



January 18-26, 2019 | 12-20 Shevat 5779
Shabbat Shira Parashat Beshalach

Friday, January 18 12 Shevat				Shabbat Shira Parashat Beshalach Saturday, January 19 13 Shevat		
Candle Lighting 4:38PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Cornelia Dalton 6:30PM ATID Dinner 7:30PM				Parashat Hashavua 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM		
Sunday January 20 14 Shevat	Monday January 21 15 Shevat	Tuesday January 22 16 Shevat	Wednesday January 23 17 Shevat	Thursday January 24 18 Shevat	Friday January 25 19 Shevat	Saturday January 26 20 Shevat
MLK Day of Service 11:00AM	 Tu B'Shvat Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office Closed Intro to Judaism 7:30PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM Board Meeting 7:15PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher 6:15PM	Biblical Hebrew 7:30PM	PAI Walking Group 9:30AM It's Friday Music Class 10:00AM Candle Lighting 4:47PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Elizabeth Schnur 6:30PM Teen Dinner (Offsite) 7:00PM	<i>Parashat Yitro</i> Simcha Shabbat Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Jr. Congregation 11:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan 11:15AM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM <i>Mincha - Nora Septimus Bat Mitzvah 3:00PM</i>
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, 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 **Aric Press** and **Jean Berman** on the birth of their grandson **Ethan Verlangieri Press** son of **Laura** and **Joshua!**

Todah Rabbah

To **Malkie Grozalsky** and **Mindi Wernick** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund in memory of Malkie's father's yahrzeit, **Hirsch Grozalsky, z"l.**

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Eden Wofsey, Rabbi Carie, Noa and family on the death of Eden's father, **David Wofsey, z"l.**

Alex Aron and family on the death of her mother, **Sarah Aron, z"l.**

Eve Blatt and family on the death of her husband, **Ralph Blatt, z"l.**

MLK Day of Service Countdown: Can We Count On YOU?

Sunday, January 20 | 11:00AM-2:00PM

Hope you're planning to join the mob of volunteers at PSJC's 10th Annual MLK Day of Service. Activities suitable for all ages; join friends familiar and new as we work together to strengthen our community and the wider community we share. For info, or to volunteer on the day (or as a hero-shlepper after the event), contact hzelon@gmail.com.

Thank you!!



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Yahrzeits observed 13-19 Shevat:

Aaron Karol, student of Angela Weisl; **Alan James Feldman**, father of Nachshon/Neil Feldman; **Beverly Joyce Palmer**, sister of Alan Palmer; **Boris Novick**, father of Eve Blatt; **Emma Lee Minkin**, daughter of Betsy Minkin and Rabbi Joshua Minkin; **Frank Catabilotta**, student of Angela Weisl; **Gloria Spivak**, mother of Ellen Umansky; **Herman Rothman**, father of Paul Rothman; **Irving Brickman**, father of Ellen Brickman; **John Giunta**, student of Angela Weisl; **Linda Cohn Speaks**, mother of John Speaks; **Margaret Palmer**, grandmother of Alan Palmer; **Maria Hart**, grandmother of Steven Mazie; **Max Gross**, father of Bruce Gross; **Melvin Stein**, father of Amy Stein-Milford; **Nathan Kalman**, father of Beverly Kalman; **Rachel Nachman**, mother of David Nachman; **Rudolph Joseph Straus**, father of Ellen Straus; **Sidney Shapiro**, father of Mike Shapiro; **Sol Yoffie**, father of Sharman Yoffie-Sidman. *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

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

Saturday, January 19

Parashat Hashavua | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with Cornelia Dalton, PSJC Rabbinic Intern. It's a great lead into the Shabbat morning services.

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 for more details.

Shabbat Shmooze | 1:30PM

Home of Ellen and Gary Briefel - 296 Sterling Place #19 between Underhill & Vanderbilt Avenues
Let's walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Potluck Lunch (after the Kiddush following Shabbat morning services). Bring a parve/dairy/veggie pot luck dish to share. The Shabbat Shmooze offers the chance to get to know some of the PSJC community and spend time with those you already know. It is a great way to keep the Shabbat vibe going all afternoon long.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 22 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

Saturday, January 26

Simcha Shabbat | 10:00AM

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

Advanced Talmud | 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.

Looking at the Torah

Sunday, January 27 | 3:30PM

The Torah is an object of monumental significance to the Jewish people, but it is rarely examined as a physical object. Join Rabbi Carie Carter and Art Conservator Reba Snyder as they discuss the meaning and making of a Torah. Each of our experts will present their understanding of the Torah as a human-made object. Participants will work with some of the materials of a Torah, including writing with a quill pen on parchment. The class is limited to 30, please RSVP today: <https://www.psjc.org/event/looking-at-the-torah.html> and a materials fee (\$10 for members) will be charged.



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PAI Book Club: "Sing, Unburied, Sing" by Jesmyn Ward

Thursday, January 31

Sign up here: https://www.psjc.org/dashboard/event_setup.php?id=737274&ret=page

Lev Tahor with Rabbinic Intern Cornelia Dalton

Friday, February 1 | 6:30PM

Conversation and learning with our rabbinic intern, Cornelia Dalton.

