



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

October 20-27, 2017 | 30 Tishrei-7 Cheshvan 5778
Parashat Noach/Shabbat Rosh Chodesh

Friday, October 20 30 Tishrei				Parashat Noach/Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Saturday, October 21 1 Cheshvan		
Simchat Torah Services 10:00AM Candle Lighting 6:11PM Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM Shorashim - Bet Dinner at Shabbat Kulanu 7:00PM				Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Services 10:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini-Minyan 11:15AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM		
Sunday October 22 2 Cheshvan	Monday October 23 3 Cheshvan	Tuesday October 24 4 Cheshvan	Wednesday October 25 5 Cheshvan	Thursday October 26 6 Cheshvan	Friday October 27 7 Cheshvan	Saturday October 28 8 Cheshvan
Hebrew School 9:30AM Rodfei Tzedek Action 12:00PM Hebrew Cooking with Shinshinim 2:00PM		Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Board Meeting 7:15PM		It's Friday Music Class 10:00AM Candle Lighting 5:50PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick 6:30PM Shaarei Mitzvah 2018 Service 6:30PM and Potluck Dinner 7:00PM	<i>Shabbat Lech Lecha</i> Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan 11:15AM Jr. Congregation 11:15AM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM Niggun Share 5:45PM
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:

Abby Ingber, her husband Jeffrey Easton and their children, Alexandra and Rachel, on the death of Abby's father, **Joseph Sholom Ingber**, z"l.

Erik Lieber, Doreen, Julian, Isabelle and **Oliver** on the death of Erik's father, **Mischa Lieber**, z"l.

Lisa Albin and her children **Anya** and **Elie** on the death of Lisa's mother, **Beverly Gilda Albin**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 1-7 Cheshvan:

Harvey Nightingale, father of Beryl Nightingale; **Helen Adele (Klein) Fleischmann**, mother of David Fleischmann; **Jacqueline Ruth Nussbaum**, mother of Debra Nussbaum Cohen; **Judith Ann Sitrin Hurwitz**, mother of Jonathan Hurwitz; **Klara Pick**, grandmother of Michele Bonan; **Natalie Tinkelman**, mother of Dan and Bob Tinkelman; **Nettie R. Fishman**, mother of Reba Snyder; **Roslyn Rothenberg**, aunt of Alan Palmer; **Samuel Holzkenner**, father of Bella Holzkenner; **Sylvia Blank**, aunt of Gavrielle and Myron Levine; **William Arnold Brown**, brother-in-law of Karen Friedland; **William Korashan**, father of Marc Korashan. *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 hevra kadisha@psjc.org.



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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.

Kishkush Acharei Kiddush

Saturday, October 21 | around 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 Michal at Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com for more details. After a half hour or 45 minutes of Chit-Chat, we will walk on over to the Shabbat Shmooze.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, October 21 | 1:30PM

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together in the home of a PSJC member. Bring a dairy or pareve potluck dish to share. If anyone would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze for the coming year, the months of 2017 on November 18, and December 16 and in the year 2018, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16, please email shabbatshmooze@psjc.org with your date of choice. Since there is a new plan to have a Hebrew-speaking chug for 1/2 hour prior to the Shmooze, we hope that all of those involved in organizing the Hebrew chug will make an effort to continue the conversation at the Shabbat Shmooze. As usual, the Shabbat Shmooze is a veggie/dairy pot-luck lunch open to the PSJC community.

Hebrew Cooking with the Shinshinim!

Sunday, October 22 | 2:00PM-4:00PM

Bring your family and join our Shinshinim to learn how to prepare delicious Israeli dishes IN 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 with some of our amazing Shinshinim (18 year old Israelis here for a year of service). **This experience is geared towards elementary-school aged children and their families.** For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Rabbi Carter at rabbicarie@psjc.org.

Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 25 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, October 27 | 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.

Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick

Friday, October 27 | 6:30PM

Shaarei Mitzvah 2018 Potluck Dinner

Friday, October 27 | 6:30PM - Services and 7:00PM - Dinner and Program.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, October 28 | 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 aronrhalf@gmail.com.

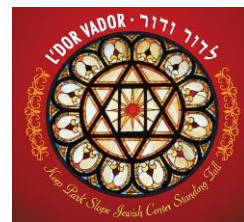


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Join us for the Capital Campaign Match Challenge!

Go right now to <https://www.jewcer.org/project/save-our-synagogue/>

We are grateful for every donation and pledge!
Visit <https://www.psjc.org/capitalcampaign>



Niggun Share

Saturday, October 28 | 5:45PM-7:15PM

Come savor the last hour of Shabbat by singing melodies, old and new, with PSJC Rabbinic Intern Leora Kling Perkins. We will conclude with havdallah. Snacks will be served.

Older Adults Committee

Sunday, October 29 | 2:00PM

Please join us for the official launch of the Older Adults Committee for all members who are age 50 or better to engage in activities and events. For more information please contact Jan Orzeck, jkorzeck@gmail.com.



