

Friday, February 3   7 Tevet				Parashat Bo Saturday, February 4   8 Shevat		
Candle Lighting   5:07PM Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Charlie Urich</b>   6:30PM				Shabbat Bo Shacharit   10:00AM with <b>Judy Ribnick</b> Family Torah   10:30AM Shabbat Kulanu   11:15AM Mishneh Torah Class - Laws of Teshuvah   1:30PM Shaarei Mitzvah Movie Night   5:30PM		
Sunday February 5 9 Shevat	Monday February 6 10 Shevat	Tuesday February 7 11 Shevat	Wednesday February 8 12 Shevat	Thursday February 9 13 Shevat	Friday February 10 14 Shevat	Saturday February 11 15 Shevat
Hebrew School 9:30AM  Masbia 12:00PM	PSJC Knitters 7:30PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM		Candle Lighting 5:15PM  It's Friday! 10:30AM  Lev Tahor with Scholar In Residence <b>Rabbi Amy Eilberg</b> 6:30PM	Shabbat <i>Tu B'Shvat</i>  Shacharit   10:00AM Mini Minyan   11:15AM Tot Shabbat   11:15AM Junior Congr   11:15AM  Scholar In Residence Workshop   1:30PM
<b>Park Slope Jewish Center</b> 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)		

**Yahrzeits observed 8-14 Shevat:**

**Aaron Karol**, student of Angela Weisl;  
**Abe Abadi**, father of Michael Abadi;  
**Alan Laska**, friend of Pamela Kaplan and William Miller;  
**Albert Arons**, father of Lenore Arons;  
**Bernard Altshuler**, father of Lisa Altshuler;  
**Betty Wollin**, grandmother of Les Honig;  
**David Rabinowitz**, father of Richard Rabinowitz;  
**Frank Catabilotta**, student of Angela Weisl;  
**Gloria Spivak**, mother of Ellen Umansky;  
**Harold Cohen**, brother of Barbara Hopard;  
**Hirsch Grozalsky**, father of Malkie Grozalsky;  
**Jacob Lustig**, father of Carol Diamond;  
**John Giunta**, student of Angela Weisl;  
**Linda Cohn Speaks**, mother of John Speaks;  
**Maria Hart**, grandmother of Steven Mazie;  
**Murray Ehrlich**, father of Todd Ehrlich;  
**Solomon Cohen**, father of Neil Cohen;  
**Sylvia Wax**, mother of Ronnie Wax.

*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



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](http://www.psjc.org/auction) or email [auction@psjc.org](mailto:auction@psjc.org) for more information.



February 3-11, 2017 | 7-15 Shevat, 5777  
Parashat Bo

### **Shabbat Kulanu**

Saturday, February 4 | 11:15AM

Kulanu means "all together," so join us for our brand new, all-ages, musical service. We will meet once a month on Shabbat mornings during the school year and approximately eight times a year on Friday evenings. Abe and Aileen will lead an inclusive Shabbat service that will get you on your feet and in the Shabbat spirit. Shabbat morning services will include a short Torah service and as a community will join with the main service for concluding prayers and Kiddush.

### **Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah**

Saturday, February 4 | 1:30PM

When it was written in the 12th Century, Maimonides' Mishneh Torah changed the landscape of Rabbinic literature, and has since served as one of the great authoritative codes of Jewish Law. This is a monthly study session with Rabbi Carter. Please <https://www.psjc.org/form/mishneh-torah.html> for this study group.

### **Masbia Needs PSJC!!**

Sunday, February 5 | 12:00PM-2:00PM

Join other PSJC volunteers at Masbia, the kosher soup kitchen at 1372 Coney Island Avenue, near Avenue J. Masbia's meals sustain hundreds of people in need; we have been working with them for five years to peel, chop, schlepp and do whatever's useful, in support of their mission. Children over age 10, teens and adults welcome to roll up their sleeves and help feed our hungry neighbors. Please contact Helen Zelon: [hzelon@gmail.com](mailto:hzelon@gmail.com) for details or additional information.



