



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

October 28 - November 4, 2016 | 26 Tishrei - 3 Cheshvan, 5777
Parashat Bereshit

| Friday, October 28 26 Tishrei | | | | Parashat Bereshit Saturday, October 29 27 Tishrei | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| Candle Lighting 5:38PM Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM | | | | Parashat Hashavua 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Bat Mitzvah of Frayda Lieber Learners Minyan 10:45AM Mini Minyan Tot Shabbat JC 11:15AM Judaism & Art with Rina 1:00PM | | |
| Sunday October 30 28 Tishrei | Monday October 31 29 Tishrei | Tuesday November 1 30 Tishrei | Wednesday November 2 1 Cheshvan | Thursday November 3 2 Cheshvan | Friday November 4 3 Cheshvan | Saturday November 5 4 Cheshvan |
| Hebrew School 9:30AM Border Crossers Conversation about Race Training 1:00PM | | Rosh Chodesh 7:00AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Last day to RSVP for Path of the Mensch | Rosh Chodesh 7:00AM Hebrew School 4:00PM | Torah Study and Papermaking Class 7:00PM | PJ Library Music Class: It's Friday! 10:30AM <i>Candle Lighting</i> 5:30PM Lev Tahor 6:30PM | Shabbat <i>Noach</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Levav Mini Minyan Tot Shabbat JC 11:15AM Bat Mitzvah of Chay Quigley – Mincha 4:00PM |
| 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) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education & Family Programming (Aileen.Heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org) | | |

Mazal Tov! To **Frayda, Amy, Janno** and siblings **Rhea** and **Simon** on **Frayda's** Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat!

Todah Rabbah To **Amy Glosser** and **Janno Lieber** for their contribution to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of **Frayda's** Bat Mitzvah.

HaMakom Yenachem: Our condolences to **Susana Honig** and her family on the death of her father, **Herman Epelbaum**, z"l. Our condolences to **Tori Rosen** and her family on the death of her sister, **Maggie Potts**, z"l.

Yahrzeits: 27 Tishrei-3 Cheshvan:

Abraham Sinow, father of Miriam Fleischmann; **Bessie Sommer**, observed by the PSJC community; **Dorothy Simon**, grandmother of Ellen Simon; **Dr. Meyer B. Strauss**, father of Deborah Strauss; **Elizabeth Quigley**, mother of Lawrence Quigley; **Eva Reich Klein**, mother of Oscar Klein; **Hart Rosenberg**, brother of Dale Rosenberg; **Jacob Rosenzweig**, grandfather of Gavrielle and Myron Levine; **Marvin Canner**, father of Barbara Canner-Marshall; **Mary Koltenuk**, great-aunt of Alan Palmer; **Miriam Robins**, mother of Susan Robins; **Roslyn Rothenberg**, aunt of Alan Palmer; **Sara Saidenberg Duchowny Temkin**, grandmother of Diana Duchowny; **Sylvia Blank**, aunt of Gavrielle and Myron Levine; **William Arnold Brown**, brother-in-law of Karen Friedland.
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



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Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, October 29 | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with our Rabbinic Intern, Rina Bergman. It's a great lead in to the Shabbat morning services.

Learner's Minyan

Saturday, October 29 | 10:45AM

Exploring the hows and whys of prayer, this is a class for adults who want to know more about the Shabbat morning service, with Rina Bergman.

Judaism and Art

Saturday, October 29 | 1:00PM

Join our rabbinic intern Rina for the first of a number of sessions throughout the year on the world of Jewish art and the people who make it. The class will explore religious artworks grounded in Jewish texts, modern and contemporary Jewish art, Israeli art and more. For more information, please contact rinabergman@gmail.com.

Border Crossers: Conversation About Race Training

Sunday, October 30 | 1:00PM-5:00PM

Please join us for this very special opportunity! Through a grant from the UJA-Federation of NY, we are able to offer this training for FREE.

