



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

February 8-16, 2019 | 3-11 Adar I 5779
Parashat Terumah

Friday, February 8 3 Adar I				Parashat Terumah Saturday, February 9 4 Adar I		
Candle Lighting 5:04PM Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM				Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Pearl Marks Bat Mitzvah Family Torah 10:30AM Jr. Congregation 11:00AM Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan 11:15AM Book Club 1:30PM		
Sunday February 10 5 Adar I	Monday February 11 6 Adar I	Tuesday February 12 7 Adar I	Wednesday February 13 8 Adar I	Thursday February 14 9 Adar I	Friday February 15 10 Adar I	Saturday February 16 11 Adar I
Hebrew School 9:30AM Intro to Judaism 7:00PM		Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher 6:15PM	Biblical Hebrew 7:00PM	PAI Walking Group 9:30AM It's Friday Music Class 10:00AM Candle Lighting 5:12PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Erik Lieber 6:30PM	<i>Parashat Tetzaveh</i> Simcha Shabbat Shacharit 10:00AM Kishkush Acharei 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, 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 **Pearl, Simone, Steven and Rose** on Pearl's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat.

Todah Rabbah

To **Alex Aron** for contributing to the Friday Night Kiddush Fund in memory of **Alan Aron, z"l** and **Sarah Aron, z"l** during this Shabbat.

To **Simone Betchen** and **Steven Marks** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund in honor of Pearl's Bat Mitzvah during this Shabbat.

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

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

Yahrzeits observed 4-10 Adar I:

Chester Kaczmarczyk, father of Elizabeth Kaczmarczyk; **Dora Kubzansky Cohen**, mother of Paul Cohen; **Florence Leblanc**, mother of Jacqueline LeBlanc; **Joseph Schweitzer**, father of Harry Schweitzer; **Marion Barth**, father of Rabbi Sami Barth; **Molly Schragar**, aunt of Esther Schwalb; **Murry Powlen**, father of Noah Powlen; **Rosalie Lampert**, mother of Betsy Minkin; **Salome Louise Sandler**, aunt of Rabbi Regina Sandler-Phillips; **Sanford Irving Tishcoff**, father of Joel Tishcoff; **Seymour Krichmar**, father of Todd Krichmar; **Shirley Lewis Harari**, mother of Roland Lewis. *May their memories be for a blessing.*



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Saturday, February 9

Family Torah | 10:30AM

Book Discussion - *Call It Sleep* | 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.

It's Friday Music Class

Friday, February 15 | 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

Saturday, February 16

Simcha Shabbat | 10:00AM

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

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 Loretta Lurie

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.

PAI Aging Issues Group: Living with Chronic Illness

Tuesday, February 19 | 6:30PM-8:00PM

Many people age 50+ have one or more chronic illness or health condition, and managing it all can be a source of stress. Talking with others in the same boat can be a valuable source of support and information. Our discussion group meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at PSJC, \$5 fee*.

ATID Happy Hour

Thursday, February 21 | 5:30PM

Hello ATID friends! We had a great time at the pot luck last month and are excited to share our next event. Meet us for ATID happy hour apps and drinks nearby, exact location TBD. We will start at 5:30 and have many hours to hang out. Hoping to see you there! Please RSVP: atid@psjc.org.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, February 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.

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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PAI Benefits and Entitlements for Seniors

Sunday, February 24 | 1:30PM

Do you or your aging parents know: How to reduce costs in retirement or obtain financial assistance? The options for care in or outside of the home and how much they cost? What senior discounts there are beside the movies? There is a FREE plan to supplement the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan? There are workarounds for low-income seniors who are not eligible for food stamps? A speaker from LiveOn NY, the foremost advocacy group for seniors in NYC, will educate us about what benefits to which you or your loved ones may be entitled, and when and how to apply. If you think you may already know everything you need to, you may be surprised! Please register: <https://www.psjc.org/event/pai-benefits-and-entitlements-for-seniors.html#>.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 26 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

PAI Book Club - "In The Time Of The Butterflies" By Julia Alvarez

Wednesday, February 27 | 9:30AM

Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Melanie Weiss

Friday, March 1 | 6:30PM

PSJC alum Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Mel Weiss come back to Brooklyn to share their experiences of "diaspora" Judaism in the US, via their work at the Maine Center for Small Town Jewish Life.

Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, March 2 | 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.

