

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



September 14-21, 2018 • 5-12 Tishrei, 5779

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**
- **High Holy Days 5779**
- **Sukkot through Simhat Torah**

RABBIS: J. Rolando Matalon • Felicia L. Sol • Erin R. Glazer • Marcelo R. Bronstein

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS: Tobias Divack Moss • Margo Hughes-Robinson • Abi Weber

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OUR COMMUNITY

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our member Sheila Gabins, and we extend our sincere condolences to all of her loved ones.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of James Munves, and we extend our condolences to his entire family.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Michael and Katelyn Cooper on the naming of their daughter, Violet Cooper. We also extend a mazal tov to Liz and Jay Cooper, Ariana Cooper Berry, Eric Berry, and Maisie Ava Berry.

TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

- Thank you to the Panim Leadership Team for serving as our Friday night greeters this week. Please approach any of this week's greeters to learn more about Panim: Social Action and Social Justice at BJ, and how you can get involved.

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.

Seeking a meaningful way to prepare for the Yamim Nora'im?

It's as easy as opening your email. From the beginning of Elul through Yom Kippur, keep an eye on your inbox for daily kavannot from BJ community members on the transformative power of teshuvah. Start the season by reflecting on how you, too, can return home to the purest version of yourself.

Friday Evening Services: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME!

Beginning **Friday, October 5**, Kabbalat Shabbat services will start at 6:15PM.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● Help Our Friend in Sanctuary at SPSA

Debora Barrios and her daughter are living at SPSA while seeking a stay of deportation. Our communities have done an incredible job of helping them with basic tasks including providing dinner, laundry, and grocery shopping, and we need more volunteers. Sign up here: my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/spsasanctuary.

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.

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- **Apply to Become an Ozer(et)** Last day to apply: Friday, September 14
Applications to work as an ozer(et) (assistant teacher) in Kadima@BJ and/or for our monthly youth group programming are now open for all members in 8th-12th grade! For more information and to apply, visit www.bj.org/ozeretapplication.

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | SHABBAT SHUVAH

- **Hakhanah laTefillah** 8:45 AM – BJ Chapel
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. This series is open to all, no registration necessary. Next session October 5, and then every other Saturday.

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

Naming

Violet Cooper

- ● **Family Service (0-Pre-K/K/Grade 2)** 10:45 AM – BJ Middle & Reception Rooms

- ● **Family Service (Grades 3-6)** 10:45 AM – BJ Chapel

- ● **Community Kiddush** Following services – BJ Community House 3rd Floor

- ● **The Mindful Calendar Series: Forgiveness Workshop with Rabbi Shuli Passow** Following Kiddush – BJ Chapel

This series blends personal reflection, mindfulness, and text study to bring deeper meaning to significant moments throughout the year. In preparation for Yom Kippur, this workshop will explore ways to forgive ourselves and others. All welcome, no registration required. More information at www.bj.org/forgiveness.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- ● **Selihot Prayers** 9:15 AM – BJ Chapel

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- ● **Selihot Prayers** 7:15 AM – BJ Chapel

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 | KOL NIDRE

- ● **Selihot Prayers** 7:15 AM – BJ Chapel

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

BJ Office closes at 1:00 PM

- ● **Kol Nidre** 6:30 PM – BJ Community House 3rd Floor, Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew (SPSA), Jazz at Lincoln Center

- ● **Family Services** 6:30 PM – BJ Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 | YOM KIPPUR

BJ Office closed

- ● **For the Yom Kippur schedule of services at all locations, including Mindfulness, Children's, and Family services, please see your entrance card or www.bj.org/hhd.**

- ● **Community Break-Fast** Following Ne'ilah services – Frankel Hall
Join us at a delicious Community break-fast, generously sponsored by Helena Diamant Glass in cherished memory of her beloved parents, Regina Landwirth Diamant and Karl Diamant. Register now at www.bj.org/breakfast2018.

- ● **Aviv: 20s and 30s Break-Fast** Following Ne'ilah services – location given upon registration
Join us for a delicious 20s and 30s break-fast following Ne'ilah services! The event is free for members, but registration is required at www.bj.org/20s30sbreakfast.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

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

 ● **Sukkah Building** 6:00 PM – BJ Rooftop

Start the new year right by jumping into the mitzvah of sukkah building! Join us to help hang walls, raise the branches, and bring our Sukkah to life. R.S.V.P. now at www.bj.org/sukkahbuilding.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

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

● **Bim Bam in the Fall!** 10:15 AM, 11:15 AM – BJ Chapel

Bim Bam gives children under 3 a space to explore Shabbat through songs and stories. The 10:15AM session features English and Hebrew, while the 11:15AM session is full Hebrew immersion. Through December 14. For more information, visit www.bj.org/fallbimbam.

