

Parshat Behar-Bechukotai Shabbat Mevarchim **Shaul Robinson**

Josh Rosenfeld Assistant Rahhi

Senior Rabbi

Sherwood Goffin

Foundina Chazzan

27 lyyar 5778 Yanky Lemmer

Cantor

May 11-12 **Tamar Fix**

Alan Samuels Executive Director President

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

6:33pm Earliest Candle Lighting 7:45pm Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday Night

6:45pm Live Music Kabbalat Shabbat celebrating Yom Yerushalyim, led by Mo Kiss and Kol HaNeshama in the Belfer Beit Midrash

Early Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in Nathaniel Richman Cohen 6:45pm Sanctuary led by Chazzan Yisroel Lesches. Dvar Torah given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld.

7:50pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

Shabbat Morning

Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by shiur given 7:45am by Community Intern, Zissy Turner

Parsha shiur given by Rabbinic Intern, Jeremy Perlow

8:30am 9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer. Sermon given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld followed by

Beginners Service led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm LL201 9:15am

9:16am Latest Shema

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit 9:45am

Midrash. Dvar Torah given by Rabbi Shaul Robinson.

10:00am Youth Groups for children ages 2-12

11:00am "Baby & Me" (ages 0-24 months, 3rd floor gym)

Shabbat Afternoon

4:00pm Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society: Meet in the shul lobby to visit patients at Mount Sinai West. New volunteers welcome and

6:00pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler in the Belfer

Beit Midrash

6:30pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm 211

Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the 6:30pm

Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld.

Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. Guest speaker Shmuel Shattach 7:30pm

8:46pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

ROSH CHODESH

The molad for Rosh Chodesh Sivan will be Tuesday morning at 21 minutes and 6 chalakim after 5 AM. Rosh Chodesh Sivan will be on Tuesday.

THANK YOU TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush: The Horwitz Family in memory of their father Eli Horwitz z"l.

Main Kiddush:

Aviva & Marvin Sussman and Judy & Moshe Sokolow in memory of their parents Sol & Roslyn Sussman, z"l, and Charles Bendheim, z"l, whose yahrtzeits are all in the month of Iyar.

Ken & Marcie Cappell in commemoration of the first yahrtzeit of Ken's mother Evelyn Cappell , Avigayil bat Chaim Shraga Feivil a"h and in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Ken's grandfather Jacob Cappell, Yaakov Emanuel Ben Chaim Zev z"l.

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

Naomi & Bernie Zweig in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Naomi's mother, Freida bat Ovadiah Yaakov Brindel z"l. Also in honor of the birth of their grandson Ronen Alexander to their children Yael and Elliot Zweig. Martine & Jack Schenker and family in commemoration of the upcoming yahrtzeit of Irene Schenker "Oma" a"h.

Beginners Kiddush: Helga Weisburger in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her beloved father Ephraim ben Menachem Mendel z"l.

Seudah Shlishit: Lois Gottesman in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of her father Bernard Gottesman z"l and her maternal grandparents David and Esther Davidovic z"l.

MAZAL TOV

Grandparents Miriam and Jeffrey Zuckerman on the birth of a son to children Lea and Rabbi Yakir Schechter in Merion Station, PA.

Anna Tafet on the engagement of her granddaughter Devora to Noam Akun. Mazel tov to Devora's parents Shifa and Tzvi Tafet of Jerusalem.

Joyce and David Friedman on the engagement of their son Adam to Rebecca Miller of Jamaica Estates. Mazal tov to Rebecca's parents Karyl and Asher Miller and to Adam's grandfather Moish Friedman and the entire mishpacha.

THIS SHABBAT

Friday Evening, 6:45pm: Live Music Kabbalat Shabbat celebrating Yom Yerushalyim, led by Mo Kiss and Kol HaNeshama in the Belfer Beit Midrash with Dr. Adena Berkowitz and Rabbi Shaul Robinson. Wine and Sushi Kiddush after services. LSS members are welcome to attend.

Friday Evening, 6:45pm: Early Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by Chazzan Lemmer and Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld.

Friday Evening, 7:50pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

Shabbat Morning, 9:00am: Services led by Chazzan Lemmer. Sermon given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld.