Border Crossers' mission is to train and empower people to dismantle patterns of racism and injustice in our schools and communities. We are so excited to have PSJC members take part in this very special event. Open to the entire community and including a focus on talking with children, the training will help people gain:

- Tools to address misconceptions about race and reverse unconscious racial bias
- Skills for approaching age-appropriate conversations using a racial equity lens
- Deeper understanding for how children see race

Please RSVP <https://www.psjc.org/form/border-crossers.html>. There will be a potluck dinner after the meeting.

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, November 4, 11 and 18 | 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.

Path of the Mensch Registration required by November 1, 2016!

November 9 - April 5

The World of Mussar is opening before you and you are invited to enter. Come join in small group study, led by Rabbi Carie Carter, as we embark on a program of study and practice in the Jewish spiritual tradition of Mussar (Jewish Spiritual Ethics). Using Alan Morinis' book, *Everyday Holiness* and a curriculum developed by The Mussar Institute, we will explore what Jewish tradition has to teach us about the traits of humility, gratitude, and patience, among others, and discover how we can improve these qualities in our own lives.

In between group sessions, you will meet with your chevruta (study partner). The 10 session course has two sections available: Wednesdays | 1:00PM | Nov 9, 30, Dec 14, Jan 4, 18, Feb 1, 15, Mar 8, 22, Apr 5 and Thursdays | 7:00PM | Nov 17, Dec 1, 15, Jan 5, 19, Feb 2, 16, Mar 2, 16, 30. This program is appropriate for all. Please register here by **November 1, 2016**. Cost: \$90/Members \$100/Non-Members

Bringing Your Can to Shul: The PSJC Food Drive continues with donations expected in the bins around the building. Send any questions to caroldiamond@optonline.com.

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



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Image-Ing The "Ger" - The Stranger | Torah Study and Papermaking around the idea of the "Ger"

Thursdays | 7:00PM-9:30PM | November 3, 10 | December 8, 22

In this class we will explore the theme of the foreigner, in Hebrew "ger", and what this means for all of us, individually, nationally, religiously, and spiritually, in our personal lives and in the broader social context of America and the world. We will explore what the Torah has to teach us about gerim, and then use our discussions and learning as a springboard for our own artistic expressions. Everyone will have the opportunity to create an artwork of handmade paper and a final multi-layered collage. In this class we will work small scale, make handmade paper, and cast pulp in molds. Once dry, the different paper components can be collaged together into a final layered artwork reflecting our thoughts and feelings about this theme. Sketching, drawing, and painting will also be part of the process. Taught by artist Aura Shahaf-Woelfle and Rabbi Carie Carter. Please RSVP <https://www.psjc.org/art-papermaking.html> Cost (includes cost of supplies) \$60.

Lev Tahor: Sing, Shmooze and Learn How Communities Save Lives

Friday, November 4 | 6:30PM

Join PSJC's Lev Tahor, all-sung, lay led Kabbalat Shabbat service, and raise your voice in song and celebration - of one dear member's milestone birthday (details soon!) and the role of JACS, a support group for Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons and Significant Others, in the lives of many in our community. Community life means none of us have to struggle alone; come and learn how JACS makes its vital, life-saving difference. A festive catered meal will follow services; please book ahead for fish or vegetarian options (**November 2 deadline**, \$20/adult; for children, \$1/year of age) at www.psjc.org/forms/levtahornov4

The Plot Against America | PSJC Book Discussion

Saturday, November 5 | 12:30PM (following Services)

The Shabbat before Election Day, we will discuss *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth, a work of speculative fiction in which Charles Lindbergh runs for president in 1940 as the Republican nominee on an America First isolationist platform and defeats President Roosevelt.

PSJC Etz Chaim Project: Build Our Shul and Our Community



Sunday, November 6 | 1:00PM and Wednesday, November 16 | 7:00PM

PSJC members and friends are invited to join a series of open community conversations this fall to explore how PSJC can **continue to grow**, in number, strength and vigor; **better support** our members and leaders; and develop programs and services to **expand our community's reach**. The meetings will take place at PSJC with additional conversations planned for November and December. Please **make your voice heard** - contact Helen Zelon: hzelon@gmail.com for details and information.