Rosh Hodesh Adar II Minyan

Thursday, March 7 | 7:00AM

Friday, March 8 | 7:00AM



Order your Shalach Manot

by March 4th to guarantee an upgrade in your bag!

Get ready for Purim!

<https://www.psjc.org/campaign/shalach-manot-2019.html>

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.

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.

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

Parashat Terumah

Triennial: Exodus 26:31-27:19 (Etz Hayim p. 495-498; Hertz p. 333-336; Plaut p.609)

Haftarah: 1 Kings 5:26-6:13 (Etz Hayim p. 499-502; Hertz p. 336-338; Plaut p.717)

D'var Torah: Building Institutions with Joy

In this week's parashah, Terumah, the Israelites in the desert face the challenge of their generation—to build a structure in the desert through which they can meet God. The Mishkan, or Tabernacle, is the first fixed place of Jewish worship and as such, it is the model for everything that comes after. But our parashah is not about what went on in the Mishkan—it is about financing its construction, and this gives us the opportunity to examine a dispute between the commentators as to how this campaign was accomplished and perhaps reflect some on how we finance our own institutions.

The opening verse of the chapter seems to refer to a fully voluntary system; “Tell the Israelite people to bring Me gifts; you shall accept (*va-yikhu*) gifts for Me from every person whose heart so moves him.” The word that is translated as “gifts” is “*terumah*” and does not necessarily mean a voluntary gift. But the phrase at the end, “every person whose heart so moves him” certainly gives the impression that the material used to build the Mishkan was given voluntarily. Indeed, R. Meir Leibush Weiser (Poland, 1809-1879, known by the acronym “Malbim”) noted two other linguistic features that prove that the donation was voluntary. First of all, the word command is not used here. Second, the word “Me” implies that the gift must be dedicated only with the intention of worshiping God and not for any ulterior motive such as personal honor.

However, the Malbim's contemporary, R. Naftali Zevi Yehudah Berlin, (Lithuania, 1817-1893, known by the acronym, Netziv) raised several difficulties on this assumption, some of them practical. What would have happened, the Netziv asks, if the Israelites had not donated material to build the Mishkan? Would there simply not have been a Mishkan? Rabbinic literature rules that members of a town can force one another to pay for the building of a synagogue. All the more so should this be true of the Mishkan, which after all, the Jews were commanded to build (Exodus 25:8). Thus the Netziv would not translate the word *va-yikhu* as “accept” but rather as “you (i.e. tax collectors) shall collect.”

However, the problem for the Netziv is the end of the verse—“every person whose heart moves him”—which clearly implies a voluntary donation. The Netziv resolves the problem (his resolution is already echoed in Rashi's interpretation) that there are multiple collections taken for the Mishkan. There is a mandatory collection which in the Netziv's mind must have been sufficient. After all, the Mishkan was a necessary institution without which the Israelites could not have maintained their relationship with God. There are two reasons that this donation had to be mandatory. First of all, building essential institutions cannot be left up to the whimsical generosity of the people. Second, mandatory donation implies equal participation—everyone has an equal stake in building the Mishkan.

But necessity and equality are not meant to stamp out the human possibility and desirability of generosity. Encouraging the generous donation of one's hard-earned resources is beneficial not only for the receiver but also for the donor. I do not get warm fuzzies paying my taxes, even though I know that part of these taxes goes to healing the ill. But ask me to donate money to help kids with Muscular Dystrophy (as I did for my last triathlon) and I will feel happiness and fulfillment every step of the way. The Netziv leaves room in his system for both the mandated base, necessary for institution-building, and the voluntary addition, which brings joy to the hearts of the giver.

Today, in most places, and certainly outside of Israel, Jews cannot be forced to participate in the building of synagogues, or any other Jewish institution. The challenge our generation faces, I think, is to bring ourselves and our communities to the point where we understand that having a strong synagogue is essential for a community. The mitzvah to build strong communal structures must, today, be self-imposed, not all that different than the way we conceive of most mitzvot. And to build a community, both the poor and the rich must participate. Finally, we must recover that sense of joy that our ancestors experienced in voluntarily donating beyond the minimum amount. Like those Jews in the desert, whose resources were surely less than ours, we must become joyous institution builders.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Dr. Joshua Kulp**, *Conservative Yeshiva Faculty & Rosh HaYeshiva* “Torah Sparks” series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks>.