



**PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER**

October 5-13, 2018 | 26 Tishrei – 4 Cheshvan 5779  
Parashat Bereshit

Friday, October 5   26 Tishrei				Parashat Bereshit Shabbat Mevarekhim Hahodesh Saturday, October 6   27 Tishrei		
Lev Tahor with <b>Fran Hawthorne</b>   6:30PM Candle Lighting   6:13PM				Shacharit   10:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini-Minyan   11:15AM Book Club   1:30PM		
Sunday October 7 28 Tishrei	Monday October 8 29 Tishrei	Tuesday October 9 30 Tishrei	Wednesday October 10 1 Cheshvan	Thursday October 11 2 Cheshvan	Friday October 12 3 Cheshvan	Saturday October 13 4 Cheshvan
	PSJC Knitters 7:30PM	Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Minyan 7:00AM	Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Minyan 7:00AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM	Café Ivrit 7:00PM	It's Friday Music Class   10:00AM  Candle Lighting 6:02PM  Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30PM	<i>Parashat Noach</i>  Parashat Hashavua   9:30AM  Shacharit 10:00AM  <b>Milo Shaklan Bar Mitzvah</b>  Family Torah 10:15AM  Shabbat Kulanu 11:00AM  Tot Shabbat 11:15AM  Munch & Learn with Cornelia Dalton, PSJC Rabbinic Intern 1:00PM
<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)		

**Yahrzeits observed 27 Tishrei - 3 Cheshvan:**

**Abraham Sinow**, father of Miriam Fleischmann; **Bessie Sommer**, observed by the PSJC community; **Dorothy Simon**, grandmother of Ellen Simon; **Dr. Meyer B. Strauss**, father of Deborah Strauss; **Eva Reich Klein**, mother of Oscar Klein; **Hart Rosenberg**, brother of Dale Rosenberg; **Jacob Rosenzweig**, grandfather of Gavrielle Levine and Myron Levine; **Marvin Canner**, father of Barbara Canner-Marshall; **Mary Koltenuk**, great-aunt of Alan Palmer; **Miriam Robins**, mother of Susan Robins; **Roslyn Rothenberg**, aunt of Alan Palmer; **Sara Saidenberg Duchowny Temkin**, grandmother of Diana Duchowny; **Sylvia Blank**, aunt of Gavrielle Levine and Myron Levine; **William Arnold Brown**, brother-in-law of Karen Friedland. *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 hevrakadisha@psjc.org



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### **5779 first Lev Tahor with Fran Hawthorne**

Friday, October 5 | 6:30PM

Join us for musical davenning, dining and schmoozing. Lev Tahor services blend the singing of the traditional liturgy with contemporary English readings and reflections. We start off the season with our own Fran Hawthorne, who will be doing a book reading and discussion of her new novel, "The Heirs" (available at Community Bookstore, or on Amazon.)

### **Book Club: The Heirs with Fran Hawthorne**

Saturday, October 6 | 1:30PM

Come hear author and longtime PSJCer Fran Hawthorne discuss her debut novel *The Heirs*, after kiddish. You won't find *The Heirs* in local libraries. On the strength of Fran's non-fiction writing and since she is a dear friend probably quite a few PSJCsers will purchase copies, and some of them may be willing to lend theirs after they have finished reading it.

### **PSJC Knitters**

Monday, October 8 | 7:30PM

For more information contact marjorie.rothenberg@gmail.com.



### **Café Ivrit is Back at PSJC**

Thursday, October 11 | 7:00PM-9:00PM

Are you "moderately fluent" in Hebrew? Do you want to practice your Hebrew in a casual, supportive environment? Do you want a nice kos café with friends at the end of the evening? Join our Shaliach, Noam, for Café Ivrit. For more information email: naomW@jafi.com. Future dates: October 25, November 8 and December 13.

Friday, October 12

### **It's Friday Music Class | 10:00AM**

Come sing and play with Abe every week for a fun-filled music class that combines your favorite Shabbat and children's songs, with a story, movement and more. Taught by a professional music instructor, our open-space, informal class allows children ages 0 - 3 and their grownups to explore music and Shabbat! Each class ends with a snack and open-play so that caregivers can connect with each other. We look forward to having you join us!

\$15/drop-in class\* or \$120 for a 10-class series (paid in advance) RSVP: [https://www.psjc.org/sing\\_play\\_connect](https://www.psjc.org/sing_play_connect)

### **Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick | 6:30PM**

Saturday, October 13

**Parashat Hashavua with Cornelia Dalton, PSJC Rabbinic Intern | 9:30AM**

**Shabbat Kulanu | 11:00AM**

**Munch & Learn with Cornelia Dalton, PSJC Rabbinic Intern | 1:00PM**

### **Kol Nidre Appeal 5779**

Our annual Kol Nidre Appeal is an important part of our Shul's major fundraising effort during the course of the year. It is only with your continued support that we are able to maintain a high level of quality programming and services to meet the wide-ranging needs of our congregants.

Make your gift today: <https://www.psjc.org/form/KN2018>

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



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### **Hebrew Cooking with our fabulous Shlichim and Shinshinim**

Sunday, October 14 | 4:00PM-6:00PM

We will use our Hebrew to cook delicious food and then share those treats at a meal. It is a great way to hang out with friends, meet new people, hone your cooking skills, practice your Hebrew and have a great time with our shinshinim. Great for children and adults alike. Contact Rabbi Carie Carter at [rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org) to let us know you are coming. Future dates: November 4 and February 3.