● **Fall Teen Retreat** Through Sunday, September 23 – Hands In 4 Youth, 256 Macopin Road, West Milford, NJ

8th-12th graders, join us for a meaningful Shabbat away from the city. Connect with friends old and new while enhancing your connection to the BJ community. Register now at www.bj.org/fall2018teenretreat.

WHAT'S NEXT

 ● **Sliding into Sukkot: Family Breakfast**

Sunday, September 23, 10:15-11:30AM, BJ Community House Sukkah: Join us for a family breakfast in the sukkah! Sing holiday tunes, shake the lulav, and create festive decorations. The cost is \$10 per family for BJ members and \$18 per family for non-members. Register at www.bj.org/familysukkahbreakfast.

 ● **Family Pre-Service Oneg**

Friday, September 28, 5:45PM, BJ Community House Sukkah: Families are invited to enjoy appetizers and wine before Kabbalat Shabbat services. Connect with friends and get to know new families, then we will head to the sanctuary to enjoy services together. Sign up now at www.bj.org/sukkahoneg.

 ● **Community Shabbat Potluck in the Sukkah**

Friday, September 28, following the Kabbalat Shabbat service, BJ Community House Sukkah: Bring something delicious to share, grab a bottle of your favorite kosher vino, and get ready to bring in Shabbat the BJ way. Sign up now at www.bj.org/sukkahpotluck.

 ● **Aviv: 20s and 30s Havdalah and Sukkah Hop**

Saturday, September 29, 6:30PM, BJ Community House Sukkah: Join us for havdalah in the Sukkah, followed by drinks and snacks! Meet new friends and mingle with 20s and 30s in the community as we check out sukkahs on the UWS. Sign up now at www.bj.org/sukkahhop.

● **Moving Traditions 2018-2019**

Sundays (monthly), September 30, 2018–April 28, 2019, 5:00-7:00PM, location TBD: Rosh Hodesh (Sisterhood) and Shevet (Brotherhood), are small, single-gender, single-grade groups in which teens can find their own Jewish community in a safe, relaxed space. Register now at www.bj.org/movingtraditions1819.

● ● **Teen Learning Series**

Wednesdays, October 2018–May 2019, 6:00-7:15PM, location TBD: Register now for classes on some of the most intriguing issues facing Jewish teens today. Explore R-rated Talmud, the complexities of Israel, civil rights, poverty, and race within Judaism. For course information and to register, visit www.bj.org/teenlearningseries.

 ● **Aviv: 20s and 30s Simhat Torah Pre-Gathering**

Monday, October 1, 7:30PM, BJ Reception Room: Grab dessert and a drink, and mix and mingle with other 20s and 30s in our community. Then, at 8:30PM, we will move to the sanctuary to celebrate the holiday. Sign up now at www.bj.org/20s30ssimhattorah.

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 3*

● Economic Justice Hevra Meeting

Thursday, October 4, 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.

WHAT'S LATER

● ● Tot Shabbat

Friday, October 5, 5:15-7:30PM, BJ Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Families enjoy a Kabbalat Shabbat service filled with singing and dancing, followed by a dinner complete with Shabbat blessings and songs. While adults are finishing their meal, children engage in play and exploration. Register now at www.bj.org/totshabbat28.

● The Five “W”s of Prayer: Who/What/When/Where/Why

Mondays, October 8-November 5, 7:00-8:00PM, BJ Community Housel: Join Rabbinic Fellow Abi Weber for a five-part series in which we explore the five “W”s of prayer. Each class will stand alone, so new participants are always welcome. Sign up now at www.bj.org/fivews.

● Hebrew Ulpan Classes אולפן עברית

Mondays beginning October 8, 5:00-7:00PM and 7:00-9:00PM, BJ Community House: Join other members of the BJ community in a small group environment to build and improve your Hebrew conversational skills. Register now at www.bj.org/hebrewulpan.

● Kadima@BJ Shirah with Shira

Tuesdays, October 9-December 18, 4:00-4:45PM, BJ Community House: Shira Averbuch will lead children ages 2-5 and their parents/caregivers in music, stories, and movement. Children will learn about Jewish tradition, Israeli culture, the Hebrew language, and holiday customs. Register now at www.bj.org/shirahwithshira.

● Baby Fingers

Wednesdays, October 10-November 14, 3:30-4:30PM, BJ Middle Room: Join our new baby fingers class to enhance the world of communication between you and your tot through sign language! Register now at www.bj.org/babyfingers.

