

## Shabbat Schedule

4:40pm Shabbat Candle Lighting

## Friday Night

4:45pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.  
Dvar Torah given by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**.

## 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 **Rabbinic Intern, Zachary Rothblatt** on *The Royal Passover: Appreciating the Message of the Korban Pessach* in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary

9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary Sermon given by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** followed by Musaf.

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

9:40am Latest Shema

9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash led by **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld**

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

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

## Shabbat Afternoon

3:00pm Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society: Meet in the lobby to visit patients at Mount Sinai West

3:10pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash

3:40pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in Rm 211

3:40pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur given by **Community Intern, Zissy Turner** on *Let's Get Ready to Rumble- Conflicts in the Talmud*

4:25pm Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit.

5:42pm Maa'riv/Shabbat Ends

## HAKARAT HATOV

**Lori Jacobowitz** for writing this week's Dvar Torah.  
**Amalia Stulbach**, Assistant Youth Group Leader, for writing the Youth Department Dvar Torah.

## UPCOMING GUEST SCHOLARS

**Shabbat, January 27: Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Brander** will deliver the **13th Annual Jonathan H. Spanbock Memorial Lecture in Jewish Ethics** on the topic "The Newest Gifts in Reproductive Medicine through the Prism of Halakha"

**Shabbat, February 3: Rav Yosef Tzvi Rimon** will be the Scholar in Residence. Rav Yosef Tzvi Rimon serves as the Rabbinic Head of the Jerusalem College of Technology, as a neighborhood Rav in Alon Shevut Darom, and teaches classes in Halacha at Yeshivat Har Etzion (Gush). He is also a prolific author on various halachic topics and teaches at the Herzog College and the Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz.

## SPONSORING A KIDDUSH

Sponsoring a Shabbat Kiddush at LSS is a wonderful way to honor a love one's memory or acknowledge a special occasion. To discuss a sponsorship, please contact Robin at the Shul office at (212) 874 6100 ext 105 or email [robin@lss.org](mailto:robin@lss.org).



## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Michael Stenbring**

## THIS SHABBAT

This Shabbat **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** will be officiating and will deliver the Shabbat sermon.

Celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of Bernard Silver, son of Edina Sultanik and Ian Silver.

The community is invited to Sheva Brachot to celebrate the wedding of Avromi and Elana Robinson which will take place at Seudah Shlishit following Mincha taking place at 4:25pm

## THANK YOU TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

### Hashkama Kiddush:

**Bob Burnat** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his father, Benyamin ben Yakov z"l and his uncle Yisroel ben Shlomo Wruble z"l.

### Main Kiddush:

(Gala Kiddush on Main Lobby and 2nd Floor)

**Edina Sultanik and Ian Silver** in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Bernard.

### Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

**Tzipora and Stephen Kalish** in honor of their daughter Atara's birthday

### Beginners Kiddush:

**Sarah Leah and Lou Vwyerib** in loving memory of Sarah Leah's father, Baruch Kalman ben Yisrael Leib z"l and in honor of the birthdays of their daughter Loren Adler and grandson Tani.

**Seudah Shlishit: Sarah and Rabbi Shaul Robinson** in celebration of the wedding of Avromi and Elana Robinson.

## MAZAL TOV

**Edina Sultanik and Ian Silver** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Bernard. Mazal Tov also to Bernard's sister, Ayumi. Mazal Tov to Grandparents, Helen and Abe Sultanik, Lea Silver and Great Grandparents Ann Menche and Sala Sultanik.

**Avromi and Elana Robinson** on their wedding. Mazal Tov to Leslie and Shmuel Laskin and Sarah and Rabbi Shaul Robinson.

Mazal tov to the **Feld Daf Yomi** on its completion of the fifth cycle of Shas this Tuesday January 23rd, when it will learn Avoda Zara, Daf 8. It began 37 years ago with Avoda Zara, Daf 9. The LSS Daf Yomi is named after the late **Sam Feld** our *gabbai rishon*.

## THIS SUNDAY

**10:30am-12:30pm: Converts in Conversation Tu B'Shvat Brunch.** Featuring guest speaker, Psychologist Leonard Davidman. This is only open to women who have already completed the conversion process.

Location: Room 206/207. Please register at [www.lss.org/event/convertsinconversation](http://www.lss.org/event/convertsinconversation)

## HASHAVAT AVEIDAH

There was an earring found in Room 206 on Shabbat December 9. Please call the shul office if it belongs to you.

