

Parshat Chukat

Senior Rabbi

Josh Rosenfeld Assistant Rahhi **Sherwood Goffin** Foundina Chazzan Yanky Lemmer Cantor

June 22-23

**Alan Samuels Tamar Fix** Executive Director President

# SHABBAT SCHEDULE

6:57pm Earliest Candle Lighting 8:13pm **Shabbat Candle Lighting** 

Friday Night

Early Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in Nathaniel Richman Cohen 7:05pm

Sanctuary

Drasha given by Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen 8:15pm

Sanctuary

Shabbat Morning

7:45am Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by shiur given

by Dr. Moshe Sokolow

8:30am Parsha Shiur given by Community Intern, Zissy Turner on Og, King of

Bashan: A (Very) Tall Tale

9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Drasha given by

Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt followed by Musaf.

9:10am 9:15am

Beginners Service led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm LL201 9:45am

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit

Midrash

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

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

Shabbat Afternoon

9:14pm

4:00pm Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society: Meet in the shul lobby to visit

patients at Mount Sinai West. New volunteers needed

6:30pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler in the Belfer

Beit Midrash

7:00pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with Rabbi Ephraim

Buchwald in Rm 211

Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the 7:00pm

Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Community Intern,

Zissy Turner on Echo Chambers: The Tower of Babel as Case Study

8:00pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. Dvar Torah given by Rabbinic Intern,

> **Zachary Rothblatt** Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

> > **MAZAL TOV**

Ruthy and Cantor Yisroel Lesches on the birth of a baby girl, Shira Sophia.

#### LSS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SECURITIY TEAM

Sign up for the qualifying course! July 8 and July 15 8:00pm at LSS.

Men and Women welcome! To apply for the training course please visit

http://css.memberlodge.org/page-481705

Shabbat Shalom!

# THIS SHABBAT

10 Tammuz 5778

Friday Evening, 7:05pm: Early Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Drasha given by Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt

Friday Evening, 8:15pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary

Shabbat Morning, 9:00am: Drasha given by Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt

Shabbat, 7:00pm: Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Community Intern, Zissy Turner

Seudah Shlishit: Dvar Torah given by Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt

### THANK YOU TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush: Nathan Rosen and Priva Simon in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of their beloved mothers, Golda Seva Rosen, Zehava bat Mordechai v' Miriam a"h and Gisela S. Simon, Gisa bat Elhanan Mordechai v' Reizel, a"h

Main Kiddush: Sponsors welcome

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

Lisanne and Arthur Lubitz in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Arthur's father Yitzchak ben Yishayahu z"l

Beginners Kiddush: Sponsored in loving memory of Farokh and Shmuel Shoshani z"l and in honor of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald

Seudah Shlishit: Sponsors welcome

### THIS SUNDAY

10:30am: Babies & Brunch Five Senses Edition

7:00pm: Please join us for the last screening of Shababnikim. This screening will include episodes 10-12. Register at www.lss.org/film

# HAKARAT HATOV

Perry Davis for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

Thank you to each and every one of you that attended and/or supported our annual dinner this past Sunday evening. The success of the dinner truly translates to continued quality programming, shiurim, and beautiful shabbatot and chagim celebrated together as a community. May we continue to galvanize together as a community on many happy occasions and honor those members that set themselves apart in their involvement and dedication to our shul.

# **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

**Professor Richard B. Stone Barbara Klein** 

In case of a bereavement, please call our Clergy at 646-543-7485 (day or night)

If you would like to receive the Shabbat Echod by e-mail, sign up at www.lss.org.

# LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS

Alan Samuels, President (president@lss.org)

lan Silver, Jay Ziffer, Morey Wildes, Vice Presidents James Nussbaum, Treasurer Michael Roxland, Controller Adam Herbst, Financial Secretary Judith Sabba, Executive Secretary, Paris Wald Stulbach, Corresponding Secretary Tanya Warshawsky, Recording Secretary, Randy Price, Yitzy Rubin Starting July 1, new appointees are in bold, with titles to be determined.

Weekly Prayer Schedule: June 24					Mincha/Ma'ariv: 8:20pm (Sun-Thurs)	
Day	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daf Yomi	7:45am	6:15am	6:20am	6:20am	6:15am	6:20am
Shacharit	7:10am, 8:30am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday, June 25: 7:30pm: YP Women's Night of Learning Join Young Professional women from LSS for a night of learning in honor of Rosh Chodesh. Glean some inspiring and actionable insights to infuse your daily life with more meaning and purpose. Engage in discussion, drink wine and meet other YPs. Location will be determined upon registration. To register, visit <a href="https://www.lss.org/yp">www.lss.org/yp</a>

**Save the date: Shabbat, September 1: Beginners Luncheon** The cost is only \$25. Please make your reservations by Thursday, August 30th. You can register online at <a href="https://www.lss.org.beginners">www.lss.org.beginners</a> or call 212 874 6100.