Etz Chaim Community Conversation I

Monday, October 30 | 7:30PM

With apologies for the late notice, please note that the Etz Chaim Community Conversation scheduled for October 18 has been rescheduled to Monday, October 30th, at 7:30pm. We'll meet at shul to talk about how we can "row in one direction" as an aligned, inclusive and diverse community, sharing creative strategies for possible programs and ritual/educational/cultural offerings that will help our shul community thrive. All voices warmly welcome.

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

Thursday, November 2 | 7:00PM

Let's Speak Hebrew at PSJC! *Try out your Hebrew skills—from beginners to fluent speakers.* 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.

Faces of Israel: Roei Ben Tolila

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 | 6:45PM

Park Slope Jewish Center

Join IsraelBKLYN for a talk with Roei Ben Tolila. Roei Ben Tolila was seriously wounded while serving in an elite unit in the Israeli military, and had to teach himself how to "become a leader" again, this time from his wheelchair. Listen to his inspiring story as he reminds us that "the choice-- to be a leader, rather than to be led-- is completely in our minds," and that we have power to lead and live our lives regardless of the difficulties we encounter along the way.

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. **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)



Parashat Noach/Shabbat Rosh Hodesh

Triennial: Genesis 8:15-10:32 | Etz Hayim p. 41; Hertz p. 26

Maftir: Numbers 28:9-15 | Etz Hayim p. 48; Hertz p. 31

Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24, 23 | Etz Hayim p. 1219; Hertz p. 944

Dvar Torah

Classical Jewish thought posits that human beings have two “inclinations” – a bad one, the “Yetzer HaRa,” responsible for appetite, competition, and violence, and a good one, the “Yetzer HaTov,” that guides us toward justice, mercy, and holiness. (Those familiar with Freud are sure to draw a parallel between this and his concept of the Id and Superego.) But the word “yetzer” is more accurately translated as “form” as it originates in the creation story of Genesis, Chapter 2. As you may remember from last week, there are two different stories of how Adam is created. In Chapter 1, Adam, both male and female together, is created on Day 6, the last day of creation. In Chapter 2, Adam is formed from the dust of the earth, animals are formed afterwards, and eventually Eve is formed from Adam’s side/rib. Interestingly, the two chapters use different verbs for these processes. Chapter 1 uses the verbs “he made” (vayaas) or “he created” (vayivra) for everything, including Adam. Adam is made/created out of nothing, in the image of God, in one step. And God calls this creation “very good.”

But Chapter 2 does not say that God “created” or “made” Adam. Instead, we are told that God “formed (vayitzer) Adam from the dust of the earth.” God takes from already existent earth and uses it, like a potter uses clay, to FORM Adam before blowing into his nostrils to bring him to life. In Chapter 2 God doesn’t say whether this “form” is good or bad. And in the chapters that follow we see that, in fact, human beings are NOT good. In Chapter 3, Adam and Eve disobey God and try to hide it and shade the truth. They are more responsive to their own appetite than God’s instructions. In Chapter 4, competition and jealousy lead Cain to kill his brother Abel, despite God’s warnings.

It is in Chapter 6 that God assesses the “form” (yetzer) of human beings and pronounces it “bad.” The Torah says in 6:5: “The LORD saw how great was man’s wickedness on earth, and how all the ‘yetzer’ (form) of the thoughts of his heart/mind was ‘ra’ (bad) all his days.” And God regrets making humanity and resolves to wipe them out, along with everything else. Put simply, the Yetzer HaRa is the reason God brings the flood! We all know what happens next. Noah and his family and various animals are saved. They ride out the storm in the ark and emerge again onto dry land to re-populate the earth. And in line 8:21, God promises to never bring another flood to destroy the world: “Never again will I doom the earth because of man, since the ‘yetzer’ (form) of man’s mind is ‘ra’ (bad) from his youth.” Wait. So God destroyed the world because of the Yetzer HaRa, and then vows not to do it again because of the Yetzer HaRa? That makes no sense. And it reinforces the basic fact that nothing has changed: Noah may have been better than his contemporaries, but he still has the same Yetzer HaRa as all human beings! By token of being human, he shares their defect. So how do we explain God’s change of heart? The answer may lie in the subtle difference between God’s statements. 6:5 says “bad all his days,” but 8:21 says “bad from his youth.” Perhaps the phrase “from his youth” should be read “BECAUSE OF his youth!” Based on this the Sages, in the work Avot d’Rabbi Natan, developed that idea that human beings are born with a Yetzer HaRa, but don’t develop a Yetzer HaTov until the age of 13.

So God recognizes that even though it LOOKS like humans are ONLY our Yetzer HaRa, in fact we just need to grow up, both individually and as a species. Fortunately for us and the world, God realized this and committed to engaging with us as a parent/teacher, to give us Torah to help us develop our Yetzer HaTov, so that we can indeed merit being called “very good.”

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by Rabbi Andy Shapiro Katz, from the “Torah Sparks” series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. Rabbi Andy Shapiro Katz, *Director of North American Engagement, 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/>

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.