

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun  
בני ישרון



June 1-8, 2018 • 18-25 Sivan, 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

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Colin A. Weil

**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/bnai.jeshurun** • **Twitter:** @bjnyc

# OUR COMMUNITY

## HA-MAKOM YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our member Michael Berkowitz and we extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Kathy Berkowitz, their daughter, Rachel Gately, and her husband, Michael Gately, and their entire family.

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

- April Stewart Klausner and Paul Klausner and their children, Gabriel and Jonah Klausner, on the death of April's mother, Bernice Friedman Stewart.
- Rutie Havazelet on the death of her father, Rabbi Dr. Meir Havazelet.

## MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Noah Jake Golden and his parents, Susan Servetnick and Gregg Golden, on Noah becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Sarah Marder-Eppstein and David Nathan Friedkin on their upcoming wedding.
- Barbara and Richard Litt on the birth of their grandson, Michael Yehueda Litt-Halpern, son of Danielle Litt and Moshe Halpern.

## TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Susan Servetnik and Gregg Golden in honor of Noah Golden becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and supported by Sarah Marder-Eppstein and David Friedkin in honor of their upcoming wedding.

## 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 the warm, transformative, open place that it is.



### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

#### ● Call Cuomo to Support Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act

One call can make a difference. June 6 marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Robert Kennedy, staunch supporter of farmworkers. Honor his memory by calling Governor Cuomo and asking him to ensure this bill passes the NYS Senate and Assembly. More information and link to register: [www.bj.org/callcuomo](http://www.bj.org/callcuomo).

## LOST AND FOUND

Left something behind at services? Lost and Found is now located at reception on the 2nd floor of the Community House. Contact Adarra at [adavis@bj.org](mailto:adavis@bj.org) or x220.

Items not claimed after 30 days will be donated to an appropriate charity.

We try to make the BJ environment comfortable and healthy for as many people as possible. Out of consideration for those with allergies or severe sensitivities, we request that you refrain from wearing perfumes and overly-scented products. Thank you in advance!

We are happy to share BJ's services with those unable to attend in person through automated recording and livestreaming, available on our website and on our YouTube channel. The camera will be focused on the bimah and areas in front of the Ark. Your presence in those areas indicates your consent to your image appearing on the livestream. Tune in live—and to watch previously streamed services and programs—at [www.bj.org/live](http://www.bj.org/live).

# THIS WEEK AT BJ

## FRIDAY, JUNE 1

- ● **Tot Shabbat** 5:15 PM – BJ Sanctuary & Frankel Hall  
Enjoy a kid-friendly family Kabbalat Shabbat service filled with singing and dancing, followed by a dinner complete with Shabbat blessings and songs. Register now at [www.bj.org/junetotshabbat](http://www.bj.org/junetotshabbat).
- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 7:00 PM – BJ Sanctuary
- ● **Eat, Schmooze, and Sing: Community Shabbat Dinner with Ari** Following services – BJ Chapel  
Celebrate the beginning of Pride Month and elevate your Shabbat with friends, food, and soulful singing led by Hazzan Ari Priven. LGBTQ community members, friends, and allies are invited to join for a three-course dinner with wine. Register at [www.bj.org/schmoozeandsing](http://www.bj.org/schmoozeandsing). \$20 for BJ members / \$30 for non-members.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 2

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary
- Bar Mitzvah** **Noah Golden**
- Aliyat Hatan veKallah** **David Nathan Friedkin and Sarah Marder-Eppstein**
- ● **Aliyah Honoring the Class of 2018** During services – BJ Sanctuary  
Teens in the senior class of 2018 are invited to this special Shabbat morning service, where they will be called to the bimah for an aliyah to wish them yasher koah and mazal. To sign up, email [mgeisler@bj.org](mailto:mgeisler@bj.org).
- ● **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – BJ Middle Room
- ● **Community Kiddush** Following services – BJ Community House 3rd Floor
- **Honoring Chaim Citron: Author and Beloved BJ Security Guard** Following kiddush – BJ Chapel  
Join us as we honor Chaim Citron, BJ's beloved security guard, and author of the novel *Wings of Hope*, as he shares anecdotes from his novel and from his own experience of growing up in the early days of the State of Israel. Find out more at [www.bj.org/wingsofhope](http://www.bj.org/wingsofhope).

## SUNDAY, JUNE 3

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – BJ Chapel
- **Annual Celebrate Israel Parade** 12:15 PM – 52nd Street between Fifth and Madison Avenues  
Join the BJ rabbis and fellow members of the BJ community as we show our support of Israel and mark its 70th anniversary. This year, we will be marching as part of an UWS coalition of synagogues. An official parade t-shirt will be provided at the meeting point. Registration required at [www.bj.org/celebrateisraelparade](http://www.bj.org/celebrateisraelparade).
- **Israeli Book Club Discusses *The People of Forever Are Not Afraid* by Shani Boianjiu** 4:45 PM – BJ Chapel  
Join the Israeli Book Club as we discuss *The People of Forever Are Not Afraid*, written by up-and-coming Israeli author Shani Boianjiu. Register now at [www.bj.org/thepeopleofforever](http://www.bj.org/thepeopleofforever).
- **Journalism: The Family Business** 6:30 PM – BJ Sanctuary



In partnership with *The Jewish Week*, BJ is proud to present a talk with the *New York Times*' Clyde and Maggie Haberman, moderated by *The Jewish Week*'s Gary Rosenblatt. Register now at [www.bj.org/familybusiness](http://www.bj.org/familybusiness).