### **PJ Library Class: It's Friday!**

Friday, February 10 and 17 | 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](http://www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html) for more information.

### **Save the Date: Scholar-In-Residence: Rabbi Amy Eilberg**

#### **Machlakot 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. RSVP for dinner [www.tinyurl.com/scholar2017](http://www.tinyurl.com/scholar2017). **Deadline to RSVP for the dinner is Wednesday, February 8 at 10:00AM.**

### **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

**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.



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### 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](mailto:shabbatshmooze@psjc.org) if you would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze.

### 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](mailto: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 [lena.roe@psjc.org](mailto:lena.roe@psjc.org) with any questions or to volunteer.



**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.

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto:ira.drucker@psjc.org) **PSJC runs on community participation.** If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email [freddie.brooks@psjc.org](mailto:freddie.brooks@psjc.org); **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at [davening@psjc.org](mailto:davening@psjc.org); **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at [haftarah@psjc.org](mailto:haftarah@psjc.org); **joining the Hevra Kadisha**, email the coordinators at [hevra.kadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevra.kadisha@psjc.org).

### **Parashat Bo**

Triennial (Exodus 10:1-11:3): Etz Hayim p. 374; Hertz p. 248  
Haftarah (Jeremiah 46:13-28): Etz Hayim p. 395; Hertz p. 263

### **The Centrality of the Passover Sacrifice**

The Passover Sacrifice is central to Parashat Bo. It is the major feature of the Exodus and it will remain a central part of Israelite national existence for generations to come. In some sense the centrality of the Seder in our time is a continuation of this tradition that signified the birth of our nation. It is set out in Exodus chapter 12, including:

*43 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron: 'This is the law of the Passover offering: no foreigner may eat of it. 44 But any slave a man has bought may eat of it once he has been circumcised. 45 No sojourner or hired servant may eat of it. 46 It shall be eaten in one house; you may not take any of the flesh outside nor break any of its bones. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 If a stranger who lives with you wants to offer the Passover to the LORD, all his males must be circumcised; then he may come near and keep it like any native of the land. But no uncircumcised person may eat of it. 49 There shall be one law for the citizen and for the stranger residing among you.'* This sacrifice has several key features: it must be roasted, there should be one lamb per household, uncircumcised (men) cannot eat from it, and it must be consumed in its entirety in a concrete period of time (12:8- 10).

At first glance these features seem to be disconnected; one speaks to who is allowed to participate, the others to how, where and when. In fact they are all related; all reflect the central feature of the sacrifice, and perhaps the event of the Exodus - wholeness. Roasting on a spit, as they would have done rather than boiling, ensures that the animal stays intact through the cooking process. The whole household is part of the ritual and the whole animal must be consumed. Even the seemingly unrelated circumcision criterion shares this feature. From the perspective of Hazal (the Rabbis) and likely the Bible itself, the foreskin is an extra and unnecessary body part; to remove it is to become perfect and in a sense whole. Yaakov, for instance, is believed by the Midrash to have been born 'perfect' - circumcised.

This moment of the Exodus that will be recreated for generations to come is marked by wholeness and perfection. In some sense the units of time mentioned in the Parsha, the night and the month, also represent whole, concrete units.

This analysis represents the way that we often talk about the Exodus, as the melting pot, the creation of nation out of a family of individuals.

It is however important to note, now more than ever, that this concept of wholeness comes with a price. While the sacrifice ritual allows for foreigners to participate, the way of entry into the group is painful and bloody and surely not for everyone. In the end the coherence of the group, the people of Israel, is preserved by excluding others. To use this metaphor somewhat crassly, the foreskins of those who want to participate are cast aside, as are those who are unwilling to be circumcised. The moment of inclusion of some is predicated on the exclusion of others. Our national identity depends both on connecting with each other and disconnecting with others; this is a challenge we continue to face in every generation.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion by Rabbi Shoshana Cohen, CY Faculty (Talmud and Midrash), 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/>