



**PARK  
SLOPE  
JEWISH  
CENTER**

April 13-21, 2018 | 28 Nissan-6 Iyar 5778  
Shabbat Shoah Parashat Shemini

Friday, April 13   28 Nissan				Shabbat Shoah Parashat Shemini Saturday, April 14   29 Nissan		
Lev Tahor Game Night   6:30PM Candle Lighting   7:15PM				Havurat Shabbat   9:30AM Shacharit   10:00AM <b>Miranda Medintz Bat Mitzvah</b> Family Torah/Shabbat Kulanu   10:30AM Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah   1:20PM Margaritaville Party & Auction   8:15PM		
Sunday April 15 30 Nissan	Monday April 16 1 Iyar	Tuesday April 17 2 Iyar	Wednesday April 18 3 Iyar	Thursday April 19 4 Iyar	Friday April 20 5 Iyar	Saturday April 21 6 Iyar
Rosh Chodesh Minyan 8:00AM Hebrew School 9:30AM Rodfei Tzedek Action 12:00PM	Rosh Chodesh Iyar Minyan 7:00AM An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 12:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM Communal Yom HaZikaron 7:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher 6:15PM Shuk Machaneh Yehudah Kane Street 7:00PM	Yom HaAtzmaut	Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Judy Ribnick</b> 6:30PM Candle Lighting 7:23PM	<i>Shabbat Tazriya-Metzora</i> Shacharit   10:00AM <b>Simcha Shabbat</b> Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM
<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, 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)		

**Mazal Tov!**

To **Miranda, Emily, Scott, Joshua** and **Solomon** on Miranda's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat!

**Todah Rabbah**

To **Emily Reisbaum** and **Scott Medintz** for sponsoring to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of Miranda's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat.

**HaMakom Yenachem**

Our condolences go to:

**Carrie Sadovnik** and family on the death of her stepfather, **Leo Gorenstein**, z"l.

**Sally Brown** and family on the death of her mother, **Thelma Brown**, z"l.

**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 29 Nissan-5 Iyar:**

**Dr. Douglas M. Warschauer**, father of Jeffrey Warschauer; **Erwin Honig**, father of Les Honig; **Herman Krevsky**, father of Leslie Krevsky; **Jason Yoffie**, nephew of Sharman Yoffie-Sidman; **Jennie Phillips**, grandmother of Rabbi Regina Sandler-Phillips; **Lazarus Radlow**, uncle of Reba Snyder; **Martin Ullman**, father of Seth Ullman; **Martin Ullman**, father of Judith Ullman; **Miriam Mihlrad**, aunt of Judith Ullman; **Victor Strumph**, observed by PSJC community; **Yitzhak Cohen**, grandfather of Marc Cohen. *May their memories be for a blessing.*

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



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### **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](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org) for information about this study group.

### **“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! Sign up for tickets and/or dessert raffle tickets. Visit: [psjc.org/evening-in-margaritaville](http://psjc.org/evening-in-margaritaville). Hope to see you there. Should be a blast!

### **Rosh Chodesh Iyar Minyan**

Sunday, April 15 | 8:00AM and Monday, April 16 | 7:00AM

### **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](mailto: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. 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>!

### **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](mailto: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!

**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](mailto:gmach@psjc.org) or [hevrakadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevrakadisha@psjc.org).



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### **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](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org) to volunteer.

### **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, April 25 | 7:15PM

Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

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

Thursday, April 26, May 10 and 31 | 7:00PM

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. 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 [NoamW@jafi.org](mailto:NoamW@jafi.org).

### **Parashat Hashavua**

Saturday, April 28 | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with our Rabbinic Intern, Leora Kling Perkins. It's a great lead in to the Shabbat morning services.

### **Advanced Talmud**

Saturday, April 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 [aronrhalb@gmail.com](mailto:aronrhalb@gmail.com).

### **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.

### **Eric Hollander Memorial Lecture**

Sunday, May 6 | 2:00PM

*Our Fractured Jewish Community in the Age of Trump* with Professor Ross Brann. (Professor of Near East Studies, Cornell University). Visit [www.iljb.org](http://www.iljb.org) for more info.

