



Friday, May 17   12 Iyyar				Parashat Emor Saturday, May 18   13 Iyyar		
Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Judy Ribnick</b>   6:30PM Candle Lighting   7:56PM				<b>Simcha Shabbat!</b> Shacharit   10:00AM <b>Beth Pearson</b> <b>Bat Mitzvah Anniversary</b> Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan   11:15AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush   1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze   1:30PM		
Sunday May 19 14 Iyyar	Monday May 20 15 Iyyar	Tuesday May 21 16 Iyyar	Wednesday May 22 17 Iyyar	Thursday May 23 18 Iyyar	Friday May 24 19 Iyyar	Saturday May 25 20 Iyyar
PAI - Walking Group 9:00AM  Hebrew School Closing Assembly & Picnic 9:30AM		Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM	<b>Lag B'Omer</b>  Campfire Stories 7:30PM	Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Andrés/Gabriel Spokoiny</b> 6:30PM  Candle Lighting 7:56PM	<i>Shabbat B'har</i>  Shacharit   10:00AM  <b>Gabriel Spokoiny</b> <b>Bar Mitzvah</b>  Advanced Talmud 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, Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Elana Ayalon, Director of Administration (office@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

**Mazal Tov!**

To **Beth, Colleen** and **Sunita** on Beth's Bat Mitzvah Anniversary this Shabbat.

**Todah Rabbah**

To **Richard Lefkowitz** in memory of **Suzanne Schepps**, z"l for Friday Night Kiddush Fund this Shabbat.  
 To **Beth Pearson** and **Colleen Siegel** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund in honor of Beth's Bat Mitzvah Anniversary this Shabbat!

**HaMakom Yenachem**

Our condolences go to:

**Julie Greenspon** and family the death of Julie's father, **Barry Edward Greenspon**, z"l

**Joy Messer** and family on the death of Joy's father, **Leonard Messer**, z"l.

**Marty Moskowitz** and family on the death of his aunt, **Frances Rosenfeld**, z"l.

**Yahrzeits observed 13-19 Iyyar:**

**Agnes Herskovits**, mother of Steve Herskovits; **Ernie Schimel**, brother-in-law of Carol Diamond; **George Greenberg**, father of Dan Greenberg; **Hindley Mendelsohn**, step-father of Mindy Levine; **Isidore Monblatt**, father of Cathy Monblatt; **Rochelle Schwalb**, mother of Esther Schwalb; **Rose Spruchman**, great-aunt of Jan Orzeck; **Roslyn Glatman**, mother of Joan Glatman; **Rudolph Rothenberg**, father of Joel Rothenberg; **Ruth Feinstein**, aunt of Roberta Moskowitz; **Seymour Friedman**, father of Todd Friedman; **Seymour Rosenbaum**, father of Myra Rosenbaum; **Shirley Meyerson**, mother of Bruce Meyerson. *May their memories be for a blessing.*



PARK  
SLOPE  
JEWISH  
CENTER

May 17-25, 2019 12-20 Iyyar 5779  
Parashat Emor

### “Campfire Stories: PSJC Spring Benefit”

Join us before the event to celebrate. Lag B'Omer in the PSJC Beer Garden!  
Open to all. No cover charge. Kosher BBQ and beer will be available for sale.  
Kids are invited to enjoy s'mores and an outdoor movie screening. Kids 8 and up.  
Bring blankets to sit on! *Movie begins after sundown* \$10 each.  
Thank you for supporting our PSJC community!  
RSVP now: <https://www.psjc.org/lag-b-omer-storytelling2.html>



Saturday, May 18

#### **Simcha Shabbat** | 10:00AM

Join us as we will acknowledge our members who are celebrating their May birthdays & anniversaries.

#### **Kishkush Acharei Kiddush** | 1:00PM

Are you comfortable speaking Hebrew? Do you want a place to speak with other fluent Hebrew speakers? Join us after services and kiddush where we have a Shulchan Ivrit - a table to sit around, drink coffee and talk with one another in Hebrew. Those who aren't sure if they are “fluent” or not are all welcome! Contact Michal:  
[Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com](mailto:Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com) for more details.

#### **Shabbat Shmooze** | 1:30PM

Home of Marjorie, Joel and Sam Rothenberg | 318 10th Street - 2fl between 4th and 5th Avenues  
Let's walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Potluck 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.

#### **End of the Year Hebrew School Celebration**

Sunday, May 19 | 9:30AM - 12:30PM

Celebrate with the Hebrew School community as we honor our students, families, and teachers. Registration for 2019-2020 now open! [https://www.psjc.org/hebrew\\_school\\_registration](https://www.psjc.org/hebrew_school_registration)

#### **PAI - Book Club**

Tuesday, May 21 | 9:30AM

#### **Advanced Talmud**

Saturday, May 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).

#### **Board Meeting**

Thursday, May 30 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

#### **Shaarei Mitzvah 6&7 - Siyyum Shabbat dinner**

Friday, May 31 | 6:30PM

#### **Book Club - *Waking Lions* (Leha'ir Areyot)**

Saturday, June 1 | 1:30PM

Join us when Fairleigh Dickinson University anthropology professor and longtime PSJC member David Rosen and writer and book critic David Cooper will co-lead a discussion of *Waking Lions* (Leha'ir Areyot) by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, a novel about Eritrean illegal migrants and the Israelis whose lives intersect with them in Beersheba. BPL has ten print English copies and both English and Hebrew ebook editions. An audiobook version is available from [audible.com](http://audible.com).



