



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

February 9-17, 2018 | 24 Shevat-2 Adar 5778
Parashat Mishpatim Shabbat Shekalim

Friday, February 9 24 Shevat				Parashat Mishpatim Shabbat Shekalim Saturday, February 10 25 Shevat		
Candle Lighting 5:05PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Leora 6:30PM				New Member Shabbat Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Parashat Hashavua 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan Jr. Congregation 11:15AM Praying for Our Country 1:20PM Shaarei Mitzvah 7 5:30PM		
Sunday February 11 26 Shevat	Monday February 12 27 Shevat	Tuesday February 13 28 Shevat	Wednesday February 14 29 Shevat	Thursday February 15 30 Shevat	Friday February 16 1 Adar	Saturday February 17 2 Adar
Hebrew School 9:30AM Pre Purim Sing-a-Long with Abe 10:30AM	An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 12:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher 6:00PM	Rosh Chodesh Adar Minyan 7:00AM Café Ivrit 7:00PM	Rosh Chodesh Adar Minyan 7:00AM It's Friday Music Class 10:00AM Candle Lighting 5:14PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Susana Honig 6:30PM	<i>Terumah</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 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) 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)		

Todah Rabbah

To the PSJC community for their contribution to the Kiddush Fund in honor of our new members this Shabbat.

Shalach Manot Campaign

Jewish tradition commands us to fulfill the mitzvah of Shalach Manot on Purim. At PSJC we make it easy for you, while at the same time supporting the growth and success of our community. Fulfilling a mitzvah, sweet treats, and a fundraiser for PSJC all in one! Why wait? To order yours today, visit <https://www.psjc.org/campaign/shalach-manot-2018.html> ! **Order Deadline: Monday, February 26**



HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Steven Marks and family on the death of his father, **Leroy Nelson Marks**, z"l.

Eli Wolfhagen and family on the death of his grandmother, **Adele Youdin**, z"l.

Miriam Fleischmann and family on the death of her mother, **Florence B. Sinow**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 25 Shevat-1 Adar:

Dorothy Lane Kerr, mother of Grace Kerr; **Esther Rose Mehlman**, cousin of Angela Weisl; **Frieda Krasner**, mother of Bonnie Ullman; **Geraldine Aaront Simon**, mother of Ellen Simon; **Gertrude Rosen**, mother of David Rosen; **Hannah Abrams Marker**, mother of Rabbi Jeffrey Marker; **Harold Brooks**, father of Lia Brooks; **Hyman Elworth**, uncle of Steve Elworth; **Jack Bornstein**, father of Peter Bornstein; **Lily Cohen**, grandmother of Paul Cohen; **Louis Fishman**, father of Reba Snyder; **Mildred Drucker**, grandmother of Ira Drucker; **Milton Alter**, father of Daniel Alter; **Moe Pollack**, grandfather of David Pollack; **Peggy Potts**, mother of Tori Rosen; **Rose Sidman**, mother of Alan Sidman; **Shirley Zeitlin**, mother of June Zeitlin. *May their memories be for a blessing.*



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Purim 2018 is near!

Can you chant Megillah? Would you like to chant at PSJC this year? Purim will be here sooner than you think - Erev Purim Megillah reading is on the evening of February 28! If you would like to participate in chanting Megillah or if you want to be involved in this year's Purim Shpiel, please contact Elizabeth Schnur: esschnur@gmail.com.

Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, February 10 | 9:30AM

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

New Members' Shabbat

Saturday, February 10

Join us in warmly welcoming members who recently joined our community at Shabbat morning services on February 10, followed by a festive kiddush. We love to celebrate new members' presence and commitment to the PSJC community.

Praying for our Country

Saturday, February 10 | 1:20PM

Jews have been living in and praying for countries with oppressive regimes for much longer than we have lived under democracy. Come and explore what prayers for our country have looked like over the ages and in the present, and what this means for how we might relate to governments we do- or don't- agree with. Taught by Rabbinic Intern Leora Kling Perkins.

Pre-Purim Sing-A-Long with Abe

Sunday, February 11 | 10:30AM

Start the merry-making early! Come join us for another holiday sing-a-long with our Tot Shabbat leader, Abe. We'll have coffee and nosh available. Designed for ages 0-3 and a caregiver. Suggested donation \$5. RSVP https://www.psjc.org/event/purim_pre_party.

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

Monday, February 12 and 26 | 12:00PM

Join Leora Kling Perkins, as we follow the Jewish year by reading selections of the Talmud related to Jewish holidays. We'll learn 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.

Rosh Chodesh Adar Minyan

Thursday, February 15 | 7:00AM

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

Thursday, February 15 | 7:00PM

Would you like to practice speaking Hebrew over coffee with other Brownstone Brooklyn friends? Café Ivrit is the right place for you! The group discusses different issues in Hebrew and 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.

