



**PARK
SLOPE
JEWISH
CENTER**

February 10-18, 2017 | 14-22 Shevat, 5777
Parashat Beshalach

Friday, February 10 14 Shevat				Parashat <i>Beshalach</i> Saturday, February 11 15 Shevat		
Candle Lighting 5:07PM Lev Tahor with Scholar In Residence Rabbi Amy Eilberg 6:30PM				Shabbat <i>Shirah/Tu B'Shvat</i> Shacharit 10:00AM with Scholar in Residence Rabbi Amy Eilberg Mini Minyan 11:15AM Tot Shabbat 11:15AM Junior Congr 11:15AM Dialogue Workshop with Rabbi Amy Eilberg 1:20PM		
Sunday February 12 16 Shevat	Monday February 13 17 Shevat	Tuesday February 14 18 Shevat	Wednesday February 15 19 Shevat	Thursday February 16 20 Shevat	Friday February 17 21 Shevat	Saturday February 18 22 Shevat
Hebrew School 9:30AM Jewish Community Action for Refugees 9:30AM		Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM	Mussar Path of the Mensch 7:00PM	Candle Lighting 5:15PM It's Friday! 10:30AM Kabbalat Shabbat with David Rosen 6:30PM	Shabbat <i>Yitro</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM
Park Slope Jewish Center 1320 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 768-1453 Office hours: M-Th 9AM-5PM, F 9AM-2PM www.psjc.org email: office@psjc.org				Rabbi Carie Carter, PSJC's Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Sarah Guthartz, Executive Director (executive.director@psjc.org) Lena Roe, Interim Director of Youth Education (lena.roe@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

Todah Rabbah!

To a special someone for sponsoring the Lev Tahor dinner, Kiddush and the Scholar In Residence this Shabbat.

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to

Tyndall Arrasmith and her entire family on the death of her mother, **Anne Arrasmith, z"l**.

Yahrzeits observed 15-21 Shevat:

Alan James Feldman, father of Neil Feldman; **Beverly Joyce Palmer**, sister of Alan Palmer; **Boris Novick**, father of Eve Blatt; **Edwin Huttner**, father of Jan Huttner; **Emma Lee Minkin**, daughter of Betsy Minkin and Rabbi Joshua Minkin; **Heshel Rosenfeld**, father of Fay Rosenfeld; **Irving Brickman**, father of Ellen Brickman; **Margaret Palmer**, grandmother of Alan Palmer; **Max Gross**, father of Bruce Lee Gross; **Morris Daffner**, great uncle of Stuart Baron; **Nathan Kalman**, father of Beverly Kalman; **Rachel Nachman**, mother of David Nachman; **Rudolph Joseph Straus**, father of Ellen Straus; **Sidney Shapiro**, father of Mike Shapiro; **Sol Yoffie**, father of Sharman Yoffie-Sidman. *May their memories be for a blessing.*

G'mach, Hevra Kadisha welcome new members If you are able to cook, deliver meals, visit, attend shiva minyanim, do shmira or tahara for those who have died and support our members in good and bad times - please contact G'mach and Hevra Kadisha to add your name to the distribution list: gmach@psjc.org or hevrakadisha@psjc.org

Got announcements? Email by Monday 5:00PM (office@PSJC.org)

Club 1320 needs your help. Everyone has a way to contribute. Donate goods, services/experiences, solicit local businesses and people in your network. Some possible donations: behind-the-scenes tour of a business/museum, tickets to sporting events or theater, a weekend at your vacation home, cooking lessons, or help us discover unique items. Use your imagination and solicit auction items and/or become a sponsor to help raise money for PSJC.

And don't forget to buy your tickets for this fresh, fun and festive fundraising fete! Early bird price \$36 until February 22. Visit www.psjc.org/auction or email auction@psjc.org for more information.



Scholar-In-Residence: Rabbi Amy Eilberg

Machlokot L'Shem Shamayim: The Jewish Art of Disagreement

February 10 - 11, 2017

Join us on **Friday night** for PSJC's all-sung, lay-led Lev Tahor Service followed by a sponsored catered **Shabbat Dinner** (meat, with vegetarian options) and study with Rabbi Amy Eilberg. **Saturday morning** services begin will include a **Dvar Torah by Rabbi Eilberg**. Following Kiddush, Rabbi Eilberg will offer a **Dialogue Workshop** where we can build skills necessary for successful dialogue with those with whom we disagree.

National Day of Jewish Action for Refugees

Sunday, February 12 | 9:30AM

Please join us as the PSJC community participates in the National Day of Jewish Action for Refugees, sponsored by HIAS, in Battery Park, looking over the water to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island from 11:00AM – 1:00PM. To go with PSJC, please join us at the Shul on Sunday morning to say that refugees are welcome here. We are commanded 36 times in the Torah to love and protect the Ger--the stranger. Now is our opportunity to do just that as a PSJC community.

9:30AM | Light breakfast nosh, sign making, and singing with Abe

10:00AM | Havdallah

10:15AM | Depart for Battery Park

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, February 17, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 | 10:30AM | \$12 per class

It's Friday! is a series of classes for children 3 and under and their caregivers. Join PSJC Tot Shabbat Leader, Abe, for hands on exploration of Shabbat and holidays. Visit www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html for more information.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, February 18 | 1:30PM

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together in the home of a PSJC member. We will walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Pot Luck Lunch after the Kiddush. Bring a parve pot luck dish to share. If you are coming for the first time, don't feel like you need to bring anything. Just come! Actual address will be given at services. Please contact shabbatshmooze@psjc.org if you would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze.



