



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

April 6-14, 2018 | 21-29 Nissan 5778
Shabbat Pesach

Friday, April 6 21 Nissan				Shabbat Pesach Saturday, April 7 22 Nissan		
7th Day of Pesach 7th Day of Pesach Services 10:00AM Kabbalat Shabbat with Freddie Brooks 6:30PM Candle Lighting 7:08PM				8th Day of Pesach Shabbat Pesach Service includes Yizkor 10:00AM Book Club 1:30PM		
Sunday April 8 23 Nissan	Monday April 9 24 Nissan	Tuesday April 10 25 Nissan	Wednesday April 11 26 Nissan	Thursday April 12 27 Nissan	Friday April 13 28 Nissan	Saturday April 14 29 Nissan
Mimuna 4:00PM	An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 12:00PM PSJC Knitters 7:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher 6:15PM Communal Yom HaShoah Observance 7:00PM Brooklyn Heights Synagogue 131 Remsen St	Yom HaShoah	Lev Tahor Game Night 6:30PM Candle Lighting 7:15PM	<i>Shabbat Shoah Parashat Shemini</i> Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Shacharit 10:00AM Miranda Medintz Bat Mitzvah Family Torah/Shabbat Kulanu 10:30AM Tot Shabbat 11:15AM Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah 1:20PM Margaritaville Party & Auction 8:15PM
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)		

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Bunny Buxbaum and her daughter, **Audrey Buxbaum** and family on the death of their sister & aunt, **Sharlene Harris**, z"l.

Michelle Krochmal and family on the death of her father, **Frederick Krochmal**, z"l.

Susan Karwoska and family on the death of her father, **Robert Karwoski**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 22-28 Nissan:

Dora Yoffie, mother of Sharman Yoffie-Sidman; **Doris Powlen**, mother of Noah D. Powlen; **Greta Levine Tedoff**, Mother of Julie Weintraub; **Harriet Radwell**, mother of Steven Radwell; **Helen Goosay**, aunt of Myron Levine and Gavielle Levine; **Isidore Birnbaum**, father of David Birnbaum; **Jack Bursack**, uncle of Michael Snyder; **Jean Ellen Anderson**, mother of Richard Anderson; **Jerry Nussbaum**, father of Debra Nussbaum Cohen; **Joel Sheber**, brother of Iris Sheber; **Martin Levine**, father of Steven Levine; **Oscar Finger**, grandfather of Deborah Gordon; **Sylvia Steinberg**, mother of Sandra Linenschmidt. *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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"AN EVENING IN MARGARITAVILLE" ~ SIGN UP TODAY! PSJC Auction & Tropical Party

Saturday, April 14 | 8:15PM

Slip on your flip flops, pop on your aloha shirt and join us for some tropical fun! Delicious margaritas & sangria, yummy desserts & live music, plus exciting live & silent auctions to benefit PSJC! Supervised kiddie fun available nearby--at Hootenanny play space! Sign up at: www.psjc.org/form/auction-sponsor-registration-.html for sponsorship, tickets, childcare and/or dessert raffle tickets. Contact us at auktion@psjc.org to help with the event. Want to advertise or donate an auction item? Visit: psjc.org/evening-in-margaritaville. Hope to see you there. Should be a blast!

Book club: *The Man Who Never Stopped Sleeping* (האיש שלא פסק לישון)

Saturday, April 7 | 1:30PM

Join us on the Shabbat before Yom Ha Shoah and a week and a half before Israel's Memorial and Independence Days, when we will discuss the late Aharon Appelfeld's semi-autobiographical novel *The Man Who Never Stopped Sleeping* (האיש שלא פסק לישון).

Mimuna

Sunday, April 8 | 4:00PM

Our first Post-Passover Moroccan Jewish Celebration! Eat, sing, dance and enjoy! Cook delicious Moroccan pastries. Dance to Moroccan music. Crafts, cooking and fun for kids. For more information or to RSVP, please contact rabbicarie@psjc.org.

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

Monday, April 9, 16, 23 and 30 | 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.

PSJC Knitters

Monday, April 9 | 7:30PM

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

Communal Yom HaShoah Observance

Wednesday, April 11 | 7:00PM | Brooklyn Heights Synagogue - 131 Remsen Street

Join us for the Brownstone Brooklyn Holocaust Remembrance Day Service. A Contemporary *Yom Ha Shoah* Evening Service & *Musical Reflections on Loss and Hope*.

Sing, Shmooze and Play at Lev Tahor

Friday, April 13 | 6:30PM

Lev Tahor, PSJC's all-sung, community lay-led Kabbalat Shabbat, welcomes friends familiar and new! This April 13, an annual favorite: Game Night!! Bring your board games and a dairy/pareve dish to share at a Lev Tahor that's particularly family-friendly (Apples to Apples, anyone?). Thanks in advance for avoiding electronics and mechanics that aren't Shabbat-appropriate. RSVP here: <https://tinyurl.com/LevTahor-Apr13-18> for dinner and services so our wonderful staff can set up for a song- and game-filled night at PSJC.

Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah

Saturday, April 14 | 1:20PM

When it was written in the 12th Century, Maimonides' Mishneh Torah changed the landscape of Rabbinic literature, and has since served as one of the great authoritative codes of Jewish Law. This is a monthly study session with Rabbi Carter, please email rabbicarie@psjc.org for information about this study group.

Rosh Chodesh Iyar Minyan

Sunday, April 15 | 8:00AM

Monday, April 16 | 7:00AM

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



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Rodfei Tzedek Action

Sunday, April 15 | 12:00PM

Yom Hazikaron Ceremony

Tuesday, April 17 | 7:00PM | PSJC

Join us as we observe Israel's Memorial Day together as a Brooklyn community. Contact rabbicarie@psjc.org for questions or to let us know you are coming.

