

Shaul Robinson Josh Rosenfeld Senior Rabbi

Assistant Rabbi

Sherwood Goffin Yanky Lemmer Tamar Fix Founding Chazzan Cantor

Parshat Toldot, Shabbat Mevarchim

29 Cheshvan 5777 • November 17-18

Executive Director

Alan Samuels President

#### Shabbat Schedule

4:19pm Candle Lighting

#### Friday Night

4:25pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary officiated 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, Jeremy Perlow the Nathaniel Richman **Cohen Sanctuary** 

9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary . Sermon given by Rabbi Shaul Robinson followed Musaf on "What Does Gan Eden Smell Like?"

9:00am Womens Tefillah Group in the pre-function room.

9:12am Latest Shema

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

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**

12:30pm Women's Tefillah Group Luncheon in the pre-function room (pre-registration required)

2:50pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler in the Belfer Beit Midrash

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

3:20pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm 211 3:20pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld on "Worship in the Other Temple: Is Exercise a Jewish Value?" Sponsored by **Dorothea Krieger** in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of her grandfather, Moshe Nachum ben Bezalel HaKohen z"l and her uncle, Yitzchak Yaakov ben Moshe Nachum HaKohen z"l. Also sponsored by Francine Cinamon in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her father, Aryeh ben Yisrael HaLevi z"l. 4:05pm Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit. Guest Speaker, Rabbi Jesse Horn

5:19pm Ma'ariv/ Shabbat Ends

5:20pm Musical Havdalah and Youth Movie Night

7:00pm Teen Movie Night

# LSS Synagogue Survey: Closes this Monday, November 20!

# www.lss.org/haveyoursay

Our survey is drawing to a close...

We need 67 more entries to reach 60% participation! Each adult 18 and over can fill out the survey so even if you have done so, encourage your spose or friend to do so as well!

15 minutes of your time will help us see things from your perspective. Please support our efforts and have your voice heard.

Complete the survey today!

## **ROSH CHODESH**

The Molad for Rosh Chodesh Kislev will be Sunday Morning, 57 minutes after midnight. Rosh Chodesh Kislev will be on Sunday.

## THIS SHABBAT

Guest Speaker, Rabbi Jesse Horn, from Yeshivat HaKotel and MMY, will be speaking at Seudat Shlishit.

9:00am • Womens Tefillah Group in the pre-function room followed by Luncheon at 12:30pm (pre-registration for luncheon required)

5:20 pm • Musical Havdalah and Youth Movie Night

7:00pm • Teen Movie Night

Motzei Shabbat ● 8:00pm • LSS Book Club Our presenter will be our own Rabbi Robinson who will discuss the novel The Children Act by Ian McEwan. The rabbi believes that the book "touches upon some very difficult ethical dilemmas that are fully discussed in Jewish law." Location: the home of Noreen Wachs

## THANK YOU TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush: Sponsored by the generous contributions to the fund.

Main Kiddush: Ann Crane, Dr. Adena Berkowitz and Rabbi Zev Brenner in honor of Ann's son, Samuel Zakay's aufruf.

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush: The Bar Mitzvah Project Participants wish to thank Chazzan Goffin, Dassa Gerber Greenbaum, Bill Caplow, Rafi Chaitlin, Mark Hus, Ari Klapholtz. Michael Laufer and Jeff Schwartz for this experience of connecting to Torah in a real and meaningful way.

Beginners Kiddush: Yitzchak Mandel in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his sister, Basha Chaya bat Rivka a"h and in honor of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald.

Seudah Shlishit: Carol Hornung and Barbara Epstein in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of their dear friends, Ruth Englander a"h and Eleanor Jakubovitz a'h.

### **MAZAL TOV**

Chazzan Yanky Lemmer and Yudit on the birth of a baby boy.

Mrs. Shulamith Cohen, on the Bar Mitzva of her grandson, Hersh Linzer. Mazal Tov to parents Rabbi Menachem and Devora Linzer.

Dr. Oscar and Vida Lebwohl on the birth of a grand daughter. Mazal tov to parents Zachary and Sara Lebwohl.

Ann Crane on the aufruf of her son, Samuel Zakay, and on his upcoming wedding to Lizzy Brenner. Mazal Tov to Lizzy's parents, Dr. Adena Berkowitz and Rabbi Zev Brenner.