### **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 <a href="https://www.lss.org">www.lss.org</a> **Sunday** 

- Sunday Morning Responsa with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; Takes place after the 2nd Minyan Belfer Beit Midrash. (CANCELED this week)
- 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. Breakfast is sponsored by Bella Hass Weinberg in honor of Rabbinic Interns Zachary Rothblatt and Jeremy Perlow.

# **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 Josh Rosenfeld 10:30am—11:30am. RmLL201
- Beit Midrash Night, The Book of Samuel II led by Ron Platzer; 7:20pm–8:20pm. Rm 211 (CANCELED this week)
- **Gemara b'Shana** in Memory of Bruce Ritholtz led by Rabbi Robinson :7:00pm—8:00pm. Belfer Beit Midrash (CANCELED this week)

### Wednesday:

- Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai given by Sara Brzowsky: 8:00pm-9:00pm. Rm 207 Thursday:
- Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer:11:30am-12:30pm. Rm LL201 Last Week's Topic: What Does Belonging to a Shul Mean To You
- The Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha 7:00pm-8:00pm.Belfer Beit Midrash (CANCELED this week)

# **EVENT SPACES AT LSS**

LSS boasts a range of multi-function rooms for your next simcha or event. Contact us for a private tour of our beautiful outdoor terrace. 442—seat circular sanctuary. Our warm and inviting Beit Midrash and our other event space possibilities. Whether you need to book a venue for a bris, wedding, bar/bat mitzvah, a board meeting, a birthday party or just an informal gathering. We are sure to have something that meets your needs.

For more information, visit <u>www.lss.org/eventspace</u> E: Devora Movtady at devora@lss.org T: 212 874 6100 ext 106.

#### OUTH DEPARTMENT

זרעים TSeedlings (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



# **Shabbat Youth Schedule**

Schedule:

10:00 am - Dropoff and Davening (all groups)

10:50 am - Parsha and Popsicles (Rooms 206, 207, 208)

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

11:15 am - Moshe and the Rock Circle Time (Room 211)

11:45 am - Pickup and groups end

\*4:30 pm - Shabbat Shalom Oneg

Parshat Chukat:
Written by Ariella Lazaros

Chronologically, Parshat Chukat takes place in the final years Bnei Yisrael wandered the desert. Parshat Chukat has many important concepts, one of which is Parah Adumah or 'Red Heifer.' The ashes of a Red Heifer were used to purify someone after they became tomeh (impure) from an interaction with the deceased. In the final and 40th year, as Bnei Yisrael traveled back to the city of Kadesh, Moshe's sister Miriam passed away. When Miriam passed, a special well that had been blessed because of Miriam, dried up. Stuck in a desert with no water, Bnei Yisrael began to panic and spoke poorly of Moshe behind his back. When Moshe turned to Hashem, Hashem directed Moshe to speak to a specific rock and that water would follow. Lacking patience, Moshe became angry and hit the rock. For this, neither Moshe nor his brother Aharon were able to enter the land of Israel. Right before Eretz Yisrael, at Har Hahor, Aharon passed away and his son, Elazar was named the next Kohen Gadol.

### After Shul, ask your children:

Why did the well dry up?

Which city were Bnei Yisrael approaching when Miriam passed away?

What did Moshe do when there was no water?

Who was Aharon's successor as Kohen Gadol?

#### Thank you - Hakarat Hatov

To our dear friend and youth leader, **Uriel Lavi**, thank you for all of your hard work this past year. *Kol Hakavod! Uriel*, you helped create an environment for the oldest children conducive to a fun and educational Shabbat experience and we are forever appreciative. We wish you Hatzlacha in returning to Israel and to your next chapter in Yeshiva. We miss you already.

Vanessa & Michael Rouzenrouch in honor of new baby boy, Avraham Ido, and Estee & Eli Friedman for sponsoring Babies & Brunch, Five Senses Edition, this Sunday @ 10:30 am!

