



**PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER**

March 24-April 1, 2017 | 26 Adar-5 Nissan, 5777  
Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei/Shabbat Hachodesh

Friday, March 24   26 Adar				Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei/Shabbat Hachodesh Saturday, March 25   27 Adar		
<b>Candle Lighting</b>   6:55PM Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>David Rosen</b>   6:30PM Potluck Dinner with Speaker <b>Gadi Ezra</b>   7:30PM				Shacharit   10:00AM Mini Minyan   Tot Shabbat   JC   11:15AM Advanced Talmud   1:30PM <b>Spring Fling &amp; Auction</b>   8:30PM		
Sunday March 26 28 Adar	Monday March 27 29 Adar	Tuesday March 28 1 Nissan	Wednesday March 29 2 Nissan	Thursday March 30 3 Nissan	Friday March 31 4 Nissan	Saturday April 1 5 Nissan
Hebrew School 9:30AM  Remembering Marlene Schwartz זָכְרוֹן 2:00PM		<b>Rosh Hodesh 7:00AM</b>  Hebrew School 4:00PM  Board Meeting 7:15PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM	Mussar Path of the Mensch 7:00PM	Candle Lighting 7:02PM  It's Friday! 10:30AM  Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Elizabeth Schnur</b> 6:30PM	Shabbat Vayikra  Shacharit   10:00AM  Hebrew School Shabbat & Shabbat Kulanu  MLK, Heschel, and War Conflict and Economic Justice   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) Sarah Guthartz, Executive Director (executive.director@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

**Todah Rabbah!**

To **Marjorie, Joel** and **Sam Rothenberg** for hosting the Shabbat Shmooze last Shabbat.

**HaMakom Yenachem**

Our condolences go to:

**Jan Orzeck** and her entire family on the death of her familys' friend, **Helen Rosen**, z"l.

**Yahrzeits observed 27 Adar-4 Nissan:**

**Beatrice B. Snyder**, mother of Michael Snyder; **Betty Eisenstadt**, mother of Eric Eisenstadt; **Charlotte Leavitt Spilka**, mother of Ellen Spilka; **Clara Radwelsky**, grandmother of Steven Radwell; **David Blatt**, brother of Ralph Blatt; **David Steinfeld**, father of Alvin Steinfeld; **Edith K. Gottlieb**, aunt of Ray Kosarin; **Ethel Drucker**, mother of Ira Drucker; **Harry Smith**, brother of Ann Smith; **Julius Greenblatt**, friend of PSJC Community; **Lillian Greenfield**, grandmother of Sue Harris; **Marion Mark**, mother of Marjorie Rothenberg; **Morris Elworth**, grandfather of Steve Elworth; **Morris Sinow**, grandfather of Miriam Fleischmann; **Pearl Rothenberg**, mother of Joel Rothenberg; **Richard Wax**, brother of Ronnie Wax; **Ruth Batt Minkin**, mother of Rabbi Joshua Minkin; **Samuel Gitlin**, grandfather of Sophie Weber; **Sarah Elworth**, grandmother of Steve Elworth; **Sonya Levine**, mother of Steven Levine; **Sylvia Doro**, mother of Diane Buxbaum. *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

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



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**This Saturday!** Get a babysitter and buy tickets now!

It's going to be so much fun - **open bar** for the first hour of the evening, great snacks and delicious desserts all evening!  
Invite your friends to socialize and to bid on amazing items!

Live and Silent Auction! And it's all to help support PSJC.  
Check us out at [www.psjc.org/auction](http://www.psjc.org/auction) and get ready to have a great night at our fresh, fun and festive fundraising fete!

**Ticket price \$50, \$65 at the door.**



### **Potluck dinner and Speaker Gadi Ezra**

Friday, March 24 | 7:30PM

Following services stay for a potluck and teaching with Gadi Ezra, Israeli Human Rights Lawyer and Soldier.