Shabbat, 6:30pm: Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld

Shabbat, 7:30pm: Seudat Shlishit:

We are pleased to welcome Shmuel Shattach to LSS. As the Executive Director of Ne'emanei Torah Va'Avodah, Shmuel oversees all programing.Ne'emanei Torah Va'Avodah, a religious-Zionist movement that seeks to return Religious Zionism to its roots, works to create a thinking religious culture that is open and self-critical, and encourages a courageous halakhic discourse that deals with the challenges of contemporary times. Its orientation aims to promote the values of tolerance, equality, and justice in religious society, and to have a real influence on the Jewishdemocratic character of Israeli society. Shmuel

holds a B.A. in education and logistics and a degree in public management. He worked as Rabbi, teacher and as a Vice Principal for Amit Technological High School. He also served as an envoy in Chicago and as a parliamentary assistant in the Knesset. Shmuel lives in Lod and is married with six children.

THIS SUNDAY

International Women's Talmud Day Founded by Shayna Abramson and co-sponsored by JOFA, JOFA UK, and Yeshivat Maharat. To learn more about the genesis of this unique event and how to participate please visit https://www.internationalwomenstalmudday.com

4:00pm: LSS Book Club presents Eternal Life by Dara Horn. Location: Home of Gale and Steven Spira. Please call the shul for exact address.

7:00pm: LSS Film Committee presents Shababnikim Join us for the award-winning series that manages to be funny, cutting-edge and unexpectedly touching all at the same time. Screening dates: May 13, June 3, June 10 and June 24. Register at www.lss.org/event/shababnikim

HAKARAT HATOV

Nathan Aaron Rosen for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

Agam Ackerman, Michael Blitzer, Ava Eden, Joseph Savenor and Sara Spira for volunteering last shabbat for our Ben Adam Le'Chavero Kiddush Program. We are looking for volunteers to continue this important mitzvah! (helping to bring food and drinks to those who need assistance) please email teens@lss.org.

The Women's Tefillah Group wishes to thank Tamar and the LSS office and facility staff for all their work on the Bat Mitzvah Project. A yasher koach and thank you to Roberta Flatow who did the calligraphy on the benchers. We also would once again like to thank Cantor Goffin, the mentors, flower providers, Kiddush contributors and all participants who helped make the Bat Mitzvah Project such a special Torah experience.

ANNUAL DINNER: SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Guests of Honor:

Dr. Susan Ungar-Mero and Steven Mero **Keter Torah Award:** Chani and Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld Le'dor Va'dor Award:

Shirley Wald and Paris Wald-Stulbach To register visit www.lss.org/dinner

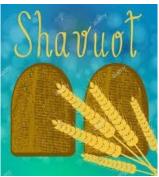
MEMORIES OF MARVIN GOODMAN 2"I

Hearing Assist

Available

The Goodman family would love to hear about your memories of Marvin and how he touched your life. To share stories and pictures please email Rose Landowne at roselandowne@gmail.com

SHAVUOT @ LSS



This year Shavuot begins Motzei Shabbat, May 19 and concludes on the evening of Monday May 21.

To see everything taking place on Shavuot please visit www.lss.org/shavuot2018.

Erev Shavuot, Saturday Evening, May 19: 11:30pm – 5:00am: The Rabbi Moshe Kasirer Tikun Leil Shavuot. Join us this year for an evening of learning! The evening starts at 11:30pm with Rabbi Robinson as the Keynote speaker in commemoration of the 25th yahrtzeit of his father Graham Robinson z"l and then continues throughout the evening with various classes and discussions until 5:00am. Cheesecake, blintzes, salad bar and coffee will be served throughout the evening.

Shavuot, Monday, May 21: Following Musaf: Shavuot Mishnah Siyum Luncheon Sova Catering will be offering a delicious dairy feast at LSS! Register at www.lss.org/event/siyum18

Interested in being a Shavuot Sponsor? Please email the shul office at info@lss.org. Thank you in advance!

Sponsorship available: Flowers for Main sanctuary and Beit Mirdrah (looking for one or two sponsors)-\$1.000 eac and Neilat Hachag-\$300. Already Sponsored: Honorarium for Elana, Tea and Torah Refreshments, and Tikun Leil Shavuot Refreshments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, May 16: Rabbi Professor Yoni Grossman will be speaking on "Revelation and Distance: The Pilgrimage to Mount Sinai" after Ma'ariv. Rabbi Professor Yonatan Grossman, one of Israel's brightest young Bible scholars, is currently writing a new commentary of the Chumash ('The Noam Series'). Dr. Grossman earned his MA in Jewish Philosophy from the Hebrew University and his PhD in Bible from Bar-Ilan University. He is a senior lecturer at the Department of Bible, Bar-Ilan University and at the Department of Bible, Herzog College, Alon-Shvut. He is the author of 'Abraham – A Story of a Journey' and 'Esther -The Outer Narrative and the Hidden Reading.'