## MONDAY, JUNE 4

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

● **Monday Minḥa Meditation** 6:30 PM – BJ Chapel

The Center for Prayer and Spirituality invites you to join us as we explore meditation techniques and build a sustained communal meditation practice. There will also be an opportunity for community members to recite the Mourner's Kaddish. No registration necessary; all welcome.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 5

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

● **Sustainability and Environmental Committee Meeting** 6:30 PM – BJ Middle Room

Join us for our second meeting where we will report back on issues, partnerships, and opportunities. Further, we will continue to explore our group environmental work options. New members welcome. Sign up now at [www.bj.org/sustainabilitycommittee](http://www.bj.org/sustainabilitycommittee).

● **Everyday Ethics with Rabbi Adina Lewittes** 7:30 PM – BJ Chapel

Rabbi Adina Lewittes will guide us as we take an honest look at real-life examples of the ethical questions we face and the choices we make every day, using Jewish and other sources to awaken, guide, and motivate us. Register now at [www.bj.org/ethics](http://www.bj.org/ethics). (last class)

● **Israel Film Center Festival** Through Tuesday, June 12 – Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Ave.

BJ is proud to partner with the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan's Israel Film Center Festival. For more information, visit [www.bj.org/israelfilmfestival](http://www.bj.org/israelfilmfestival).

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

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

## THURSDAY, JUNE 7

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

● **Iftar in a Synagogue— Standing with Survivors of Violence** 6:15 PM – Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street

Join BJ and other NYC congregations at the Muslim Jewish Solidarity Committee's flagship event. The theme: survivors of all forms of violence across the world. Speakers include Sabeeha Rehman, Ruth Messinger, and Robina Niaz. Register at [www.bj.org/standingwithsurvivors](http://www.bj.org/standingwithsurvivors).

● **The Ongoing Battle of the Orthodox Feminist Movement** 7:00 PM – location given upon registration

Join Yael Rockman, Executive Director of Kolech, in a discussion on the successes and ongoing challenges of the Orthodox feminist movement as it clashes with the conservative rabbinic establishment and an often toxic public atmosphere. Sign up at [www.bj.org/orthodoxfeminism](http://www.bj.org/orthodoxfeminism).

## FRIDAY, JUNE 8

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

● **Bim Bam & Bim Bam Hebrew Immersion** 10:15 and 11:15 AM – BJ Chapel

**Hesed at BJ**

Do you need help getting to a doctor's visit, or to BJ services? Would you like a regular visit or phone call from a Hesed volunteer? If you or someone you know would like support, please reach out at: [hesed@bj.org](mailto:hesed@bj.org).

## WHAT'S NEXT

### ● Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat

**Friday, June 8, 7:00PM**, BJ Community House 3rd Floor: Join us for an intimate service featuring meditation, reflection, deep listening, and personal engagement with the parashah. Contact Kristen at [kkersey@bj.org](mailto:kkersey@bj.org) or x255 with any questions.

### ● Teen End of the Year Brunch and Bounce

**Sunday, June 10, 11:30AM**, Frankel Hall: Teens and their families are invited to a celebratory brunch honoring the class of 2018. The meal will be followed by a teen-only trip to Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure park. Sign up now at [www.bj.org/brunchandbounce](http://www.bj.org/brunchandbounce).

### ● BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee Meeting

**Monday, June 11, 6:30PM**, BJ Reception Room: Join us for the next BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee meeting, open to all who want to get involved with the program. Hear updates from subcommittees and help us determine priorities. Sign up at [www.bj.org/racialjusticejune11](http://www.bj.org/racialjusticejune11).

### ● Economic Justice Hevra Meeting

**Monday, June 11, 6:30PM**, BJ Middle Room: Get involved in the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign. Together, we will expand understanding of ethical consumption and ensure farm laborers get the dignity and equality they deserve. To R.S.V.P., contact Lisa at [lisagzucker@gmail.com](mailto:lisagzucker@gmail.com).

### ● On Being Podcast Recording with Krista Tippett

**Tuesday, June 12, 7:00PM** (doors open 6:30PM), BJ Sanctuary: Join Peabody Award-winning broadcaster Krista Tippett in conversation with the 22nd Poet Laureate of the United States, Tracy K. Smith, for a live recording of *On Being*—the podcast that opens up the animating questions at the center of human life. Register at [www.bj.org/onbeing](http://www.bj.org/onbeing).