● An Evening with Human Rights Lawyer Bryan Stevenson

Wednesday, October 10, 7:00-10:00PM, BJ Sanctuary: Join us for a discussion with human rights lawyer Bryan Stevenson, who will share his perspectives on the American justice system and the social, racial, and economic divides currently affecting our country. Register now at www.bj.org/bryanstevenson.

● “Soul Food” Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol

Tuesdays, October 16-December 18, 12:30-1:45PM, BJ Middle Room: Bring a bag lunch and join Rabbi Felicia Sol as we imagine old world wisdom for everyday life. Each class stands alone; new participants are always welcome. Sign up now at www.bj.org/soulfood.

● Reach for Shabbat Retreat

Friday, October 26-Sunday, October 28, Isabella Friedman Retreat Center: Join us for an incredible opportunity to get to know our Kadima@BJ community, including other families and teachers. **Register by October 8** at www.bj.org/reachforshabbatretreat.



Bring Sukkot home—order a lulav and etrog set imported from Israel.

Sets can be purchased at the following locations:

West Side Judaica • 2412 Broadway • 212-362-7846

By Special Arrangement • 243 West 60th Street • 212-595-0200

A TASTE OF TORAH: SHABBAT VAYELEKH

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל-מֹשֶׁה הֵן קָרְבוּ יְמֵיךָ לָמוּת קְרָא אֶת-יְהוֹשֻׁעַ וְהִתְיַצְבוּ בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְנִצְוֵנוּ וַיִּלֶךְ מֹשֶׁה וַיְהוֹשֻׁעַ וַיִּתְיַצְבוּ בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד:

The LORD said to Moses: The time is drawing near for you to die. Call Joshua and present yourselves in the Tent of Meeting, that I may instruct him. Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the Tent of Meeting. —*Deuteronomy 31:14*

Meaningful transitions are never easy. Whether we are undergoing an external shift in leadership, or an internal change in behavior or ways of thinking, the process of grieving and letting go of the old, and welcoming and integrating the new is not without its attending pain. Indeed, the depth of our struggle often reflects the care we have, both for ourselves and for those being touched by the transitions in our lives. In the midst of Shabbat Shuvah, we feel the ache transition intensely as we reach the height of our season of repentance, and arrive in our reading of the Torah to God's announcement of the death of Moses.

Midrash Tanhuma gives voice to this struggle of external transition, and helps us to understand its connection to both internal transition and the work of teshuvah. When Hashem first tells Moses of his impending death, the Midrash says Moses litigates for his own life. Has he not done enough for the Blessed Holy One, that he should be spared mortality? He attempts to bargain with God, pleading for his life in light of his ancestors, on behalf of Israel—even offering to become Joshua's servant if he can only live. Even the archangel Metatron, says the Midrash, is enlisted to plead on Moses' behalf. But eventually, gently, God helps Moses realize that he must let go—both of his identity as a leader and of his own life—for Israel's continued relationship with God to evolve.

It is in this moment, concludes the Midrash, when Moses has been humbled and brought to the brink, facing his own loss of identity and mortality, that the prophet and the people of Israel come together. Moses offers the people a blessing and asks for their forgiveness: he has grieved them over Torah and mitzvot, and he has also made their lives a struggle. The people reply in one voice, forgiving Moses, and offer their own apology: they have angered him quite a bit during their years together and they have also made *his* life difficult. Moses forgives them. And then, with a kiss from the Blessed Holy One, Moses passes away.

In Moses' last moments as depicted by Midrash Tanhuma, we are given an incredible model of teshuvah. When we let go of ego-driven fears of loss of power or social standing, and open ourselves to humility—when we allow our hearts to crack wide open to both the pain and opportunity of transition—we find ourselves most ready to give and to receive forgiveness, to return to the fundamentals of relationship between ourselves, our communities, and our God.

— Margo Hughes-Robinson

TORAH PORTION

VAYELEKH

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Torah	Deuteronomy 31:1 - 31:30
1:	31:1 - 31:03
2:	31:4 - 31:06
3:	31:7 - 31:09
4:	31:10 - 31:13
5:	31:14 - 31:19
6:	31:20 - 31:24
7:	31:25 - 31:30
Maftir:	31:28 - 31:30
Haftarah	Hosea 14:2 - 14:10, Micah 7:18 - 7:20

NEXT WEEK: HA-AZINU

Torah	Deuteronomy 32:1 - 32:52
Haftarah	II Samuel 22:1 - 22:51

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. **Please join us to hear the shofar each morning during the month of Elul. Visit 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