We are actively searching for sponsors to help cover the cost of youth operations. Please consider honoring a loved one by making a pledge to the Youth Department. Email <a href="Youth@lss.org">Youth@lss.org</a> or visit <a href="www.lss.org/payment">www.lss.org/payment</a> and select "Youth Department" under Payment Details - Type.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Shabbat, June 23 (This Shabbat Afternoon) - Shabbat Shalom Oneg, Fruit Kabobs, Ice Cream and Final Goodbyes! Sunday, June 24, 10:00 am: Babies & Brunch Five Senses Edition

#### Baby & Me Recap:

This past Shabbat in Baby & Me, the theme was Jurassic Park. The babes sang "There's a Dinosaur Knocking on my Door 1-2-3" and read the book Dinosaur on Shabbat. Continuing their vocal practice, the babes sang "I've Got that Shabbat Feeling," a song in Ivrit about their anatomy. The babes found their yadayim (hands), raglayim (legs), eynayim (eyes) and finished with a second story, Rise and Shine: A Challah Day Tale.



Shabbat Shalom! Ariella & Mendel Lazaros

### THE MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT



Our End of the Year Teen Celebration was a great success!

We wish everyone a wonderful summer
and we will be back in September with great Teen Programs!

**Shabbat Shalom!** 

Parshat Chukat June 22-23

Written by: Perry Davis



### The Staff of Life

We are a people commanded to believe in an incorporeal God. Even so, there are certainly a lot of tangible ceremonial items in our Torah and our religion: the Mishkan and its utensils and "furniture," the sacred clothes of the Cohanim, the sacrifices, just to name a few.

In our parsha, we have the red heifer, the staff of Moshe and Aharon, the rock and the brass serpent. I'd like to focus on one of these – the staff Moshe used to hit the rock and bring water to a thirsty people. We know the result of that act. For Moshe and Aharon's failure to follow God's command exactly -- and only speak to the rock -- they are denied their greatest wish, to enter the Promised Land alongside their people.

The tragedy of this punishment is compounded by its enigmatic nature. God explains what they did wrong —

"Since you did not have faith in Me to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly to the Land which I have given them" (Bamidbar 20:12)

Does Moshe's action really signify a lack of faith in God? Does the interpretation of the action provided by God merit such a harsh punishment?

The episode begins as God commands Moshe and Aharon to:

"Take the staff and assemble the congregation, you and your brother Aaron, and speak to the rock in their presence so that it will give forth its water. You shall bring forth water for them from the rock and give the congregation and their livestock to drink." (Bamidbar 20:8)

In a similar circumstance, in a previous generation, Moshe had hit a rock and water gushed out. Why would God tell Moshe now to take his staff if not to repeat the same act? If Moshe were to simply speak to the rock, why does he need the staff in the first place?

Rashbam is helpful. In a close textual analysis focusing on the language "Kach et hamateh" – "take the staff" – Rashbam focuses on the "ha" article – the specific staff. He posits that this particular staff is the the flowering stick which ended the rebellion in the previous parsha (17:25). Of all the tribal sticks, only Aharon's from the tribe of Levi miraculously erupted in beautiful blossoms.

Ray Chanoch Waxman of Yeshivat Har Etzion adds a further proof. He says that the flowering staff was placed "before the Lord" (similar language in parshat Chukat) as a sign of a life affirming God (the plague having just ended). It was displayed, "to remove from upon Me the complaints of the Children of Israel" (17:20). But Waxman adds more... to remove "the complaints of death dealing leadership" which were in fact complaints by the rebels in Parshat Korach against the leadership of God.

So the rebellion was clearly on Moshe's mind as he held this flowering staff aloft and addressed the crowd as "hamorim" – rebels. This was a valid demonstration and a very important symbol for the nation. But then Moshe faltered and he remembered a previous staff. He remembered the staff used to bring a deadly serpent to Pharaoh's court, a staff that took the life giving waters of the Nile and turned them to blood and killed all the fish and turned the Nile into death, a staff that hit a rock before a nation of slaves who knew of staffs that had been used to beat them and exercise power.

# As Waxman explains:

As opposed to turning life into death, it (our parsha's staff) turns death into life. The dry wood of the staff springs back to life, it flowers, buds and blossoms, giving forth almonds, where before only lifeless wood had been present. Along with Moshe and Aharon's quelling of the plague, it symbolizes the life giving quality of their leadership. It is meant to show that God's leadership, as manifested through Moshe and Aharon, is in fact meant to lead to life.

Moshe failed in a pedagogical opportunity. He did not realize that – through the symbol of a raised flowering staff of life – a new generation of Jews would learn about a God who was both powerful and life-affirming. This new generation of Jews, yearning to finally enter the Promised Land and taste its fruits, would know that faith in God does not require the fear of a slave driver to achieve sustenance, peace and tranquility. As free people, they could intuit the new situation logically – as Rashi explains.

Moshe could not continue as a leader into Canaan because he forgot that words work with this new generation. As we bless water to this very day -"sh'hakol nihyeh bdvaro" "by Whose word all things came to be."

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