



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

March 16-24, 2018 | 29 Adar-8 Nissan 5778
Parashat Vayikra Shabbat HaChodesh

Friday, March 16 29 Adar				Parashat Vayikra Shabbat HaChodesh Saturday, March 17 1 Nissan		
Candle Lighting 5:38PM Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM				Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM Shabbat HaChodesh/Rosh Chodesh 10:00AM Isabel Reiner Bat Mitzvah Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan 11:15AM Jr. Congregation 11:15AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM <i>Mincha - Ava Barash Bat Mitzvah</i> 3:00PM		
Sunday March 18 2 Nissan	Monday March 19 3 Nissan	Tuesday March 20 4 Nissan	Wednesday March 21 5 Nissan	Thursday March 22 6 Nissan	Friday March 23 7 Nissan	Saturday March 24 1 Nissan
Hebrew School 9:30AM Hebrew Cooking with Shinshinim 4:00PM	An Exploration of the Talmud through the Jewish Year 12:00PM	Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM Gesher/Teen March for Our Lives 6:00PM	The Origins of the Jews: History and Memory 7:00PM	It's Friday Music Class 10:00AM Kabbalat Shabbat with Alan Palmer 6:30PM Candle Lighting 6:46PM	<i>Shabbat Hagadol Parashat Tzav</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Gabrielle Mollin Bat Mitzvah Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan Jr. Congregation 11:15AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM Niggun Share 6:45PM
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)		

Mazal Tov!

To **Isabel, Nicole, Yair** and **Sylvie** on Isabel's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat!
To **Ava, Sunny, Gregg** and **Jonah** on Ava's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat!

Todah Rabbah

To **Nicole Shaw** and **Yair Reiner** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of Isabel's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat.
To **Sunny** and **Gregg Barash** for sponsoring Seudah Shlishit this Shabbat in honor of Ava's Bat Mitzvah.

“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 auction@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!



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HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

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

Yahrzeits observed 1-7 Nissan:

Beatrice B. Snyder, mother of Michael Snyder; **Bernard Kabacoff**, father of Deena Steinfeld; **Betty Eisenstadt**, mother of Eric Eisenstadt; **Charlotte Leavitt Spilka**, mother of Ellen Spilka; **David Blatt**, brother of Ralph Blatt; **Ethel Drucker**, mother of Ira Drucker; **Israel Kindler**, father of Zev Kindler; **Julius Greenblatt**, observed by the PSJC Community; **Lillian Abramson**, aunt of Steve Elworth; **Lillian Greenfield**, grandmother of Sue Harris; **Marjorie Kahan**, aunt of Alan Palmer; **Morris Elworth**, grandfather of Steve Elworth; **Norman Levine**, uncle of Myron Levine and Gavielle Levine; **Richard Wax**, brother of Ronnie Wax; **Rosalind Sherman**, mother of Suzan Sherman; **Ruth Batt Minkin**, mother of Rabbi Joshua Minkin; **Samuel Gitlin**, grandfather of Sophie Weber; **Sheldon Kaplan**, father of Lynda Kaplan; **Shirley Zucker**, observed by the PSJC Community.

May their memories be for a blessing.

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, March 16 and 23 | 10:00AM | \$12 per class (\$10 per members)

It's Friday! is a series of classes for children 3 and under and their caregivers. Join PSJC Tot Shabbat Leader, Abe, for music and stories each week. For more information, www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html

Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu

Friday, March 16 | 6:30PM

Join us for a musical Shabbat celebration for all ages! Services begin in the sanctuary with Abe and Aileen. Then we'll head downstairs for a communal dinner. Everyone is welcome! Main entrees will be provided. RSVPs are strongly encouraged: www.psjc.org/event/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu1.html. **Please bring a generous salad/veggie side or dessert to share.** **If you have food allergies or dietary needs, please be sure to bring something you can eat, as we are unable to take special food requests for this meal.**

Kishkush Acharei Kiddush

Saturday, March 17 | 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, March 17 | 1:30PM

Hosted by Loretta Lurie - 474 5th Street corner of 7th Avenue

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!

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

Monday, March 19 and 26 | 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. This class will be taught primarily using English translations and is aimed at beginning to advanced learners.

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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The Origins of the Jews: History and Memory

Thursday, March 22 | 7:00PM

Join PSJC's own David Rosen to explore the Exodus (from an anthropologist's perspective). It's a great way to prepare for Pesach.

Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, March 24 | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with our Rabbinic Intern, Leora Kling Perkins.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, March 24 | 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.