### **Shaarei Mitzvah 7 Friday Night Dinner with Rabbi Carter**

Friday, October 19 | 6:30PM

Saturday, October 20

### **Hatan Torah and Kallat Bereshit Honors | 10:00AM**

Honor our Hatan Torah (Eli Wolfhagen) and Kallat Bereshit (Ruth Kaufman) at services as we hear a little of their Jewish stories.

### **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**

Hosted by Ruth Kaufman

Bring a parve potluck dish to share. If you would like to host the Shabbat Shmooze on **November 17**, please email [shabbatshmooze@psjc.org](mailto:shabbatshmooze@psjc.org). Members hosting homes needs to be walking distance from PSJC.

### **Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu**

Friday, October 26 | 6:30PM

Join us for a musical Shabbat celebration for all ages! Services begin in the sanctuary with Abe and Aileen. Then we'll head downstairs for a communal dinner. Everyone is welcome! Main entrees will be provided. **RSVPs are strongly encouraged**, <https://www.psjc.org/event/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu1.html>. Please bring a generous sized salad/veggie side or dessert to share. \*\*If you have food allergies or dietary needs, please be sure to bring something you can eat, as we are unable to take special food requests for this meal. \*\* Special invitation to families of 3rd and 4th graders!

### **Simcha Shabbat**

Saturday, October 27 | 10:00AM

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

### **Advanced Talmud**

Saturday, October 27 | 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).

**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)



## Parashat Bereshit

Triennial: Genesis 5:1-6:8 | Etz Hayim p.30; Hertz p.16  
Haftarah: Isaiah 42:5-43:10 | Etz Hayim p.35; Hertz p.21

### D'var Torah: The Power of Naming

Towards the end of the second creation story in this week's parashah, Adam is alone and lonely. Though God causes the land to bring forth various creatures to provide him company, none of them satisfy Adam's need for companionship, so *Isha* is ultimately fashioned from his rib/side. Along the way, the Torah tells us, Adam gives all of the creatures names: "So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name." (Genesis 2:19)

God doesn't tell Adam to name them, but knows that Adam will. In fact, God is quite curious what names Adam will give. As presented here, the impulse and capacity to name things is a fundamental human trait. But what we name, and what names we give, seems to be a test. So what exactly is God looking for? What do acts of naming reveal? The Midrash in Genesis Rabbah 17 may offer some clues. It begins with a backstory that before creating Adam God consulted with the ministering Angels. (This is one of a series of midrashim based on the strange phrase in Genesis 1:26, "**We** will make adam in **our** image in **our** likeness," that assumes that God consulted with other parties before creating humans.) The Angels ask what Adam will be like and God answers that Adam's wisdom, *chochma*, will be greater than that of the Angels. Following this conversation, the naming ritual begins. The animals are shown to the Angels first but they cannot name them. But when they are shown to Adam, Adam names the ox, then the camel, donkey, and horse.

So what is this *chochma* that Adam has and the Angels lack? By naming the domesticated animals first, it appears that naming is a proxy for identifying something's utility. Thus the Angels, who exist only to serve God, with no need for food or drink or anything domesticated animals can provide, lack the mix of intelligence and will to identify that which is potentially useful. They don't ask about things, and can't ask about things, what is this *to me*?

But then the midrash takes an interesting turn. God asks Adam, "What is your name?" And Adam answers "It would be nice for me to be called Adam because I was created from the earth (*adama*)." Adam looks past utility, how something else relates to him, and sees instead what his relationship is to something else. (Note that the animals were *also* taken from the earth, but that is not what Adam sees. Perhaps someday Adam will recognize how both humans and animals share a common source, and their relationship will be transformed from the Genesis 1 imperative to "subdue" the land into the Genesis 2 suggestion that humans are in the garden "to till and to keep it." But that day is not today.)

The midrash then takes its most radical step. God asks Adam: "And me, what is my name?" And Adam replies: "It would be fitting for you to be called Adonai, since you are the master (*adon*) of all your creations." What a progression! First Adam sees how the animals relate to him. Then Adam sees how he relates to the world. And finally Adam sees how all of it relates to God. But by having Adam name God, the scene in which Adam grasps the "true hierarchy" also subtly subverts it. The unique power and role of human beings is to take a world that is otherwise quite happy going about its business and bring to it awareness and appreciation of God's presence. This too is a role that Angels cannot play.

The Midrash suggests that human wisdom, the grasping of the relationship between things, is manifest in naming - both in what we name, and what names we give. This reminds me of the work of legal theorist Catherine MacKinnon who, along with her colleagues, coined the term "sexual harassment." Before these pioneering feminists named this particular kind of interaction, it was an amorphous phenomenon, a common and generally accepted feature of the workplace and elsewhere. Before it was named, there was no way to legislate against it because there was no way to even talk about it. The act of naming, of being able to grasp the problematic relationships at play, was a critical step in bringing about long lasting change and ending abuse.

What should be clear is that naming - what we talk about and how we talk about it - can conceal or reveal, and even subjugate or liberate. But at its best, it is how God wants to be brought into the world.

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>.