Sunday June 3: Celebrate Israel Parade More details about exact time and meeting place of LSS marchers to follow. Please register in advance at www.lss.org/event/israelparade so that we know how many and what size t-shirts to order.

FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL PROGRAM

LSS is participating in a global project designed to honor the memory of the 23,632 fallen IDF soldiers who sacrificed their lives defending and protecting the land of Israel. This is not an event surrounded by fanfare but a quiet and holy act between you and the neshama you choose to honor. Please join us by "adopting" a soldier and performing a positive action in his/her memory (i.e. chesed, Torah study- including learning Mishnayot, giving tzedakah or Davening).

To participate please visit http://honorisraelsfallen.com/group/318



Yehuda (Idel) Kinreich, was born on October 20, 1913, in the city of Chavinia, near Krakow, Poland and in 1943 he immigrated to Israel and worked as a driver. The first to participate in the War of Independence and served in the Givati Brigade. On the first day of the State of Israel, he fell in an attempt to capture the Iraqi-Suweidan Police on 12 May 1948. He was brought to the military cemetery in Be'er Tuvia.



Aharon Weizmann, son of Pesia and Moshe, was born on January 15, 1922, in the city of Bedzin, Poland. In 1924 he immigrated to Israel with his parents when he was two years old. Aharon fell in Haifa while he was about to rescue a friend who was wounded by sniper bullets on April 15, 1948. He was brought to eternal rest in the military cemetery in Haifa.

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

There are times when, for various reasons, classes may be canceled. If you would like to confirm that any particular class is indeed taking place please call the shul office at 212-874-6100. To see our full Adult Ed. Brochure please visit us at www.lss.org

<u>Sunday</u>

- Sunday Morning Responsa with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; Takes place after the 2nd Minyan Belfer Beit Midrash.
- Sunday Morning Beit Midrash Program: 10:15am— 11:45am. Come enjoy a bagel and OJ with our Rabbinic Interns, Zachary Rothblatt and Jeremy Perlow, and participate in two interactive shiurim on 1) Jewish Philosophy and 2) the Laws and Proper Perspective on Blessings and Jewish Holidays.

Monday:

- Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I and II: 6:30pm-8:00pm: The 5 classes last 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at www.lss.org/beginners.
 Rm 210 and Rm 211.
- The Jewish Living Workshop Led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum: 7:30pm-8:30pm The Jewish Living Workshop, a 10 sessions series, is a "hands-on" experience. We learn by doing. The workshop is free, a few sessions will require a modest fee for materials; register at JLworkshop@yahoo.com. Topic: Shavuot Preparing Ourselves and Our Home.
- Chug lvrit given by Hai Piazesky. 7:00pm-8:15pm. In the class, we read articles from the Israeli press, watch videos of news stories, documentaries and comedy clips, listen to (and sing along!) Israeli songs and chat in Ivrit. Rm 207
- Rav Kook's Orot ha-Torah: A guided exploration with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld: 7:00pm-8:00pm. What is Torah? Why do we learn it? How does Torah affect the soul? Join as we prepare for Shavuot with Rav Kook's masterpiece. 4 text based sessions. Beit Midrash

Tuesday:

- Talmud Class for Women Studying Mesechet Ketubot led by Rachel Rosenthal, PhD candidate in Rabbinic Literature at JTS: 8:00am: The course focuses on both content and skill building. Students are expected to participate in reading and some translation of the text. As this is an ongoing class, attendance every week is expected. Rm LL202
- The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha" led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson:10:30am—11:30am. RmLL201
- **Gemara b'Shana** in Memory of Bruce Ritholtz led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson:7:00pm—8:00pm. Belfer Beit Midrash

Wednesday:

- Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai given by Sara Brzowsky: 8:00pm-9:00pm. Rm 207
- Beit Midrash Night, The Book of Samuel II led by Ron Platzer; 8:10pm-9:000pm. Rm 211

Thursday:

- Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer:11:30am-12:30pm. Rm LL201 Last Week's Topic: Antisemitism - Is it Worldwide??
- **The Jacob Adler Parsha Class:** Explorations in the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 7:00pm–8:00pm. Belfer Beit Midrash

Did you miss Paul Shaviv's lecture series? Visit https://soundcloud.com/paulshaviv-jewishhistory (includes all talks from LSS Winter series 'Heretics and Heresies')

MISHNAH IMPOSSIBLE

We are keeping a decades old LSS tradition of learning the whole Mishnah between Pesach and the second day of Shavuot - and we can't accomplish this goal without YOU! Please contribute and help us achieve our goal of having every member and friend of LSS take on (at least) one small Mishnah portion to learn. We promise you a meaningful and elevating experience, all in time for Shavuot. Volunteer mentors or study partners are available upon request. Please sign up at www. hadranalach.com/507 to choose a portion you would like to study.