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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED May 20-23 (Mon-Thurs)!**

PSJC partners with Brooklyn Heights Synagogue (BHS) as part of the CAMBA Respite Bed Program. Ten male guests who are homeless stay at BHS four nights a week; all are drug/alcohol-free and working toward finding permanent housing. Volunteers are needed **May 20/21/23** to spend the night as chaperones and **May 21/22/23** to prepare, deliver, and serve dinner for 12. Many PSJCers have volunteered in the past with family and friends (children should be at least bar mitzvah age to spend the night, but younger ones can help prepare and serve dinner). To access the sign-up, visit [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com), click the magnifying glass at upper right to search, and enter the email address [jennifer.bernstein@post.harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer.bernstein@post.harvard.edu). Or write or call Jennifer for more information: 917-648-9370.

**7th Annual Israel Film Center Festival | June 3 - 12**

This year PSJC is partnering with the Israel Film Center Festival at the JCC on the Upper West Side. Purchase your tickets today enter code **psjc19** for 25% off general admission: <https://jccmanhattan.org/film/israel-film-center-festival/>.

**Lev Tahor: Game Night!**

Friday, June 7

Lev Tahor's annual game night! Great fun for all ages.

Saturday, June 8

**Kishkush Reading Group** | 8:00 PM

**Communal Tikkun Leil Shavuot** | 8:30PM | CBE

A night of learning with your fellow Brooklynites at the start of Shavuot.

**Shavuot Services at PSJC**

Sunday, June 9 | 10:00AM | with Art Siyyum

Monday, June 10 | 10:00AM

Sunday, June 9

**Family Torah - Shavuot Style** | 11:00AM

An interactive exploration of the Torah and ice cream!

**Shavuot Picnic in Prospect Park** | 1:00PM

**Save the Date! PSJC goes to the Cyclones**

Sunday, June 23 | 4:00PM - **Deadline Monday, June 5**

Brooklyn Cyclones vs Staten Island Yankees. Tickets are \$18.00 each includes a Kosher Hot Dog and soft drink as well as the fashionable Cyclones cap, and an additional donation to would be appreciated. Buy tickets now! Visit: <http://www.psjc.org/event/bklyn-cyclones.html>

**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. **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), reading Torah, email Rabbi Sue Oren at [leyning@psjc.org](mailto:leyning@psjc.org). **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). 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](mailto:gmach@psjc.org) or [hevradkadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevradkadisha@psjc.org)

## Parashat Emor

Triennial: Leviticus 23:23-24:23 | Etz Hayim p.727; Hertz p.522; Plaut p.929

Haftarah: Ezekiel 44:15-31 | Etz Hayim p.734; Hertz p.528; Plaut p.1001

## D'var Torah: From Nothing to Everything

In describing the yearly cycle of festivals, Parshat Emor describes the period we are in now, the seven weeks between Pesach and Shavuot, commonly referred to as the Omer\*.

According to this description, this time period is all about grain. On Pesach ridding ourselves of chametz means getting rid of **last years grain** products. Having done that we turn to the new grain harvest (23:9-10) and bring an offering of the **first of the grain** (omer) to the priest. Until this offering is brought, which happens according to the Rabbis on the second day of Pesach, it is not permissible to use any of the new grain, as it says in verse 23:14: "You shall eat no bread or parched grain or fresh ears until that very day, until you have brought the offering of your God."

After omer offering is brought, we are to count seven weeks (23:15-16) and then bring another grain offering, know as "the two loaves." (23:17). These differ from the omer in that the omer is the sheaf itself whereas the two loaves are processed, made from flour ground from the new grain. According to the Mishna in Menachot 10:5 there is another difference between the omer offering and the two loaves.

(\* NOTE: when "Omer" appears capitalized, it refers to the counting of 7 weeks; when it is not capitalized, it refers to the "omer" offering.)

"The omer permits [the new grain] throughout the land, and the two loaves permit it in the Temple." The bringing of the omer offering allows people outside of the Temple to partake of the new harvest, whereas in the Temple the new harvest is not permissible for use until the bringing of the two loaves seven weeks later.

Following the details of special sacrifices on Shavuot (23:18-21), we get the laws of *leket* and *peah*, the command to leave the gleanings and corners of the field for the poor (23:22). Although this command applies year-round, it makes sense for it to appear here, when the Torah is discussing the grain harvest. But there may be a deeper message there as well.

The period from Pesach to Shavuot is about more than just the ripening of new grain; it is a time of transition from having nothing to having everything. The cleaning out of chametz on Pesach is a ritual representation of the state of having nothing we experienced in Egypt. In the same way the omer offering that is brought "When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest" is a ritual representation of what it means to have something. The pinnacle of this process is the two loaves, an offering made of processed loaves made of the finest flour. If Pesach is the holiday of *'lechem oni'* - the bread of poverty - Shavuot is the holiday of plenty and satisfaction.

As the Torah understands, it is best not to go directly from one the other, just like it is best not to eat an enormous meal after a fast. We need a process and this process is the counting of the Omer. During the harvest we set some aside, we bring the first fruits, we even hold off on bringing grain offering in the Temple. We carefully transition from a state of having nothing to a state in which we have everything. The offerings allow us to acknowledge that our bounty is not our own, that we are not solely responsible for our own success. The laws of *leket* and *peah* reinforce this message, ensuring that as we accumulate and take stock of our own success we see those around us who are less fortunate and make sure to make offerings to them as well.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Rabbi Shoshana Cohen**, *Conservative Yeshiva Faculty* "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks>.

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