### ● 2018 Annual Meeting

**Thursday, June 14, 7:00-9:00PM**, BJ Sanctuary: BJ members are invited to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting, where you will hear about this year's tremendous accomplishments, as well as look ahead to next year's goals, programmatic highlights, and financial outlook. Sign up at [www.bj.org/annualmeeting](http://www.bj.org/annualmeeting).

### ● Bo-i Kallah

**Friday, June 15, 7:00PM**, BJ Reception Room: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon, Music Director Dan Nadel, and Deborah Sacks Mintz for a Kabbalat Shabbat filled with soulful melodies, verses of Shir haShirim (Song of Songs), liturgical poems, and psalms. More information at [www.bj.org/boikallah](http://www.bj.org/boikallah).

### ● 20/30s Shabbat Dinner with IAC Dor Chadash

**Friday, June 15**, following Shabbat evening services, BJ Middle Room: BJ, in collaboration with IAC Dor Chadash, invites you to join us for a community Shabbat Dinner! Register now at [www.bj.org/iacshabbatdinner](http://www.bj.org/iacshabbatdinner).

---

## WHAT'S LATER

### ● Occupy the Roof: Summer Social Justice Film Series

**Tuesdays, June 26, July 10, July 24, August 7, August 21, 7:00PM**, Community House Rooftop: Sponsored by Panim, BJ's Social Action and Social Justice groups, this film series will celebrate stories of people that shine a light on justice in a changing world. More information on movie selection to come. Light refreshments will be served. Register now at [www.bj.org/occupytheroof](http://www.bj.org/occupytheroof).

# A TASTE OF TORAH: SHABBAT BEHA'ALOTEKHA

In Parshat Beha'alotekha, Moses, having heard the people complain so deeply about their desert journey that they romanticize their enslavement in Egypt, cries out to God, saying

לאֶ-אוּכַל אֲנֹכִי לִבְדִי לְשַׂאת אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם הַזֶּה כִּי כִבֵּד מְמֹנִי:  
וְאִם-צָכַח אֶת-עֲשׂוֹה לִי הֲרַגְנִי נָא הַרְג אֶם-מִצָּאתִי חַן בְּעֵינֶיךָ וְאֶל-אַרְצָה בְּרַעַתִּי:

I cannot carry all this people by myself, for it is too much for me. If You would deal thus with me, kill me rather, I beg You, and let me see no more of my wretchedness!

—Numbers 11:14-15

Moses, our rabbi—the conduit of our redemption, who witnessed miracle after miracle, who beheld God face to face—reaches a point wherein he feels that he cannot go any longer, and begs God for death. God neither chides, shames, nor stigmatizes Moses in his place of deep pain, nor does God remind Moses of the far more harrowing difficulties which he has overcome. Instead, God instructs Moses to gather the leaders of the people around him—perhaps because Moses needed people who understood his pressure differently, a group of people with similar experience that could help protect him in his vulnerability. When they do, Moses shares not only his words, but his *ruah*—his spirit, his emotions—with the elders who surround him, allowing them to understand, share, and hold him in his pain from a place of even deeper empathy.

On May 14, our community gathered for a program on suicide prevention and losing a loved one to suicide, presented as part of BJ's mental health initiative, *Ruah*: Caring for Your Heart, Mind, and Spirit. During the evening, Efreim Epstein, founder of Elijah's Journey, related Moses's experience in this parashah to that of suicidal ideation. The number of those in our community who have struggled themselves, or have been deeply affected by a friend or family member who died by suicide, is staggering—and the shame and stigma that so many of us feel when speaking of our own struggles or of these losses runs deep.

Many who attended the program who have experienced a loss expressed the desire to share their story. Every month, adult members of the Jewish and general New York community who have lost a close one to suicide join in a 90-minute support group at the Jewish Board called *M'kom Shalom*, a Place of Peace, where they share their stories, challenges, resources, and strategies. Registration for this group is required; please call Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub, LCSW at 212-632-4770.

If you or someone you know is struggling, know that you are not alone—even Moses knew such pain and sought help. Seek help as soon as possible by contacting a mental health professional or call 1-800-273-TALK (8255), the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, for a referral.

—Rabbi Michael Boino, MSW

## TORAH PORTION

### BEHA'ALOTEKHA

<b>Torah: Annual</b>	Numbers 8:1 - 12:16
<b>Triennial</b>	Numbers 9:15 - 10:34
1:	9:15 - 9:18
2:	9:19 - 9:23
3:	10:1 - 10:7
4:	10:8 - 10:10
5:	10:11 - 10:20
6:	10:21 - 10:28
7:	10:29 - 10:34
Maftir:	10:32 - 10:34

**Haftarah** Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7

### NEXT WEEK: SHELAH-LEKHA

<b>Torah: Annual</b>	Numbers 13:1 - 15:41
<b>Triennial</b>	Numbers 14:8 - 15:7
<b>Haftarah</b>	Joshua 2:1 - 2:24

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](http://www.bj.org/minyan).**

 Printed on Recycled Paper

**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.



AVAILABLE AT SERVICES & PROGRAMS  
IN THE BJ SANCTUARY