All learning will culminate with a celebratory Siyum luncheon on Monday, May 21 following Musaf.

Please consider learning in memory of one or more of the IDF soldiers who fell in the defense of Medinat Israel. This is a completely voluntary option, but those who participated in past years found it to be a very meaningful experience. Please email Nathan at <a href="https://nxeedoct.org/ncedes/ncede

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

זרעים Seedlings (2 years old) Room 210 שורשים Roots (3-4 years old) Room 211 ניצנים Buds (K-1st) Room 208 פרחים Flowers (2nd-7th) Room 206 ענפים Branches (2nd-7th) Room 207



Youth Schedule:

10:00am- Drop off

10:30am - Davening

10:50am - Shmita Year and The 6 Day War

11:00am - Baby & Me (3rd-floor Gym)

11:15am— What Changed? The Tochacha with Hashem

This week we'll conclude Vayikra with a double Parsha, Behar and Bechukotai Behar discusses concepts of the land, including shemita, working for six years, resting the land on the seventh. In Bechukotai 26:8, Hashem tells us that if we keep the mitzvot, we'll be fruitful and strong: "Five of you will chase away one hundred of the enemy, and one hundred of you will chase away 10,000 of the enemy." We saw this come true during The Six Day War in 1967; hundreds of Israeli soldiers were able to chase away thousands of attackers. The end of Bechukotai is a Tochecha, a rebuke, of what would happen if we don't keep the mitzvot. And even in that instance, where the Jewish people are exiled into galut, Hashem says he will keep the treaty with the Jewish people.

After Shul ask your children:

What year is the *shemita year?*When was the *yovel year?*How do we see Parshat Bechukotai come alive in modern history?

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, May 20th: 11:00am: Shavuot Ice Cream Party. We are searching for a sponsor, please contact youth@lss.org

Sunday, June 10th: 10:00am-12:00pm "Tie-Dyes and Goodbyes"

Sunday, June 24: 10:00am-12:00pm- Babies and Brunch Five Senses Edition

<u>Acknowledgements</u>

- Thank you, Estee & Eli Friedman, Vanessa & Michael Rouzenrouch for sponsoring the next edition of Babies & Brunch!
- Thank you, Miriam & Jesse Izak, for sponsoring nosh and popsicles for Youth Groups this Shabbat.

We are still looking for a sponsor of the Shavuot Ice Cream Party.

Baby & Me Recap

Last week the babes learned Shabbat Hamoadim, through Dinosaur Goes to Israel, the story of a dinosaur celebrating all of the biblical holidays in Eretz Yisrael, eating Matzah in Mesada, and blowing Shofar in the Shuk. The babes ended with One Ted Falls out of Bed, an introductory book of numbers and counting.



Happy Birthday to Erin Roxland. We will celebrate in groups this Shabbat!

Shabbat Shalom! Ariella & Mendel Lazarus

THE MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT

We're getting ready for an incredible slate of Shavuot programming - stay tuned for details on a special all-night learning schedule just for Teens, and a park outing with all your friends! We're seeking sponsors for snacks and refreshments for our Teen Tikkun Leil Shavuot - please let us know if you'd like to take part!

Wednesday, May 30: "I on Campus": Today's Actual Jewish Experience on College Campuses. Calling all 11th and 12th grade students, and their parents! Join UJA-Federation, Columbia/Barnard Hillel, NYU Hillel, Hunter College Hillel, Manhattan BBYO, and The Jewish Education Project to explore the complex experience of being Jewish and engaging with Israel on today's college campuses. Hear from current college students about how they navigate these complicated waters, and engage in thoughtful conversations to grapple with the complexity of these issues. Register here: https://bit.ly/2lojDjw and reach out to Erica Cohen at cohene@ujafedny.org with any questions.

Shabbat Shalom! Danielle & Ariel Sterman

Weekly Prayer Schedule: May 13				Mincha/Ma'ariv: 7:50pm (Sun) 7:55pm(Mon-Thurs)		
Day	Sunday Yom Yerushalayim	Monday	Tuesday Rosh Chodesh	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daf Yomi	7:45am	6:15am	6:15am	6:20am	6:15am	6:20am
Shacharit	7:00am, 8:30am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:40am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am

Parshat Behar – Bechukotai

May 12

Written by: Nathan Aaron Rosen



Curse - What is the real curse?