Sunday, February 3

Hebrew School Yom Iyyun Tzedek | 9:30AM

2019 Shaarei Mitzvah Tzedakah Fair | Programming begins at 9:30AM, fair runs from 11:00AM - 11:45AM

The PSJC Annual Tzedakah Fair happens each February as part of a morning of learning about Tzedek (justice) and Tzedakah. Our 6th grade Shaarei Mitzvah, bnai mitzvah cohort, students each choose an organization to research and raise money for. PSJC community members of all ages and their friends bring their tzedakah boxes from home and contribute to a wide range of causes. Read below for organizations supported in past years.

Davening Workshop | 1:00PM

Have you always wanted to lead a part of the service? Come to Avodah's Davening Workshop and work one-on-one with an experienced davener who can help get you up to Speed. There will be snacks to boost your energy, and a chance to sign up to lead services after you've boosted your skills. Let us know what you want to learn, from Shacharit to Musaf, the Torah Service to Hallel, and we'll find you a buddy to work with. RSVP to Angela Weisl:

angela.weisl@shu.edu

Hebrew Cooking with our fabulous Shlichim and Shinshinim | 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 to let us know you are coming.

Rosh Hodesh Adar I Minyan

Tuesday, February 5 | 7:00AM

Wednesday, February 6 | 7:00AM

Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu

Friday, February 8 | 6:30PM

Join Abe and Aileen for a musical Friday night service, followed by a supplemented potluck dinner. This month we are celebrating with the 5th grade families! Everyone is invited to join for a relaxing, all-ages service and meal. Please

RSVP: <https://www.psjc.org/event/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu.html>

Book Discussion - Call It Sleep

Saturday, February 9 | 1:30PM

Join us when Hunter College English professor and longtime PSJC member Sarah Chinn leads us in a discussion of **Call It Sleep** by Henry Roth, a classic of immigrant fiction and the story of David Schearl, the "dangerously imaginative" child coming of age in the slums of the 1930s Lower East Side of Manhattan.

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, reading Torah, email Rabbi Sue Oren at leyning@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.



Shabbat Shira Parashat Beshalach

Triennial: Exodus 14:26-17:16 | Etz Hayim p.405; Hertz p.269

Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31 | Etz Hayim p.423; Hertz p.281

D'var Torah: Those Holy Bones

As you might recall, Yosef, on his deathbed, charged his brothers with the responsibility for bringing his bones up with them when the children of Israel finally left Egypt. But generations after Yosef's death, when the time came to get the bones and go, how were the children of Israel to find them?

According to the Mechilta de Rabbi Ishmael, a midrash from the period of the Mishnah, nobody knew where Yosef was buried, except for one elderly woman, Serah bat Asher, who had miraculously survived from the time of Yosef. She told Moshe that Yosef's bones were to be found at the bottom of the Nile River, where they had been hidden by the Egyptians. The Egyptians, says the midrash, knew about the deathbed promise made to Yosef. So they cleverly figured that if the children of Israel were unable to find the bones, they would never be able to leave Egypt.

So how did the children of Israel retrieve Yosef's bones from the bottom of a vast and deep river? Moshe approached the Nile and called out: "Yosef son of Yaakov, the time of God's promise to redeem His people has come. Yosef's coffin rose to the surface of the Nile and Moshe took it. [After 'Moshe received the Torah at Sinai], the children of Israel carried Yosef's coffin alongside the Ark of the Covenant containing the Ten Commandments.

When people would ask the Israelites: 'What is in those two chests?' the Israelites would respond: "One contains the words of the revelation from God and the other is a coffin with a body in it.' The nations, astounded that a corpse would be carried alongside the ark containing the Ten Commandments, responded: "What is so special about the one in that coffin that it is being carried next to God's word?' The Israelites answered: 'The one in that coffin fulfilled in his life that which is written on God's revealed tablets.' (adapted from Mechilta de Rabbi Ishmael Beshalah, Horowitz - Rabin ed. pp. 78-80). This midrash goes on to describe how Yosef, who is Yaakov's son, observed not only each of the Ten Commandments but also a number of the other commandments in the Torah.

While this story is obviously historically fanciful and anachronistic, it warrants our attention because of its profound message. Yosef, according to this midrash, lived his life fulfilling the words of the Torah. His life was spent both standing up for his beliefs and thoughtfully carrying out the standards of his tradition with integrity. His faith was not simply lip service. He not only talked the talk. He walked the walk. He was a living, walking, talking Torah scroll. On account of his deep commitment, he merited after his death, to lead the children of Israel on their journey out of Egypt, right alongside the Ark of the Covenant.

This midrash, I think, is communicating on two levels. On the most basic level, it is saying that a person who abides by God's Torah has the same sanctity as the Torah itself. They contain and transmit God's word as much as any tablet or scroll. But on a deeper level, the midrash is also hinting at an equivalency between a dead body and a tablet or scroll. Our bodies are but dust and ashes. A Torah is but ink and animal hide. But when the source of holiness touches us - breathing life into us and giving us a living Torah - inanimate objects like stone, parchment, bone, sinew acquire a holiness that persists and must be honored.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein**, *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>.

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.