious and expansive. The image of a tent, too, reminds us of the importance of having spaces that allow for easy access and passage—that are not blocked or closed off.

Yet the verse ends with a command to fortify our “pegs.” The haftarah reminds us that even as our tent is open and wide, we still need to firmly plant our stakes in the ground. We still need our core pillars that do not waver or move, even as our community grows.

This is the project we face today at BJ. As our buildings and community come together as one, may we recommit ourselves to being—and constructing—a space that is both open and strong. A space that is inviting to those on the margins and on the outside, while also holding firm to the values of Torah, love, and justice that we know to be integral to our institution.

— Sarah Krinsky

TORAH PORTION

NOAH

ROSH HODESH HESHVAN

Torah: Annual Genesis 6:9 - 11:32

Triennial Genesis 8:15 - 10:32

1: 8:15 - 8:22

2: 9:1 - 9:7

3: 9:8 - 9:17

4: 9:18 - 9:29

5: 10:1 - 10:14

6: 10:15 - 10:20

7: 10:21 - 10:32

Maftir: Numbers 28:9 - 28:15

Haftarah Isaiah 66:1 - 66:24, 66:23

NEXT WEEK: LEKH LEKHA

Torah: Annual Genesis 12:1 - 17:27

Triennial Genesis 14:1 - 15:21

Haftarah Isaiah 40:27 - 41:16

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 BJ Sanctuary is powered by the energy of the sun.



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