### **A Step in Addressing Hunger and Poverty in Brooklyn**

Sunday, May 6 | 4:00PM-5:30PM

Join UJA Brooklyn and Park Slope Jewish Center for a service project on Sunday, May 6. Volunteers will work together to package **32,000 dry meals** to be donated to Bed-Stuy Campaign Against Hunger. Open to the community, family friendly, and all are welcome. RSVP is required, please visit <https://www.timeforgood.org/agency/uja/opportunity/pack-meals-for-families-in-need-brooklyn-4981>.

**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). **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).



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Triennial: Leviticus 10:12-11:32 | Etz Hayim p. 635; Hertz p. 447; Plaut p.802

Maftir & Haftarah: See sheet

### D'var Torah: The Silence of Aaron

In Parashat Shemini, we see that holy service is not without its perils. This portion of Leviticus sees Aaron's sons Nadav and Avihu killed after using their fire pans to bring a "strange" offering to the mishkan, consumed by the fire that emerges from the holy altar. Commentators like Ibn Ezra observe that the two brothers were not instructed to burn incense, nor they did use a consecrated fire (one that would not have been "strange"). Ultimately, Nadav and Avihu's offering was not "one commanded to them" by God, and the misdeed proves to be fatal. What the text does not shed light on, however, is Nadav and Avihu's exact intentions—was it deliberate misconduct or human error? Reading these actions with a more contemporary lens, I would suggest we read Nadav and Avihu's deaths as a Tanakhic account of an industrial accident.

Immediately after the tragedy, Moses steps in to "deal" with the situation - both by explaining it and cleaning up the mess. He tells Aaron that this was apparently what God meant when he said: "Through those near to Me I show Myself holy, And gain glory before all the people" (10:3). I imagine the scene outside the mishkan tent, Aaron half-listening to Moses and then watching as the bodies are removed and lain to rest outside the camp. But before the work of the mishkan resumes, the text tells us: *Vayidom Aharon*.

Aaron holds his peace. He is silent. In a book of Torah known for its unfeeling lists of rules, Aaron's silence shows us an unspoken but relatable moment of grief. Using my own family story as a way in, I have tried to listen a little more closely. As I see it, the silent moment shows Aaron seeing the bleak reality of his new job for the first time. In this new world of priestly service, not even the death of his sons will defer his obligation to serve God at the mishkan. Looking over this moment of profound loss, I imagine Aaron coming to terms with the significance of holy work and the high price he will pay for it. It leaves him speechless.

While my forefathers were not kohanim, they nevertheless worked perilous jobs as coal miners in Pennsylvania's Anthracite region. As a child, my mother always impressed me when she could glance at a black stone I brought her and tell me if it was coal or shale. Because of the mines, practically everyone in her hometown could do the same. Like Aaron and his sons, her town's relationship with their industry was total and all-consuming. As with Nadav and Avihu, my family's relationship with mining is not without accidents and tragedies. The Pennsylvania state government still maintains records of the hundreds of men who suffered in mining accidents in the region between 1899 and 1972. In these state records, I found new pieces of my own family's history. At the age of thirteen, my great-uncle Jimmy had one of his fingers crushed by a falling sack of coal. Joe Rompalo fell from a roof. Albert Norris was struck and killed by a runaway coal car. While I did not find my grandfather listed among the injured, I know well that he died of coal miner's emphysema—"black lung" from prolonged exposure to dust in the mines. Holding these stories in mind, I have a fuller sense of the sacrifices my ancestors made to their work, and like Aaron, fall quiet to appreciate the gravity of their commitment.

Whether as holy service or daily labor, each of us in the Jewish world take up some form of *avodah* (work). When I hear Parashat Shemini through my own family's past, I find that Aaron's silence provokes me to examine the significance of my own work. I ask myself: What can I offer? Whom do I really serve? Inasmuch as we can hear in Torah the story of our own lives, in Leviticus we can hear the story of our lives' labor. Parashat Shemini shows us that even holy service can come with costs. In Aaron's silence, I hear Torah's call to hold my peace and make my *avodah* something bigger.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Zushe Wiener**, *Conservative Yeshiva & RRC Rabbinical Student* 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.