In today's Parsha, Gild promises that if we keep His commandments we will enjoy material prosperity and dwell securely in the land of Israel. But He also warns us of the dire consequences if we abandon our covenant with Him.

It is only natural to fear hunger during the Sabbatical seventh year when we are commanded to refrain from sowing, pruning, reaping, or gathering the harvest: G-d reassures us, however, that the abundance of the previous six years will carry us through for the next three years. G-d promises, as well, that if we follow His commandments, we will have security, peace, military success, timely rain and plentiful food. Unfortunately, the inverse is also true; if we do not obey G-d and do not observe His commandments, the People of Israel will pay a steep price. In Leviticus 26:26, we are warned that the penalties of non-observance are wide-ranging and terrible: "I will break for you the staff of bread, ten women will bake your bread in a single oven, and they will dole out your bread by weight, and though you will eat, you shall not be satisfied."

בְּשִׁבְרָי לְכֶם מִטֵּה־לֶּחֶם וְאָפוּ עֲשֶׂר נְשֵׁים לַחְמְכֶם בְּתַנְּוּר אֶחְׁד וְהַשִּׁיבוּ לַחְמְכֶם בִּמִשְׁקֵל וָאַכְלְתָּם וִלֹּא תִשְׂבֵּעוּ: (ס)

Although there are many puzzling pieces to this Pasuk, the phrase "You will eat, you shall not be satisfied," is of particular interest to me. One way to understand this verse is to look at other examples in the *Tanakh* where people eat but are not satisfied: Haggai 1:6: "eat without being satisfied"; Micah 6:14: "eat but not be satisfied"; Isaiah 9:19: "eat on the left hand and is not satisfied"; and Hoshea 4:10: "they shall eat, but not be sated."

Another way to comprehend the meaning is to look for examples where the Torah mentions the opposite: "Eat and be satisfied." Deuteronomy 8:10, requires a person to thank G-d (*Birkat haMazon*) after they have eaten and are satisfied.

But commentators on Leviticus 26:26 recognize that given the context of a famine, the simple *p'shat* would be that nobody has sufficient food to eat. **Rashbam** articulates this and says it is "because the rations are so inadequate as it is weighted out and in rationed portions." But not all the commentators are content with that answer. **Rashi** identified seven punishments from this verse as the curse; including the destruction of the food supply and crumbly bread. But he goes on to add "a curse in the intestines" following the *Sifra* for Bechukotai, Chapter 6:2 who defines this as a famine of intestinal commotion.

Other commentators go even further and express that it is more than just the lack of quantity of food. **Rashbam** provides an alternative meaning — that even when eaten in large quantities, the food will not satisfy or satiate the one who eats it, because there will be a curse on it. **Ibn Ezra** sharpens the point by observing that hunger normally abates after one has eaten a little, but in this case, even great amounts of food will not satisfy. **Sforno** learns from that the person without bread in their basket will feel psychological hunger more deeply than the person with bread in their basket (Yoma 74B). The fear and concern for a future lack of food may keep a person from feeling satisfied even from food that they are now eating.

In fact, consuming less than the usual amount of food might actually be somewhat beneficial. Recently, there have been scientific studies about the health benefits of a very low-calorie diet (VLCD). So, it might turn out that not having all the food one wants might actually be somewhat of a blessing. Another way to look at the situation would be that even though it is a punishment, G-d is using the punishment to set people on the right track and help them become healthier and better.

G-d wants us to be His people, follow His commandments, and in effect be His servant, rather than a slave to others or to our desires. In a way, addiction is being a slave to the drive for temporary or unachievable satisfaction, whether the drive is for alcohol, drugs, pleasure or food. G-d does not want us to be a slave to those desires, but rather find satisfaction in what we already have. He is trying to tell us to be satisfied and feel grateful when we eat even a small amount (Deut 8:10) by requiring us to recite the *Birkat haMazon*.

The real curse might be in "not being satisfied" — that no matter how much one consumes, a person is unable to reach emotional and psychological satisfaction. *Pirkei Avot* 4:1 tries to teach us a similar lesson about who is wise, mighty or rich: If we do not follow G-d's commandments, we will be cursed, and part of that curse will include famine and lack of food.

In some ways, learning to do *mitzvot* may teach us a way to become satisfied. There is, however, a more profound lesson to be learned — that the deepest curse might be our inability to be satisfied.

Hopefully, we will all have sufficient food to eat, and most importantly, learn to be satisfied with what we have.

Shabbat Shalom

Dedicated on the 23rd yahrzeit on Iyar 24 of Rebecca Rosen, bat Aaron Haim & Golda Kotzin who passed away at age 95 in 1995.

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