



Friday, December 15   27 Kislev				Parashat Vayeshev Saturday, December 16   28 Kislev		
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Candle</i>				<i>5<sup>th</sup> Candle</i>		
Candle Lighting   4:10PM Chanukkah Dinner at Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu   6:30PM				Shacharit   10:00AM Havurat Shabbat   9:30AM <b>Charlotte Lewine Bat Mitzvah</b> Family Torah   10:30AM Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan   11:15AM Jr. Congregation   11:15AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush   1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze   1:30PM		
Sunday December 17 29 Kislev	Monday December 18 30 Kislev	Tuesday December 19 1 Tevet	Wednesday December 20 2 Tevet	Thursday December 21 3 Tevet	Friday December 22 4 Tevet	Saturday December 23 5 Tevet
<i>6<sup>th</sup> Candle</i>	<i>7<sup>th</sup> Candle</i>	<i>8<sup>th</sup> Candle</i>	Chanukah Morning Minyan 7:00AM	Café Ivrit 7:00PM	It's Friday Music Class   10:00AM	<i>Shabbat Vayigash</i>
Hebrew School 9:30AM	Rosh Chodesh Tevet Minyan 7:00AM	Rosh Chodesh Tevet Minyan 7:00AM	Hebrew School 4:00PM		Candle Lighting 4:11PM	Shacharit   10:00AM
Hebrew Cooking with Shinshinim 2:00PM	An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 1:00PM	An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 1:00PM	Gesher 6:15PM	Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Alan Palmer</b> 6:30PM	Advanced Talmud 1:30PM	
Shir Chadash Concert 7:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Board Meeting 7:15PM			
<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) 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 **Charlotte, Megan** and **Edward** in honor of Charlotte's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat!

**Todah Rabbah**

To **Megan Liberman** and **Edward Lewine** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of Charlotte's Bat Mitzvah.

**HaMakom Yenachem**

Our condolences go to:

**Steve Elworth** and his family on the death of Steve's mother, **Elaine Elworth**, z"l.

**Orly Dabush Nitzan** and her family on the death of Orly's father, **Shalom Dabush**, z"l.

**Debbie Gillman** and her family on the death of Debbie's father, **Rabbi Neil Gillman**, z"l.

**Yahrzeits observed 28 Kislev-5 Tevet:**

**Annette Baron**, mother of Jeffrey Baron; **Asaad Eidi Vejdany**, brother of Suad Noah; **David Miller**, grandfather of Reva Grossberg; **Elaine Ritter Kramer**, cousin of Yehudit Moch; **Eleanor Honig**, mother of Les Honig; **Hazel Baumann**, aunt of Fredrica Brooks; **Ida Halberstam**, mother of Aron Halberstam; **Irving Drucker**, grandfather of Ira Drucker; **Libby Kubzansky**, grandmother of Paul Cohen; **Marvin Bashner**, father of Richard Bashner; **Maurice Rahmey**, father of Eileen Rahmey; **Rosalie Roberts Sklar**, mother of Marc Sklar; **Shirley Ettlinger**, mother of M. Allan Ettlinger; **Sophie Dorlester Shore**, mother of Jane Dorlester. *May their memories be for a blessing.*



December 15-23, 2017 | 27 Kislev-5 Tevet 5778  
Parashat Miketz

### **Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu & PSJC Chanukah Celebration**

Friday, December 15 | 6:30PM

Join us for a musical Shabbat celebration for all ages! Services begin in the sanctuary with Abe, followed by a communal dinner - everyone is welcome! Main Entrees will be provided, plus some extra special Chanukah treats! RSVPs are not required, but are helpful to ensure enough food. RSVP here: <https://www.psjc.org/form/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu.html>

### **Kishkush Acharei Kiddush**

Saturday, December 16 | 1:00PM

Are you comfortable speaking Hebrew? Do you want a place to speak with other fluent Hebrew speakers? Join us the third Shabbat of the month after services and kiddush where we will 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 more than welcome to join as well! Perfect for fluent Hebrew Speakers. Contact [Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com](mailto:Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com) for more details.