Shabbat Shmooze

Hosted on Prospect Avenue, between Terrace Place and Seeley Street

Saturday, November 19 | 1:30PM

Let's walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Pot Luck Lunch (after the Kiddush following Shabbat morning services). Bring a parve/dairy/veggie pot luck dish to share. The Shabbat Shmooze offers the chance to get to know some of the PSJC community and spend time with those you already know. It is a great way to keep the Shabbat vibe going all afternoon long.

UJA Synagogue Inclusion Project Survey

Jewish tradition teaches that "It is not up to us to complete the task, but neither are we free to stop trying." Our official participation the 16-month UJA Synagogue Inclusion Project has come to a close. We're proud of the work we have accomplished, from providing lightweight, large-print siddurim and machzorim, to a morning of learning about inclusion for Hebrew School families. We also know there is still work to do. Please take a few moments to fill out the survey from the grant providers, so that we can see how far we have come and continue to set goals for the future: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/syn_inclusion_CongW2.



Torah Parashat Bereshit

Triennial (Genesis 1:1-6:8): Etz Hayim p. 3-12; Hertz p. 2-6
Haftarah (Isiah 42:5-43:10): Etz Hayim p. 35-40; Hertz p. 21-25

Diagnosing the Human Condition

Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein, CY Faculty (*Talmud, Midrash, Halacha*)

Biblical scholars like to call the story of Cain's murder of Abel an etiological (causational) tale of the origins of fratricide or murder. Some have even seen it as a struggle between shepherds and agrarians. Often such explanations reflected more about the spirit of the age of the interpreter than it did about the plain meaning of the story. It was uncommon for Rabbinic sages to make such overarching interpretations of stories. When they did, they were often prompted by textual anomalies in how a story was told. When they noted something unusual, it provided them with an opportunity to express through the story something about their own thinking.

The scene where Cain confronts Abel has just such a peculiarity: "Cain said to his brother Abel... and when they were in the field, Cain set upon his brother Abel and killed him." (4:8) The seeming lacuna in this sentence, represented by the three dots here, provided the sages in the following midrash an opportunity to "fill in the blank": "What did they quarrel about? 'Come,' said they, 'let's divide the world', One took the land and the other took the movable property. One said, 'The land you are standing on is mine,' while the other said, 'What you are wearing is mine!' One said, 'Strip' while the other said, 'Get off [my land].' As a consequence of the quarrel, Cain rose up against his brother Abel. Rabbi Yehoshua of Siknin offered another explanation in the name of Rabbi Levi: Both took land and both took movables, so then, what did they quarrel about? One claimed, 'The Temple must be built on my land' while the other claimed, 'It must be built on my land.' Out of this argument, Cain rose up against his brother Abel. Yehudah ben Rabbi said: Their quarrel was about the first Eve (The woman created in the story in Genesis 1). Said Rabbi Aibu: 'The first Eve had returned to dust.' So, then what was their quarrel about? Said Rabbi Huna: An additional twin was born with Abel, and each claimed her. The one claimed: 'I will have her, because I am the firstborn, while the other maintained: 'I must have her, because she was born with me.'" (Adapted from Bereishit Rabbah 22:7)

This brilliant "criminological" insight used the Torah's etiological story to chime in on the question of what makes people commit violent crimes. Its assessment of the human condition when read into the story of Cain and Abel offers all of us a lesson in the requisite self-control necessary for building civilization.

The weekly Haftarah Commentary By Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein, Senior CY Faculty in Talmud and Midrash, may be found at; <http://www.uscj.org.il/learn/commentaries/>

We Are Moving!

Not really, only our email platform is moving, PSJC will still be strong at 1320 8th Avenue. We will be using ShulCloud for all of our email communications starting around **November 1**. Please be sure you are on our **PSJC News** mailing list to get our weekly emails.

To do this, you can log-in to your ShulCloud account and manage your subscriptions under the My Account tab. Don't have an account? Don't worry, you can add yourself on the front page of our website.

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.