# **HAKARAT HATOV**

Evan Sehgal for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE :	November 19	MINCHA/ MA'ARIV:	4:25pm (Sunday)	4:20pm (Monday- Thursday)
SUNDAY (Rosh Chodesh)	MONDAY	TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY		THURSDAY (Thanksgiving)
Daf Yomi: 7:55am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am	Daf Yomi: 6:20am		Daf Yomi: 7:45am
Shacharit: 7:00am, 8:30am	Shacharit: 7:00am, 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:10am, 7:50am		Shacharit: 7:00am, 8:30am

# SAVE THE DATE



Rabbi and Mrs. Robinson look forward to celebrating with all members of the community at their son's wedding which will take place in Monsey on Tuesday Evening, January 16.

Invitations will be mailed shortly.



# **CHANUKAH AT LSS**

Friday and Saturday, December 8-9 • Beginners Chanukah Shabbaton \$50 includes three meals (\$25 for just lunch) Don't miss it. Payment and reservations must be received by December 4th.

Register online at www.lss.org/beginners

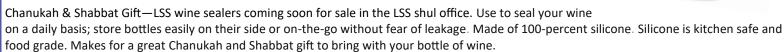
Monday, December 18 • 7:00pm • Beginners Annual Chanukah Bash. Live music by Rabbi Elly Krimsky.

\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Register online at <a href="www.lss.org/beginners">www.lss.org/beginners</a>

Wednesday, December 13 • 7:00pm • Youth Department Latka Cook Off! details to follow

Friday, December 15 • 5:45pm • LSS Annual Chanukah Dinner—details to follow

Chanukah is around the corner! As you shop for gifts, decorations, and more please remember to shop at <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> and choose Lincoln Square Synagogue as your charity of choice. It only takes a moment but the support is forever appreciated.





Please save the date: Sunday, December 3rd. New members are invited to the Robinson's for a welcome brunch. More details to follow

# **AIPAC**

The Aipac policy conference takes place March 4-6 this year. Discount tickets **end tomorrow Nov 17**: Club members \$399. Non-club members \$499. After that prices increase by \$100. For further information please contact Ann Crane at <u>acrane2750@gmail.com</u>

# **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 our website at www.lss.org

# <u>Sunday</u>

- Sunday Morning Responsa 3.7 with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 9:15am-10:00am 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. Discussions and lectures will then occur for each group separately.
  - YP women's learning Community Intern, Zissy Turner: 7:00pm-9:00pm- Beit Midrash. Join us for wine, cheese & learning

#### **Monday**

- The 3rd of the 5 session Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level I and Level II; 6:30pm-8:00pm. The classes last 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at <a href="https://www.lss.org/beginners">www.lss.org/beginners</a>. Level I: Room 210 Level II: Room 211.
- The Jewish Living Workshop led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum: 7:30pm-8:30pm—Room 208. The Jewish Living Workshop 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 <a href="mailto:JLworkshop@yahoo.com">JLworkshop@yahoo.com</a> or <a href="mailto:www.lss.org">www.lss.org</a>. This is the last class remaining. Topic: Chanukah
- Visionary: The Writings of Rav Kook with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 8:00pm-9:00pm Belfer Beit Midrash

#### **Tuesday:**

- The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha" led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 10:30am 11:30am LL201
  - Introduction to Bible with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald; 6:30-8:00pm. This course provides a general overview of the content and style of the Bible. We will review basic literary and theological approaches to Bible study, traditional and modern, through the analysis of the Biblical text. To register, please call 212-874-6100 or register online at <a href="www.lss.org/beginners">www.lss.org/beginners</a>. Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. This is the 5th session of this 8 session course.
- Gemara b'Shana in Memory of Bruce Ritholtz led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 7:15pm-8:15pm Beit Midrash
- Beit Midrash Night, The Book of Samuel II led by Ron Platzer; 7:30pm -8:30pm. Room 211

#### Wednesday:

- (canceled this week) Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai given by Sara Brzowsky; 8:00pm-8:45pm Rm 207
- (Canceled this week) Jewish History Seminar: Controversies and Scandals of Jewish History with Paul Shaviv. 8:00pm-9:00pm—Belfer Beit Midrash. This will be an 8 week series consisting of thought provoking lectures.

## **Thursday:**

- (Canceled this week) Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer; 11:30am-12:30pm Rm LL201.
- (Canceled this week) The Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 7:00pm-8:00pm-Beit Midrsah

# **Youth Department**

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



**Parshat Toldot** 

Schedule:

10:00 am - Drop Off

10:20 am - Shabbat Davening

10:50 am - The Power of our Voices
11:00 am - "Put the Lentils in the Pot"

11:00 am - "Baby and Me"