Shuk Machaneh Yehudah – Yom HaAtzmaut Communal Celebration

Wednesday, April 18 | 6:30PM | Kane Street Synagogue - 236 Kane Street

Brooklyn celebrates Israel@70 - a special community event. This year, we are bringing Israel's famous market to town (Machaneh Yehudah Shuk) a taste of Israeli cuisine & wine alongside with Israeli music. Enjoy special guest speaker Gil Hovav; Israel's leading culinary journalist and personality, Gil comes from one of the most respected lineages in the Jewish world: the great -grandson of Eliezer Ben Yehudah, reviver of the Hebrew language; grandson of Itamar Ben- Avi, who launched modern Hebrew journalism; and son of Moshe & Drora Hovav, "founding members" of Israel's modern day public radio. Gil has played a major role in the remaking of Israeli cuisine and transformation of Israel from a country of basic traditional foods into a "gourmet nation". Please make sure to RSVP your spot in the following link- <https://goo.gl/jHHbsY> spaces are limited!

Simcha Shabbat

Saturday, April 21 | 10:00AM

Join us as we will acknowledge our members who are celebrating their April birthdays & anniversaries. They will receive a special blessing during the Torah service and we will all enjoy a lovely Simcha Shabbat Kiddush (cake included)! Please update your PSJC account and add your birthdays and anniversaries so we may send you a personal invitation in the future.

Kishkush Acharei Kiddush

Saturday, April 21 | 1:00PM

Join other fluent Hebrew speakers after services 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, April 21 | 1:30PM

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

Yom Yisrael

Sunday, April 22 | 10:00AM-1:30PM | Hannah Senesh Community Day School - 342 Smith Street

A festival for the whole family tour Israel, see live performances, enjoy great food and help us celebrate Israel as a community. Contact rabbicarie@psjc.org to volunteer.

Hadag Nahash in Concert

Wednesday, May 2 | 8:00PM | East Midwood Jewish Center - 1625 Ocean Avenue

We are very excited to start the tickets selling for the concert of Hadag Nahash. Purchase tickets:

<http://teev.simplenetix.com/Show/34482/BrooklynCelebratesIsraelHad/>. Your cost is \$36 instead of \$56, using PSJC members' promo code.

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.



Shabbat Pesach

Torah: Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17 | Etz Hayim p.1080; Hertz p. 814

Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25 | Etz Hayim p.932; Hertz p.695

Haftarah: Isaiah 10:32-12:6 | Etz Hayim p.1316; Hertz p.1023

D'var Torah: Order at Yam Suf

The Torah reading for the seventh day of Pesach depicts one of the most climactic moments in the story of the exodus: The Israelites enter the Red Sea and great walls of water rise up on both sides, creating a path of dry land. The Egyptians, hot on their trail, rush into the sea as well, only to drown in the waters that close in upon them. But the Torah omits a few key details: Did the Israelites turn around and witness the terrible human catastrophe behind them? Could they see the Egyptians gasping for breath, their horses buckling and their chariot wheels screeching to a grinding halt? Or did the people of Israel have their sights firmly fixed on the path before them, believing steadfastly and unwaveringly in God and Moshe His servant? And when exactly did they begin to sing the Song of the Sea: After they had already crossed the sea and they were assured of their victory? Or while they were still passing through, at a time when their fate still very much hung in the balance?

According to Sforno (Italy, 1475-1550), the Israelites were still walking through the split sea at the moment when they began to sing. As Sforno puts it in his commentary on Exodus 15:19, "The Song of the Sea occurred when Pharaoh's horses went in with his chariots and horsemen into the sea, and God, the Blessed One, drowned them while the Children of Israel were still walking on the dry land in the midst of the sea. Before they came out they began to sing." Avivah Zornberg points out that according to this reading, Shirat Hayam was not a victorious exaltation, but rather an expression of deep faith. At the time when the Israelites began singing, they still did not know that they would survive. For all they knew, the waters that had begun to engulf the Egyptians would then creep up upon them. After all, they were used to a Pharaoh who was notorious for his changes of heart; why should their new Ruler be any different? And yet they believed in His steadfastness, at least enough to begin singing a song of thanksgiving even before there was anything concrete for which to be grateful.

But I wonder if we might read Sforno a bit differently. Perhaps the Israelites (led first by Moshe, and then by Miriam) were not singing out of faith in God; they were rather singing as a way of "drowning out" the sounds of disaster behind them. As the Egyptians were crying out in utter horror, the Israelites were trying to impose some sense of order amidst the chaos. And so they sang out in measured, crafted speech –i.e. poetry—as a way of creating order in the midst of the mighty waves and gales engulfing the Egyptians who stood just behind them. The scene recalls the moment in Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* when Meg recites the multiplication tables in the face of IT: When confronted with horror, a person copes by creating a different rhythm, any rhythm that is not the rhythm of the horror. Indeed, perhaps it was their very singing that delivered the Israelites, in a performative utterance: The people sang that "He cast Pharaoh's chariots and his army into the sea," and lo and behold, God cast Pharaoh's chariots and his army into the sea. And then they sang "You made the wind blow; the sea covered them," and lo and behold, the wind blew and the sea covered them. Their very expression of faith was what enabled God to stretch out his mighty hand and bring His people forth on dry land.

At its most triumphant moment, the Song of the Sea proclaims, "The Lord will reign for ever and ever," and for just that moment it seems like it is so. As we chant the song celebrating the miraculous splitting of the sea in our still unredeemed world, may our words bring us that much closer to the more ordered world in which God's eternal reign will be manifest.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by *Ilana Kurshan, 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.