### **Shabbat Shmooze**

Saturday, December 16 | 1:30PM

Hosted by Louise Heit-Radwell and Steven Radwell

20 Plaza Street East between Vanderbilt and Flatbush Avenues

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together in the home of a PSJC member. Bring a dairy or pareve potluck dish to share. For those participating in the Kishkush Acharei Kiddush first, we look forward to you continuing the conversation at the Shabbat Shmooze afterwards. As usual, the Shabbat Shmooze is a veggie/dairy pot-luck lunch open to the PSJC community.

### **Hebrew Cooking with the Shinshinim!**

Sunday, December 17 | 2:00PM-4:00PM

Join our Shinshinim (18 year old Israelis here for a year of service)! Learn to prepare delicious Israeli dishes using Hebrew! Whether you are fluent or don't know Alef from Bet, this will be a great opportunity to pick up some Kitchen-Hebrew and have a great time cooking. This experience is **open to all**, but it is **geared toward elementary and middle school aged children and their families**. And it ends with dinner together, eating "the fruits" of our labor. We will also meet January 28 and March 18. A donation of \$5/family/session is requested - just to cover materials. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rabbi Carter at [rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org).

### **Rosh Chodesh Tevet Minyan**

Monday, December 18 and Tuesday, December 19 | 7:00AM

### **The Rabbi Who Killed His Purim Guest: An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year**

Tuesday, December 19 | 1:00PM | PSJC Library

Join Rabbinic Intern, Leora Kling Perkins, as we follow the Jewish year by reading selections of the Talmud related to Jewish holidays. As we study, we'll learn more about who the rabbis were, and what they were doing when they created the Talmud. This class will be taught primarily using English translations, and is aimed at beginning to advanced learners.

### **Board Meeting**

Wednesday, December 20 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

**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 [hevrakadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevrakadisha@psjc.org).

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



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### **Café Ivrit - Mid-Level Hebrew with our Community Shaliach Noam Willner**

Thursday, December 21 | 7:00PM

Would you like to practice speaking Hebrew over coffee together with other Brownstone Brooklyn friends? If so, Café Ivrit is the right place for you. The group will discuss different issues in Hebrew and will practice new words and ways to express yourself better in Hebrew. All this in a non-judgmental and safe environment. Perfect for someone who can communicate in Hebrew, but is not yet fluent. To determine if this is the class for you, or to RSVP, please contact Noam at [NoamW@jafi.org](mailto:NoamW@jafi.org).

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

Friday, December 22 | 10:00AM | \$12 per class (\$10 per members)

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. For more information, [www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html](http://www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html)

### **Advanced Talmud**

Saturday, December 23 | 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).

### **Author Talk following Lev Tahor: Pamela Laskin will discuss her novel *Ronit and Jamil***

#### **Lev Tahor Services followed by Potluck Dinner and Talk**

Friday, January 5 | 6:30 PM

Come out and sing during services. Following a dairy/pareve potluck dinner, we will listen to Pam lead a discussion of Ronit and Jamil. If you have questions, please [lev.tahor@psjc.org](mailto:lev.tahor@psjc.org). You can sign up for the dinner, <https://tinyurl.com/LevTahor-Jan-5-18>

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

Saturday, January 6 | 1:20PM

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 email [rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org) for information about this study group.

### **Book Discussion - *Two She-Bears***

Saturday, January 13 | 1:30PM

PSJCers join clinical psychologist, and psychology professor Warren Spielberg and David Cooper will co-lead a discussion about *Two She-Bears* by Meir Shalev, a multigenerational historical novel set on a rural Israeli village of private farms that explores the psychological aspects of violence and masculinity and whether the two are interconnected. BPL has 17 print copies.