If someone found a book named "Civil War Diary Book" on Shabbat, Saturday January 13, please return it to the shul office.

## Weekly Prayer Schedule: January 21

## Mincha/Ma'ariv: 4:50pm (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, January 29, 7:30pm: Our Tefillot - Are They Really Ours?: A Conversation About Prayer.** This series is now full. If you would be interested in similar classes in the future please email [rabbi@lss.org](mailto:rabbi@lss.org).

**Shabbat, February 3, 12:30pm: Beginners Luncheon.** The cost is only \$25. Register and pay online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners) or call 212 874 6100. Please make your reservations and payment by Thursday, February 1.

**Shabbat, February 3, 4:45pm: Women's Tefillah Group Mincha.** Please join us for a Women's Tefillah Group Mincha in the Belfer Beit Midrash.

**Thursday, February 8, 7:30pm: Board Meeting** (if you have a question about your board status please email [info@lss.org](mailto:info@lss.org))

**Thursday, February 22, 7:30pm: Membership Meeting**

**March 4-6, Annual AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington DC** The AIPAC Policy Conference attracts more than 18,000 community activists from all 50 states, members of Congress, and countless Israeli and American policymakers. Choose from hundreds of informative sessions. To register, visit [www.aipac.com](http://www.aipac.com). For questions about the Conference, please contact Ann Crane at [anncrane2750@gmail.com](mailto:anncrane2750@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, March 7, 7:30pm: UNRWA: Breeding Ground for Terror**

UNRWA stands for the United Nations Relief and Work Agency. It operates in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Its official mission is to deliver primary and vocational education. The reality is quite different. In this program, Arabic speaking experts who work for *The Center for the Near East Policy and Research* will discuss the Hamas infiltration of UNRWA refugee facilities and how it has affected the books and films shown to children attending UNRWA schools. The program is free but please register at [www.lss.org/event/unrwa](http://www.lss.org/event/unrwa).

**Wednesday, April 25: Annual NORPAC Mission to Washington DC** NORPAC's Mission to Washington is an annual event which brings 1,000 citizen activists to Washington, DC, in order to advocate for a stronger U.S.- Israel relationship with Members of Congress. Early Bird registration \$125 if booked by **March 4**, \$185 after March 4. Questions? Email Dan Feder at [dfeder02@aol.com](mailto:dfeder02@aol.com)

## CHESED OPPORTUNITIES

**Sunday, January 28 at 10:45am-2:00pm.** Please join the LSS team for this month's DOROT meal package delivery and visits to seniors (visits taking place on the West Side between 59th & 125th street). Imagine being a frail, homebound senior citizen during these frigid weeks, with unbearable cold, and snow on the way, and how badly you would need practical assistance and some cheerful company. RSVP by emailing Paris Stulbach at [parisstulbach@gmail.com](mailto:parisstulbach@gmail.com). Children age 8 and up are welcome (ages 8-10 must be accompanied by a teen or adult). \*\*Please be sure to bring Photo ID'S\*\* Meeting & orientation location: Brandeis High School, 145 West 84th Street, between Columbus and Amsterdam.

**The Shabbat Shalom Initiative** is a way to bring seniors in our community some pre-Shabbat ruach. Youth, teens, and adult shul members will have the opportunity to provide chessed to one or two seniors by calling them on Erev Shabbat to wish them a Shabbat Shalom. Once Shabbat is longer we hope to also offer opportunities to visit seniors on Shabbat afternoon so stay tuned. If you're interested in participating in the Shabbat Shalom Call Initiative please email [parisstulbach@gmail.com](mailto:parisstulbach@gmail.com).

## 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](http://www.lss.org)

### Sunday

- **Sunday Morning Responsa** with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 9:15am-10:00am - Belfer Beit Midrash.
- **Sunday Morning Beit Midrash Program;** 10:15am– 11:45am. Come and join our Rabbinic interns as we begin a new season of the Beit Midrash program. Participants will have the choice of two different tracks of learning: Jewish Philosophy and Halacha. Both groups will learn in study groups in the Beit Midrash to create the best learning atmosphere. Breakout discussions and lectures will follow.

