

Friday, July 21 27 Tammuz				Shabbat Matot-Masei Saturday, July 22 28 Tammuz		
Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Carie Carter/Eden Wofsey 7:00PM Candle Lighting 8:04PM				Shabbat Morning Services 10:00AM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM		
Sunday July 23 29 Tammuz	Monday July 24 1 Av	Tuesday July 25 2 Av	Wednesday July 26 3 Av	Thursday July 27 4 Av	Friday July 28 5 Av	Saturday July 29 6 Av
	Rosh Chodesh Minyan 7:00AM	PSJC Trip to the Center for Jewish History 6:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM		Kabbalat Shabbat with Freddie Brooks 7:00PM Candle Lighting 7:57PM	Shabbat <i>Devarim</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Advanced Talmud 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) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) Marsha Stanley, Administrator (office@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Cheryl Berkowitz on the death of her mother, **Esther Berkowitz**, z"l.

Mo Weissfellner, Ellen Spilka and their children, **Charlie, Harry** and **Paul** on the death of **Mo's** mother, **Irene Rachel Weissfellner**, z"l.

The family of our former PSJC member, **Myra Rosenbaum**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 28 Tammuz-5 Av:

Albert Zalutsky, grandfather of Stuart Baron; **Anna Cohen**, grandmother of Debra Nussbaum Cohen; **Annette Nachumi**, aunt of Jan Orzeck; **Aviva Jacobs**, cousin of Gavrielle and Myron Levine; **Bessie Schulkin**, mother of Vivian Schulkin; **Charlene Greenspon**, mother of Julie Greenspon; **Daniel Stone**, cousin of Lisa Altshuler; **Edward Hawthorne**, father of Fran Hawthorne; **Evelyn Schnitzler**, mother of Mona Schnitzler; **Jean Aboobaker**, sister of Sophie Weber; **Josef Klein**, father of Oscar Klein; **Leon Handfinger**, father of Merrie Handfinger; **Leon Smukler**, father of Chalo Smukler; **Maxine Press**, mother of Aric Press; **Mervin Rosenberg**, father of Dale Rosenberg; **Morton Ruben**, father of Harolyn Cohen; **Reva Zimmerman Gross**, mother of Bruce Lee Gross; **Rose Harris**, grandmother of Beth Harris; **Samuel Sturman**, uncle of Steve Elworth; **Susan Hollander**, observed by the PSJC community. *May their memories be for a blessing.*

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Please Consider Making Your Contribution Today!

We now call upon all members to join our **\$750,000** Capital Campaign to provide **immediate repairs** and to ensure that PSJC continues to stand strong well into the 21st century!

Please stand up and generously donate to maintain and preserve our cherished spiritual home for this and future generations.

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Visit <https://www.psjc.org/capitalcampaign>



PSJC Knitters is on hiatus during July and August and will resume in September. For more information contact marjorie.rothenberg@gmail.com

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, July 22 | 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

Hebrew School Registration

Register now for the Hebrew School year 2017-2018
Email aileen.heiman@psjc.org for more information.

Annual Membership Renewal 2017-2018

Renew your membership today! It's easy and can all be done online.

Visit www.psjc.org and log in to your account.

We hope you will join us for another great year at PSJC!

We would love to get to 100% participation.

Please contact Eli Wolfhagen by email treasurer@psjc.org, if you have to arrange payments or limited income.

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. **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.

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



July 21-29, 2017 | 27 Tammuz-6 Av, 5777
Shabbat Matot-Masei

PSJC Trip to the Center for Jewish History

Tuesday, July 25 | 6:00PM | 15 West 16th Street, Manhattan

Joel Levy invites interested PSJC members to visit an extraordinary exhibition presented by Corpus Christi College, Oxford; the Center for Jewish History; & Yeshiva University Museum. The free special tour is followed by a talk by Gerard Baker, editor in chief of The Wall Street Journal (media sponsor of the exhibition) who will speak at 6:30PM on "News and Journalism in the Age of Trump." A reception will follow.

To RSVP or for more information send an email to jkaplan@cjh.org.

The exhibition, "500 Years of Treasures from Oxford" showcases in America for the first time an extraordinary array of ancient manuscripts, books, and silver, including what has been called "the most important collection of Anglo-Jewish manuscripts in the world."

The 50 works include a late 12th-century Ashkenazi siddur, thought to be the oldest extant anywhere, that was owned by a Sephardic Jew from the Iberian Peninsula who emigrated to England and wrote notes on his business dealings in Judeo-Arabic, a 13th-century manuscript of Samuel and Chronicles that was used by Christians to learn Hebrew, and two of the oldest manuscripts of Rashi.