Rosh Chodesh Adar Minyan

Friday, February 16 | 7:00AM

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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SAVE THE DATE! PSJC Auction & Tropical Party | Saturday, April 14

Slip on your flip flops, pop on your aloha shirt and join us for some tropical fun! Delicious margaritas, yummy desserts & funky music, plus exciting live & silent auction to benefit PSJC! More info to come regarding soliciting goods & services, ads, and sponsorship, so keep your eyes peeled! Please contact auction@psjc.org to help with this fun event.

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, February 16 | 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

Kishkush Acharei Kiddush

Saturday, February 17 | 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 will have a Shulchan Ivrit - a table to sit around, drink coffee and talk with one another in Hebrew. Contact Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com for more details.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, February 17 | 1:30PM

Our community is invited to a vegetarian pot-luck lunch following service and Kiddush. This is a child-friendly home. The kish-kush Hebrew conversation can continue at the Shmooze. Please join us!

Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick

Friday, February 23 | 6:30PM

Mock Treif Banquet & Purim Vision Song Contest with Judy Ribnick

Friday, February 23 | 7:30PM

Join us for our annual Mock Treif Banquet following Services. Bring your favorite dairy, pareve, vegetarian "TREIF" Dishes to share...and be prepared to sing the night away with Judy and her Purim Parodies. To enter your own Purim songs in our first ever "Purim Vision" Song Contest, please send the words of your song office@psjc.org by noon on **Tuesday, February 20**, so copies can be made for all.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, February 24 | 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.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 27 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

Purim at PSJC

Wednesday, February 28

Join us to celebrate Purim! In addition to services and our main Megillah reading, for all ages.

Tot Megillah & Sing-a-long | 6:15PM

Main Service & Community Megillah Reading & Purim Shpiel | 6:30PM

Family Megillah & Puppets | 6:45PM

Costume Parade | 7:30PM

Community Megillah Reading

Thursday, March 1 | 7:00AM

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



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Triennial: Exodus 22:4-23:19 | Etz Hayim p.465; Hertz p.311

Maftir: Exodus 30:11-16 | Etz Hayim p.523; Hertz p.352

Haftarah: 2 Kings 12:1-17 | Etz Hayim p.1276; Hertz p. 992

Don't Oppress The Sojourner - We Have Been There

Do we remember? The feeling of being the outsider, the ones with no right to complain when we are harassed? The fear of upsetting those who hold our fate in their hands? The knowledge that we don't belong in the only home that we know?

We were there. We were in Egypt (and through history – in many more countries), and we did not belong. Our bowed heads caused alarms, our mere existence was threatening. We might have felt local, but we were sojourners. We looked different, we had our own story. We were strangers. Dangerous by our presence.

'A sojourner you shall not oppress; you know the feelings of the sojourner for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt!' So goes the warning of the Torah. Who knows better than us the shame, the desperation, the impossible attempt to belong, having no other place to go? We are a nation born out of a narrative of bondage and social weakness. We should never need to be commanded to treat the weak and the sojourner among us with care, with compassion. Not to oppress him, not to shame her, not to take advantage. Think again.

In our Parasha are two of well over 30 times that the Torah warns us against mistreating the sojourner (Exodus 22:20, 23:9). Is our collective experience as down-trodden sojourners-slaves in Egypt not enough to create compassion? The Torah did not trust that. Is the memory of the suffering you experienced... in and of itself sufficient to awake love and compassion...? Have we not seen that the human heart – twisted as it is – works also the other way! ... Sometimes, the fact that you were in your youth a sojourner, oppressed, will push you to find an outlet for your soul by oppressing a fellow person who is now under your jurisdiction. (Nechama Leibowitz on Parashat Mishpatim.)

It is not accidental that the Torah groups the Ger, the sojourner, with other weak parties in the society such as the poor, the widow and the orphan, as seen in our Parasha (22:20-23). They may be the ones most in need of the protection by the 'system,' but are the least likely to receive it. Our treatment of these groups is the health test of our society, at any time in history.

Our prophets judged their societies by their attitude and treatment of these weak segments. Jeremiah, standing by the gates of the Mikdash (temple) in Jerusalem sounds a dire warning of the impending destruction of God's house because of the people's deeds (Jeremiah 7). His suggestion for remedy? Do justice, do not rob or afflict the sojourner, the orphan and the widow. God's house cannot stand on corrupt human foundations. Jeremiah was not listened to, if to judge by history. Exodus 22:20-23 warns against the afflictions of these very groups, threatening consequences. If they cry out? God will hear them, just like He heard our cry from the depth of the Egyptian affliction (2:23-25). Then 'My anger will be aroused, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows and your children orphans.' None of us are guaranteed our social position. Jeremiah's warning, unbelievable as it was to his generation, came true all too soon.

Where are we today? Our world has many who became sojourners out of need and danger. Let us not forget that we, too, have been sojourners in our lands of Egypt. Do not oppress the sojourner.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Vered Hollander-Goldfarb**, *Conservative Yeshiva Faculty* 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. **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.