Niggun Share

Saturday, March 24 | 6:45PM

Come savor the last hour of Shabbat by singing melodies, old and new, with PSJC Rabbinic Intern Leora Kling Perkins. We will conclude with havdallah. Snacks will be served.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 27 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

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

Saturday, April 7 | 1:30PM

Join us on the Shabbat before Yom HaShoah 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), which describes a teenage Holocaust survivor and wounded IDF soldier's emotional and physical recovery in his new homeland, his recollections of his pre-WWII childhood, and his discovery of his calling as a writer. BPL has 11 English and one Hebrew print copies as well as ebook and audiobook editions of the novel.

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 and adults alike. For more information or to RSVP, please contact rabbicarter@psjc.org.

PSJC Knitters

Monday, April 9 | 7:30PM

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

Communal Yom HaShoah

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

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

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 (rabbicarter@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.



Parashat Vayikra Shabbat HaChodesh

Triennial: Leviticus 3:1-4:26, Numbers 28:9-15

Etz Hayim p.592-599, 930-931; Hertz p.415-419, 695; Plaut p.766, 1210

Maftir: Exodus 12:1-2 | Etz Hayim p.380; Hertz p.253; Plaut p.458

Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16-46:18 | Etz Hayim p.1290; Hertz p.1001; Plaut p.1653

D'var Torah: Meeting & Witnessing

We have just finished *Sefer Shemot* (Book of Exodus) and its multiple chapters describing the donation of raw materials and the building of the Mishkan (Tabernacle). *Sefer Vayikra* (Book of Leviticus) marks a change, opening as it does with a calling, a speaking, and a meeting/witnessing.

The opening line is *Vayikra el Moshe* (and [God] called to Moses), *vayidaber Adonai elav* (and God spoke to him), *m'ohel mo'ed* (from the Tent of Meeting). The word “*mo'ed*” is a complex one. Here it means meeting, but elsewhere it also refers to a festival (we say *Moadim L'Simcha* during the intermediary days of *Sukkot* and *Pesach*). Taking into account both uses, we can understand *mo'ed* as a regularized meeting of the human and the divine. *Mo'ed* also contains the word *ed*, which means “witness,” and not surprisingly the *Ohel Mo'ed* is also referred to (see *Shemot* 38:21 and *Bamidbar* 1:50) as *Ohel Ha'Edut*, the Tent of the Witnessing/Testimony. Sitting at the center of the Israelite camp, the *Mishkan/Ohel Mo'ed/Ohel Ha'Edut* holds what is called *Ha-edut* (the Testimony), literally the tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written—the sign/record of the covenant between God and Israel.

Combining all of these elements, we can learn that the regular meeting of human and divine bears witness to the specialness of their relationship; it is a re-enactment of the ultimate meeting of the human and divine at Sinai that brought forth Torah. Viewed this way, one might literally call the Torah “the Witnessing.” And the Israelites witnessed so much—the birth of the Jewish people going out of Israel, the revelation at Sinai, and ultimately coming into the Promised Land. On Passover, when we are asked to imagine ourselves as if we ourselves are Israelites freed from bondage, we are asked to witness what they have seen and felt as the most meaningful way of understanding the Jewish story.

So too today is an age of witnessing. Think of the #metoo movement or the struggle to understand how best to witness the strife of Dreamers in the United States or asylum seekers in Israel—all people crying out for their stories to be heard and compassionate solutions to their struggles to be found. Perhaps most poignantly in the United States, we watch with a mix of broken hearts and pride as teenagers—among them many USYers—demand witness around issues of gun control.

And what does it mean to witness? A closer look at the root of *edut* reveals a possible link with the word *ad*, which means, among other things, “up to” or “until.” *Edut* is something like a threshold, a knowledge full to the point of bursting. It's the transfer point, the transom, the place of crossing over. Maybe this is why Jewish thresholds contain a *mezzuzah* with a protective holy text for moments of transition. The text serves as sign of witness for us.

In ancient Greek the word for “witnessing” can be translated as “martyrdom.” Sadly, Judaism has a long history of martyrs, but to pass the threshold of life to death is considered a choice of last resort. The ultimate Jewish value is to “choose life,” not to die for a cause. Indeed, in our age of witnessing, asylum seekers, victims of sexual abuse, and teen survivors of gun violence are refusing to be martyrs. They are raising their voices as individuals so that the community will witness them. Their very lives depend upon it. To live is to witness, and one can never be a witness alone.

For Discussion: What kinds of relationships require us to show up, regularly, as a kind of testimony to their specialness? What larger issues in society do you feel are pulling you personally to “show up” and bear witness?

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Dr. Stephen Arnoff**, Executive Director, Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center 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.