### Monday:

- **Besht: The Light From the Forest** given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 8:00pm-9:00pm –Belfer Beit Midrash - Join us for a new series exploring the life and teachings of Rabbi Israel Ba'al Shem Tov: The Besht, founder of Chassidut. About 300 years ago, a Rabbi & mystic living emerged from the Carpathian mountains. His teachings and personality uplifted and gave strength to a nearly broken Jewish people, radically challenging and changing the way we understand Judaism.

### Tuesday:

- **The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 10:30am– 11:30am – LL201
- **Gemara b'Shana** in Memory of Bruce Ritholtz led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 7:15pm– 8:15pm Belfer Beit Midrash
- **Beit Midrash Night, The Book of Samuel II** led by Ron Platzer ; 7:30pm -8:30pm. Room 211

### Wednesday:

- **Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai** given by Sara Brzowsky; 8:00pm-8:45pm - Rm 207
- **Heretics & Heresies: Real and the Imagined** led by Paul Shaviv; 8:00pm-9:00pm. Belfer Beit Midrash. A new series taking a proactive and an entertaining look at faith controversies throughout Jewish history. 10 lectures series.

### Thursday:

- **Womens Talk Time:** led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer; 11:30am-12:30pm-Rm LL201. Last weeks topic: *Yerusha*– To Whom?
- **The Jacob Adler Parsha Class:** Explorations in the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 7:00pm–8:00pm– Belfer Beit Midrash

**Save the Date: Tuesday, February 13, 6:30pm– 8:00pm: Intro to Bible: The Ten Commandments** with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald. An in-depth study and analysis of the Decalogue (the Ten Commandments) and other basic biblical texts. The religious significance of the Bible, scriptural exegesis and the relationship of the written and oral law will be discussed and analyzed. To register, please call **212-874-6100** or register online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners). Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

**Our Tefillot - Are They Really Ours?: A Conversation About Prayer.** A three series class. Please see above, under Upcoming Events, for full details.

## 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



### Parshat Bo

#### Youth Schedule:

10:00 am - Drop Off (all rooms)  
10:30 am - Davening (all rooms)  
10:50 am - Parsha Summary - The Final Three Plagues (Rooms 206, 207, 208, 211)  
11:00 am - Put the "Grasshopper" in the Pot (Room 210)  
11:00 am - Baby and Me (3rd-floor Gym)  
11:10 am - The First Mitzvah in Bo - Oreo Cycles of the Moon (Rooms 208, 211)

Written by **Amalia Stulbach, Assistant Youth Group Leader**

In this week's Torah portion, Parshat Bo, B'nei Yisrael are given the mitzvah of Rosh Chodesh. As it says in chapter 12:

**א** וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל-אַהֲרֹן, בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לֵאמֹר. **ב** הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם, רֵאשׁ חֳדָשִׁים רִאשׁוֹן הוּא לָכֶם, לְחֹדְשֵׁי הַשָּׁנָה

This is B'nei Yisrael's first commandment as a community — why this one in particular? Because this mitzvah is an important and lengthy process. The nation now had to count the months and create a lunar calendar together. As soon as someone saw the moon, he and another man (two witnesses were needed to testify) would run to tell the Beit Din (court). After this, the Beit Din would send messengers to alert everyone about the start of the new month. Additionally, they would light torches on the mountaintops, so that everyone could see. It could take weeks for Jews in the Diaspora to find out, and this calendar affects all of our holidays. To this day, in case we are wrong, we sometimes observe two days of Rosh Chodesh and even some holidays. This mitzvah gives B'nei Yisrael a huge responsibility, and suggests that they soon will no longer be slaves, and will be able to control their own time.

Why does Rosh Chodesh rely on the moon? The simple reason is because we can see it wax and wane in the sky, as opposed to the sun, which never changes. But commentaries also tell us that the Jewish people are often compared to the moon, because although we are small, and you can't always see all of us, we are always there and never give up.

Commentaries also tell us that women, in particular, are given Rosh Chodesh as a mini-holiday, as a reward for not participating in the sin of the Golden Calf. Why Rosh Chodesh? Because the women never lost faith when the men thought Moshe wasn't coming back. The men had lost all hope, but the women couldn't be convinced to sin or think otherwise. We can link this back to the moon because although the moon disappears for a few days, it always comes back, just like Hashem. Shabbat Shalom and Happy Tu B'Shvat!

#### You can ask your children after Shul:

How many plagues are in Parshat Bo?  
Which plagues were they?  
What did the Jews in Egypt do on the 14th day of Nisan?  
Why do we eat Matzah on Pesach?  
What does Rashi say happened to the Egyptian pickled grasshoppers?