### **Advanced Talmud**

Saturday, March 25 | 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)

### **Remembering Marlene Schwartz זכרון**

Sunday, March 26 | 2:00PM

The PSJC community and family and friends are invited to remember and celebrate the life of our wonderful friend Marlene Schwartz z"l, at PSJC. Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 22 to: Necha Sirota [nechisw@yahoo.com](mailto:nechisw@yahoo.com) or Fran Hawthorne [franhawthorne@yahoo.com](mailto:franhawthorne@yahoo.com). Also, please let us know if you can bring veggie/kosher/parve light snacks.

### **PSJC Board Meeting**

Tuesday, March 28 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

### **Tehila Nachalon Friedman: The Struggle for the Soul of Religious Zionism.**

(Shacharit Institute's Lecture Series on Israeli Diversity and Politics: Out Of Many Voices, A Common Future)

Wednesday, March 29 | 7:00PM | Kane Street Synagogue

Tehila Nachalon Friedman is a long-time activist in the National Religious community. She is director of the Center for Jewish Leadership at Kolot, co-founder of the Yerushalmim movement, formerly Chair of the Board of Ne'emanei Torah Va'Avodah for a moderate religious Zionist voice. PSJC is co-sponsoring this Lecture Series, please join us on these future dates: April 6, May 10 and May 25.

### **PJ Library Class: It's Friday!**

Friday, March 31 | 10:30AM | \$12 per class | \$10 for PSJC members

It's Friday! is a series of classes for children 3 and under and their caregivers. Join PSJC Tot Shabbat Leader, Abe, for hands on exploration of Shabbat and holidays. Visit [www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html](http://www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html) for more information.

### **Rodfei Tzedek Committee**

If anyone is interested in the Rodfei Tzedek Committee's events and/or related issues and opportunities, please email to [rodfei.tzedek@psjc.org](mailto:rodfei.tzedek@psjc.org) to get on the Committee's new Google email group. The group will post information and related opportunities to participate in community service and social justice activities.



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### Hebrew School Shabbat

Saturday, April 1

Celebrate Shabbat with the Hebrew School families! We'll join the main service for a special dvar Torah and aliyot to honor members of the Hebrew School community before heading downstairs for the April Shabbat Kulanu service, led by Abe and the students. Then join us for Kiddush following services and a surprise treat.

### MLK, Heschel, and War Conflict and Economic Justice

Saturday, April 1 | 1:30PM

Abraham Joshua Heschel and Martin Luther King Jr. met in 1963, and were friends and allies for the next five years, until King's death. On April 4, 1967, exactly one year before he was killed, King gave a speech against the Vietnam War and broadening his concern beyond the civil rights movement. Heschel played a role in this event. In this class, we will talk about the friendship of these two men, and look at excerpts from the speech King made 50 years ago. Taught by Rabbi Jeff Marker.

### First Night Seder at PSJC

Monday, April 10 | 6:00PM

For the second year and in collaboration with Ohel Ayalah and Kings Bay Y of Windsor Terrace, we will be hosting a first night seder in the Lower Sanctuary of PSJC. For more information and to register visit <https://www.psjc.org/first-night-seder.html>.

### People's Climate March/Brooklyn Synagogue Contingent

Friday, April 28-Saturday, April 29

Remember the huge People's Climate March in NYC in 2014? This year we will march in Washington DC, to show our lawmakers the importance of saving our planet. Hazon is organizing buses to DC on Friday **before Shabbat**, and sponsor housing in the DC area will also be available. For more information, please contact: [jewsforcleanenergy@gmail.com](mailto:jewsforcleanenergy@gmail.com). Bus details and general info at [www.hazon.org](http://www.hazon.org); for housing email [Jessica.p.haller@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.p.haller@gmail.com). PSJC friends and members may also join the weekly Jewish Hub conference call every Wednesday, 8:00PM, Dial-in: 1-605-475-2090 Access Code: 860304

### Brooklyn Celebrates Israel

Mark your calendars. Join us as we celebrate Israel in Brooklyn!

Yom Hazikaron Ceremony | April 30 | 6:30PM

Idan Raichel in Concert | May 1 | 7:45PM

Yom Israel | May 7 | 10:00AM - For children and those who love children

Be A Mensch...Bring Your Can To Shul!