### **Save the Date -- and Get Involved: MLK Day of Service**

Sunday, January 14 | 10:00AM-2:00PM

PSJC's Annual MLK Day of Service is gearing up for another year of soup kits, snack kits, knitting, cooking (on and off-site), shul-beautification and more. Perfect for PSJCers of all ages, we promise plenty of activities to benefit the community and organizations beyond PSJC, like the Brooklyn Family Justice Center, Brooklyn Legal Aid, God's Love We Deliver, HIAS, Methodist Hospital and soup kitchens CHIPS and MASBIA. MLK planners also warmly welcome extra hands in the weeks before the event -- we need your help to make MLK Day great! Contact Helen Zelon, [hzelon@gmail.com](mailto:hzelon@gmail.com) for details -- and thanks in advance for working hard for a better world.

**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). **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).



### Parashat Miketz Shabbat Chanukah

Triennial: Genesis 41:53-43:15 | Etz Hayim p.257; Hertz p.158; Plaut p.267

Maftir: Numbers 7:30-35 | Etz Hayim p.809; Hertz p.599; Plaut p.1071

Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7 | Etz Hayim p.1269; Hertz p.987; Plaut p. 1259

Sigmund Freud considered dreams the “royal road to the unconscious” - glimpses of the way we wrestle with repressed material our ego hides from our conscious minds. For Freud, it is the dreamer who is revealed to the dream interpreter. It would appear that this is how Joseph’s brothers understand dreams - the bowing wheat and celestial bodies signs that Joseph wants to, expects to, or thinks he already does rule over them. So they resent him, mock him, and punish him, taking the one who thinks he is above them, and casting him down. But perhaps the real reason the brothers seek Joseph’s death, and eventually sell him into slavery, is that they fear that Joseph’s dreams reveal the future itself, not just how the dreamer feels about the past or present. If so, the brothers’ act is their desperate attempt to avert the prophecy.

But did Joseph know that his dreams were visions of the future? When Joseph tells his brother about his dreams, he does so without interpretation, so it is unclear if Joseph has already seen how everything is to unfold. Our only evidence is his silence and inaction. Before leaving to find his brothers, he speaks with his father. When he reaches Shechem, he speaks to the man who find him there. But from the moment he finds his brothers to his being taken away to Egypt, he says nothing. He does not ask them what they are doing or why, he does not cry out for them to stop, and he doesn’t bemoan his situation. He seems to accept it all, if not expect it. Whether or not he has seen the specifics, he seems confident it will turn out alright. For the cupbearer and baker, however, Joseph not only explains the general message of the dreams, but also how and when they will come true. He delivers the pronouncements flatly, and both the cupbearer and baker accept them wordlessly, further indication of their collective belief that the future cannot be altered - either due to its very nature or the limited options available to an imprisoned man with only 3 days to live.

For Pharaoh’s dreams Joseph again interprets both their meaning and the how and when they will come true. But here, something changes. Even though the dream says that the seven bad years will fully consume the good years, such that “no trace of the abundance will be left in the land because of the famine thereafter” and that “the matter has been determined by God” he convinces Pharaoh that it is nevertheless possible to avert the negative prophecy, if only he adopts Joseph’s plan and puts a certain guy in charge of it all. But if human action can change Egypt’s future that opens up the possibility that the brothers’ actions had altered Joseph’s future, and Joseph is roused to action. After meeting 10 of his brothers, he sets in motion a complex and convoluted plan to get them to bring Benjamin, the 11th (42:20). Why? Because in his first dream (37:7) ALL of the brothers’ wheat sheafs bowed down to his! When all of the brothers are present in Egypt, Joseph’s first dream has come true. But in order to make the second come true, Joseph must reveal himself to his brothers and get them to convince Jacob and Leah (and the rest of Jacob’s house) to come down to Egypt (45:9). Why? Because in his second dream (37:9) the Sun and Moon bowed to him as well!

Over the course of his life, Joseph goes from one who sees, to one who interprets, to one who acts. He understands that the future is not always given; human action can prevent a negative prophecy from coming true, a positive prophecy from coming true, and can even fix a prophecy that has been broken. As Rabbi Akiva says in Pirkei Avot: “Everything is foreseen, and free will is given.” And as Rabbi Nachman of Breslov taught: “if you believe that you can damage something, believe you can fix it”.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Rabbi Andy Shapiro Katz**, CY Director of North American Engagement from the “Torah Sparks” series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks/>

**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.