Download the PSJC app Today after Shabbat! It's powered through Shulcloud. When you are signed in, you have access to the member directory, the PSJC calendar and more. Available on Android and iOS smart phones, search for Park Slope Jewish Center.

Winter Craft Camp - Register Now!

February 20-24 | 9:00AM-3:00PM

Ha'Sadnah (Hebrew for "The Workshop") is a boutique children's art program run by designer, Jordyn Jacobs, and artist, Reut Asimini. Ha'Sadnah art programs are designed to spark each child's creativity and to encourage curiosity and a handmade approach.

Our winter craft program will focus on textile arts, including sewing, embroidery, and knitting.

Registration is required. Please visit:

<https://www.psjc.org/event/february-break-camp.html>



Advanced Talmud

Saturday, February 25 | 1:30PM

This class is an on-going self-study group appropriate for people who are proficient in Hebrew and have some prior experience in Gemara study. New students are welcome! Email aronrhalb@gmail.com

PSJC Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 28 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

Tzedakah Fair

Sunday, March 5 | 9:30AM-12:30PM

The entire PSJC Community is invited to join the Hebrew School for our annual Tzedakah Fair, led by the Kitah Vav class. Empty your tzedakah box from home and fill your pockets with nickels, quarters and dollars, and come prepared to learn about all of the places near and far where your money can be put to use! Email lana.roe@psjc.org with any questions or to volunteer.

Attention lawyers: Would you like to use your legal skills to protect asylum seekers in the New York area?

Sunday, March 5 | 1:30PM - 5:00PM | Kane Street Synagogue

Please join HIAS to learn how to apply your legal skills pro bono to protect vulnerable asylum seekers seeking protection in our community. The training will be open to congregants from various synagogues in Brooklyn. To find out more and to fill out an online volunteer application, click on the flyer attached.

Contact Rachel Danzing, rachdanzing@yahoo.com or Laura Wolff, laurarscf@aol.com with questions.

All congregants and visitors (of all genders) are requested to wear a head covering in the Sanctuary. Cell phones and photography are not permitted in the synagogue during Shabbat. Please also refrain from applause during services. **To request an Aliyah or other honor**, email Rabbi Carter a week in advance (rabbicarie@psjc.org), or notify the usher if you arrive before the Torah Service begins; we honor requests whenever possible. **To usher services**, email Ira Drucker at ira.drucker@psjc.org **PSJC runs on community participation.** If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email freddie.brooks@psjc.org; **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at davening@psjc.org; **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at haftarah@psjc.org; **joining the Hevra Kadisha**, email the coordinators at hevra.kadisha@psjc.org.

Parashat BeShalach/Shabbat Shirah/Tu B'Shvat

Triennial (Exodus 13:17-15:26): Etz Hayim p. 399; Hertz p. 265

Haftarah (Judges 4:4 - 5:31): Etz Hayim p. 423; Hertz p. 281

The Battle for God's Ear

Nahshon ben Aminadov is a fairly familiar character in biblical lore. He was the prince from the tribe of Judah known for taking the initiative to jump into the sea when the children of Israel were trapped, in panic, between the pursuing Egyptian army and the sea (Exodus 14:9-12).

It was his great faith in God which caused God to split the sea so that the nation could leave Egyptian bondage. One rabbinic tradition asserts that this as the reason that the tribe of Judah warranted the kingship, through the house of David (see Mechilta deRabbi Yishmael Beshallah 6).

Don't go looking for the story of Nahshon in the Torah. It is not there. It is one rabbinic take on how the scene played itself out, but it is not the only one. In the very same book where this story is found, there is an alternative version of the story, one that is not well known probably because it seems less heroic and is a bit more provocative: "Rabbi Meir said, When the tribes of Israel stood at the sea, one said, 'I will go down first' while another said, 'No, I will go down first.' While they were standing there fighting with each other, the tribe of Benjamin jumped up and entered the sea first.

The tribe of Judah [in their fury at being preempted], began to throw stones at the tribe of Benjamin. A parable was told [to draw a positive lesson from this problematic scene]: To what can this situation be compared? To a king who had two children, one grown up and the other still young. The king said to the younger son, 'Wake me up at sunrise,' while he commanded the older son to wake him at nine o'clock.

When the younger son came to wake his father at sunrise, the older son would not let him, saying, 'He told me to wake him at nine.' The younger son replied, 'But he told me to wake him at sunrise.' While the brothers were debating, the king woke up and said, 'Both of you had my honor in mind, so both of you will be rewarded.' The tribe of Benjamin was rewarded with having the Temple built in its territory and the tribe of Judah was rewarded with the kingship [David was from the tribe of Judah]" (see Mechilta, above).

The message of this story and its parable has contemporary application. Many of us are whole heartedly convinced that we have exclusive rights to God's message or are convinced that our positions on moral or political issues are absolute truth and that the other guy is totally wrong. We are so convinced that we would have no compunctions about "throwing stones" at our opponents.

This midrash comes to remind us that the other side might have something legitimate to say and might be equally sincere in trying to do the right thing. They just may hear God's message differently. What God desires is our sincere service in trying to do what is right even though the outcomes of our listening to God may differ among us. He desires as well that we appreciate each other's sincerity and treat each other with the appropriate respect.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein, CY Faculty (Talmud, Midrash, Halacha), the Conservative Yeshiva, is from the "Torah Sparks" series at <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein of the Conservative Yeshiva may be found at <http://www.uscj.org.il/learn/commentaries/>