Tisha B'Av Services

Monday, July 31 | 9:00PM

Tuesday, August 1 | 7:00AM

Tisha B'Av (the 9th day of Av) is observed this year on Monday evening, July 31st and Tuesday morning August 1st. Please join us for a stirring and evocative service. Tisha B'Av commemorates the destruction of both the first and second Temples, but over time, other Jewish tragedies have become connected to this date. Tisha B'Av, traditionally a fast day (fasting from sunset to the appearance of 3 stars the next night), is observed on Monday night by a relatively brief moving service in which we sit low or on the floor (like mourners) and read Eichah (Lamentations) - which is chanted to a particularly haunting melody. This is followed by the singing of kinot (similarly moving songs and elegies). We dim the lights and read by candles and flashlights. On Tuesday morning we read Torah and chant kinot as well.

Rosh Chodesh Elul Minyan

Wednesday, August 23 | 7:00AM

A Back-To-School Ha'Sadnah

August 21-25 | 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 craft program will focus on textile arts, including sewing, embroidery, and knitting. Registration is required.

Please visit: <https://www.psjc.org/event/a-back-to-school-hasadnah.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; **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at davening@psjc.org; **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at haftarah@psjc.org.

Shabbat Matot-Masei

Triennial (Numbers 30:2-31:54): Etz Hayim p. 941; Hertz p. 702
Haftarah (Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4): Etz Hayim p. 972; Hertz p. 725

The Women Who “Fix” Sefer Bemidbar (Numbers)

Sefer Bemidbar (the Book of Numbers) ends with a little incident, limiting somewhat the right of women to marry. It seems technical at first but indeed is a most fitting close for this difficult book. Last week (but two Parshas ago) the daughters of Zelophehad claim rights to the land in Canaan that would have been their father's, to perpetuate his name and legacy. Moses consulted with God ad hoc, and God responded favorably: “Zelophehad's daughters speak well (ken banot Zelophehad dovrot), give their father's share to them” (Num 27:1-7). A nice victory for the women, who up to now had no hereditary rights.

But as often happens with corrective legislation, solving one problem generates another. The leaders of Zelophehad's tribe, Menasheh, complain to Moshe that should Zelophehad's daughters marry “out of the tribe,” literally, that land will be taken from the tribe of Menasheh to the tribe of the husband/s, distorting the distribution of the land to the tribes to be done by lottery.

There are interesting parallels in the two situations. When Zelophehad's daughters raised their claim originally, Moshe, flummoxed, brought the question to God for guidance, as he had with the blasphemer, Pesach Sheni (the Second Passover), and the Shabbat stick-gatherer, whom, coincidentally, the Midrash identifies as Zelophehad. In our parashah Moshe “instructs the [people] at the Lord's bidding (al pi Hashem).” Whether al pi Hashem means a formal consultation, as Moshe had previously had, is not clear, but the result is significant. It is Moshe who speaks here, but the words are familiar: “The Josephites [Menasheh's leaders] speak well (ken...dovrim).” Moshe recognizes their claim in the same language God had used to recognize that of Zelophehad's daughters. A compromise is reached – women inheriting the family land may marry only within their tribe. The daughters of Zelophehad “did as the Lord commanded, marrying cousins, thus keeping their father's land in the tribe of Menasheh” (vs. 10-12).

As in our own time, progress on women's rights takes time and has its ups and downs. The removal of this limit on the woman's right to marry and still inherit will come in Rabbinic times and be commemorated in several weeks, on Tu B'Av (the 15th of Av). The Talmud (Taanit 30b) says that on that day, amongst other things, “permission was granted to the tribes to inter-marry.” The removal of tribal barriers to marriage is actually a critical moment in Jewish history. The Sages have pushed the “tipping point” towards “Jewish peoplehood,” not unlike the transition of the United States from a confederation of relatively independent colonies in 1776 to a more centrally governed union in 1789.

It's fitting that Sefer Bemidbar ends noting that Zelophehad's daughters “did as the Lord commanded Moses” (36:10). It sounds casual but it is not. The trip through Bemidbar, the book and the desert, has been difficult. It began with 10 chapters of getting the tribes in order and the camp arranged to enter the Land and fulfill the Divine plan, but then everything went wrong. Complaints, lack of faith and even rebellion left the children of Israel in the desert 39 years longer than the original Divine plan. Avivah Zornberg says that the turning point, for good, came with the claim of banot Zelophehad. God recognized their courage and integrity, ken banot Zelophehad dovrot, “they are right.” And they are right here, too, restoring the order in the camp with which the book had begun. They have enabled tikun, correction. Through them the children of Israel, and indeed the Torah, are back on course.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by Rabbi Daniel Goldfarb, from the “Torah Sparks” series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. Rabbi Daniel Goldfarb is a Coordinator of Torah Sparks of the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein of the Conservative Yeshiva may be found at <http://www.uscj.org.il/learn/commentaries/>