## Baby & Me

"Baby & Me," a program for parents and their younger children, ages twenty-four months and under. Join us for your baby's first introduction to the youth department with tummy time exercises, musical tefillah, stories, and snacks. "Baby & Me" runs from 11:00am - 11:45am in the gym on the 3rd floor. Please note that while all other Youth Club groups are drop off only, Baby & Me requires that one parent stay with your child for the duration of the program.

**Shabbat Shalom! Ariella & Mendel**



## Teen Department

Join us for our next Teen Minyan, Shabbat February 3rd, Parshat Yitro. Enjoy a Dvar Torah from your peers and a Sushi-filled Kiddush to follow! Kiddush sponsored by **Golda Hudes** in honor of her children and in gratitude to the LSS clergy and community.

RSVP with Teen Directors Danielle and Ariel Sterman at [teens@lss.org](mailto:teens@lss.org).

**Shabbat Shalom! Danielle & Ariel**

## Dvar Torah for the Echod

Volunteer to write a Dvar Torah for an Echod this season! Pick the parsha or holiday of your choice. The next available slots are: Ki Tissa (3/3), Vayakhel-Pekudei (3/10) and Vayikra (3/17). See Bill Greenbaum at shul, call the office, or email [dvar@lss.org](mailto:dvar@lss.org).

## Parshat Bo

Parshat Bo has a numerical value of 3 (Bet = 2, Aleph =1), signaling the three last plagues that Hashem inflicts upon Egypt. Moshe is told to go (bo) unto Paroh to tell him what else awaits Egypt. The Lubavitcher Rebbe said that bo also means come with me, and Hashem accompanies Moshe on his journey to Paroh to deliver a personal message.

Why are these final three plagues necessary?

Hashem said "I will bring one more plague upon Paroh and upon Mitzrayim, after which he will release you from here." Here Hashem is telling us that Egypt needed to experience all the ten plagues. Paroh's advisers had said to him "Do you not know that Mitzrayim is ruined?" But Hashem strengthened Paroh's resolve, hardened his heart, and he did not release the Israelites.

In Parshat Bo, we focus on the destruction of the Egyptians as a people, and on the Israelites gaining freedom as a people. Just as the Israelites endured years of slavery, it is now the Egyptians who are being subjugated. Through these final plagues, the Egyptians lose their freedom; they are now enslaved inside their own bodies and paralyzed with fear.

The locusts destroy all the food that is left in Egypt so the Egyptians endure starvation. Midrash Rabbah states that because the Egyptians had made the Israelites sow wheat and barley, Hashem brought the locusts to devour all that the Israelites had sown for the Egyptians.

During the plague of darkness, the Egyptians were paralyzed as they could neither see nor move. The Midrash Rabbah says that it was a darkness that could be felt, with substance. Rabbi Nehemiah said it came from the darkness of Gehinnom.

With the final plague, the Egyptians' greatest fears materialized. Their brethren are dying all around them and they don't know who amongst them will be next.

It was not only the lives of the Egyptians that were lost, but their possessions as well. Hashem told each Israelite to ask for gold and silver utensils, and then made the Egyptians look favorably upon them. In this way, the Israelites were able to take the wealth that the Egyptians had accumulated. Rav Kook said that in order to neutralize the attraction of Egypt, it was necessary to impoverish the country so there would be no temptation to go back to this idolatrous land.

The plagues for the Egyptians were miracles for the Israelites. They had to see these open miracles in order to lose their slave mentality and transition to freedom.

Rabbi Benjamin Yudin, commenting on the Steipler's sefer Chayei Olam, speaks about the need for open miracles at that time, when the Israelites needed a direct connection to Hashem. However, the presence of such miracles diminishes the free will of man. Having witnessed open miracles, man is expected to be more accountable. Even small transgressions are treated more seriously.

The first mitzvah given to the Israelites on the eve of their freedom was the sanctification of the moon and the setting of the calendar. While a slave has no sense of time, a free people is always cognizant of time. The Israelites would later have a full calendar of holidays to observe.

We no longer live in an age of open miracles; they are now cloaked in nature. However, miracles are still around us. We just have to look a little harder and we can see Hashem's greatness in all we do.

May we all experience our own personal miracles in all that we individually yearn for and for all of Klal Yisroel.

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