### PESACH FOOD DRIVE

PSJC's food drive continues. Let's make this a time of giving/sharing our bounty.

Please be sure that all items are in original packaging.

Please do not bring glass jars or bottles, dented cans or expired dates by

**Thursday, April 6, 2017.**

**For more information about Passover, visit: [www.psjc.org/pesach-at-psjc.html](http://www.psjc.org/pesach-at-psjc.html)**



**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) **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); **joining the Hevra Kadisha**, email the coordinators at [hevra.kadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevra.kadisha@psjc.org).





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### **Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei/Shabbat Hachodesh**

Triennial (Exodus 35:1-37:16): Etz Hayim p. 552; Hertz p. 373

Maftir (Exodus 12:1-20): Etz Hayim p. 380; Hertz p. 253

Haftarah (Ezekiel 45:16-46; 18): Etz Hayim p. 1290; Hertz p. 1001

### **The Tabernacle of the People, for the People and by the People**

After a brief reminder to observe the Sabbath, the heart of this week's parsha begins with Moses taking donations from all of Israel, from "everyone whose heart moves him (35:5)" for the purpose of building the Tabernacle. In the following paragraph he addresses "all among you who are skilled" to "come and make all that that the Lord has commanded." The Israelites heed his call and "Everyone who excelled in ability and everyone whose spirit moved him came, bringing to the Lord his offering for the work of the Tent of Meeting (35:21)." Over and over, the Torah emphasizes that all of the Israelites participated in the building of the Tabernacle. While service in the Temple in Jerusalem will eventually be limited to the priests and Levites, the building of the Tabernacle was a communal affair, involving all of Israel.

The Tabernacle was set up on the first day of the first month of the second year in the wilderness (40:17). Today this day is called the first of Nissan. In ancient times this day was not just the semi-holiday of Rosh Hodesh. Rather, it was an annual holiday intended to recall the initial erection of the Tabernacle. This holiday is mentioned in a book called Megillat Ta'anit - literally the "Scroll of Fasting," a Second Temple document that lists the occasions on which Jews should not fast or offer eulogies. The first of these holidays begins on the first of Nissan and lasts eight days, the period of time it took to dedicate the Tabernacle according to the book of Leviticus.

The commentary on Megillat Ta'anit expands the religious meaning of the erection of the Temple by connecting it to a dispute between the two famous Second Temple groups, the Sadducees and the Pharisees. The Sadducees ruled that public sacrifices such as the daily offering (the tamid) and additional holiday offerings (the musaf) should be funded by the donations of individuals. In contrast, the Pharisees believed that public sacrifices should be purchased with the half-shekel Temple tax, which was donated equally by all Jews. The essence of this dispute seems to be over the preservation of the purity and righteousness of those who are allowed to participate in public sacrifices. The Sadducees believed that only the righteous and pure could participate in funding the sacrificial ritual and therefore, these sacrifices must be donated by individuals who would be vetted by the priestly ruling authorities. Public funds such as the half-shekel tax, donated by all Jews, would of necessity come from all types of Jews, both the righteous and transgressors, and thus must be rejected, according to the Sadducees, as a source of funding. In contrast, the Pharisees emphasized that all of Israel is to participate in the sacrificial service - transgressors alongside the righteous. And their participation was to be one hundred per cent equal. Every Jew would donate half a shekel a year, the rich could not give more, nor the poor less. As such, all Jews would have an equal part in the service of God in the Temple. This is the spirit of the emphasis on "all of Israel" found in this week's parsha, which is read only a few days before the first of Nissan, when this ancient holiday once existed. While we no longer celebrate this holiday, the egalitarianism of the Pharisees, their demand that all participate equally in the worship of God, still lives on among us.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion by Dr. Joshua Kulp, Rosh Yeshiva, from the "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. Dr. Joshua Kulp, Rosh Yeshiva, Talmud teacher, and a founder of the Conservative Yeshiva. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein of the Conservative Yeshiva may be found at <http://www.uscj.org.il/learn/commentaries/>

**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.