## Parsha Toldot Theme: The Power of our Voices

In this week's *Parshat Toldot* we are introduced to Rivkah and Yitzchak's twin sons, Yakov and Eisav. Eisav, the elder, was born with red hair covering his body while Yakov was smooth-skinned. As they grew up, they developed very different personalities. Yakov loved to learn while Eisav loved to hunt. When they turned fifteen, Eisav came into the kitchen and saw Yakov cooking a fresh lentil soup and Eisav wanted it. Yakov agreed to give Eisav the soup if Eisav agreed to give Yakov his *Bachor* rights. Eisav agreed. At the end of the Parsha, Yitzchak was old and blind, so he asks Eisav to bring him a meal to eat. Rivkah overhears the request and slaughters two goats and gives them to Yakov to bring instead. Rivkah takes the goat skin and puts it on Yakov's arms and neck and Yakov gets the *Brachot* from Yitzchak. As soon as Yakov leaves, Eisav shows up and realizes that Yitzchak already gave the *Brachot* to Yakov. Rivkah tells Yakov to skip town for a while until Eisav calms down. When Yitzchak feels Yakov, he says "the voice is the voice of Yakov, but the hands are the hands of Eisav" (27:22). Chazal teach us that this famous line actually represents the power the Jewish people, that we have our voices which we use to daven to Hashem, our voices which are mightier than any physical strength

# This Motzei Shabbat



# Musical Havdalah & Movie Night

Immediately after Shabbat: Moshav Band Style Musical Havdalah

Following Havdalah: Movie night with pizza and snacks

<u>Cost:</u>\$10, includes Saba's pizza, snacks and drinks.

Please note that because we will be starting Youth Club Havdalah and Movie Night immediately following Shabbat, we will be collecting the \$10 payment upon pickup of your child.

#### This week our children will ask:

1. Where did Yakov and Eisav spend their time? 2. Which Mitzvah was Eisav careful about? 3. Why was Yakov cooking lentils? 4. What trade off do Yakov and Eisav make? 5. How does Rivkah make Yakov appear like Eisav?

## Shabbat Shalom! Ariella & Mendel

# **Introducing Baby & Me**

Beginning this Shabbat, the Lincoln Square Synagogue Youth Club is proud to introduce "Baby & Me", an invitation for parents and their younger children, ages twenty-four months and under, to participate in a new weekly program. 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 11:00 - 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. We look forward to seeing you and getting to know your babies!



# **Teen Department**

Motzei Shabbat • 7:00pm • Teen Movie Night. Join us for a movie, pizza and popcorn. Sponsored by Rabbi Charlie Savenor and Julie Walpert in honor of the upcoming anniversary of Julie's parents, Ann and Harvey Walpert.



We'd love to keep you and your teens posted on upcoming events! Email us at Teens@LSS.org to join our mailing list and stay apprised of great things to come!

For more information on exciting teen events, to join the teen email list, or to sponsor a Kiddush or event, please email Youth Directors, Ariel & Danielle Sterman at <a href="mailto:teens@lss.org">teens@lss.org</a>. Please include your child's name, email address, and birth date.

### Shabbat Shalom! Danielle & Ariel

# **Manhattan Day School**

Manhattan Day School, located on the Upper West Side, offers an academically challenging program in a yeshiva day school environment, servicing toddlers through 8th grade. MDS invites you to see them in action and learn for yourself what sets them apart. Private tours are currently being scheduled. Contact Cindy Sherman at 212-376-6800 ext. 534 or <a href="mailto:csherman@mdsweb.org">csherman@mdsweb.org</a>. Application deadline is December 29, 2017.

Parshat Toldot By Evan Sehgal November 18, 2017



Mazal tov! Yitzchok and Rifka have twins, Esav and Yaakov. As children they merely looked different, but as they matured their distinct personalities emerged. "And the youths grew up, and Esau was a man who understood hunting, a man of the field, whereas Jacob was an *ish tam*, dwelling in tents" (25:27). Only Yaakov became one of the *Avot*; why was Esav excluded? I would like to suggest that Esav was unfit to be Yitzchok's spiritual heir because he lacked the capacity for spiritual growth.

In Jewish history, it was never who you were, but rather who you were willing to become that distinguished the leaders of *Klal Yisrael*. Avraham started life as an idol worshiper, the son of an idol manufacturer, yet he discovered G-d and dedicated his life to spreading monotheism. Yaakov evolved from relying on trickery to relying on *emet* (truth). Joseph was a favorite son who evoked jealousy from everyone in his family, yet he grew into a politician able to navigate the intrigues of Egypt and the brother who taught his siblings to love and protect each other. Judah went from near fratricide to protecting his youngest brother at the risk of his own life. And Moshe, an adopted Egyptian prince, became the humblest man who ever lived.

Spiritual growth has three prerequisites. First, a person must be willing to take an unflinching look at himself; second, he must be able to envision a future which is different; and third, he must value the walk from one to two.

Esav was thrice deficient. First, he was unable to see the present, to see what was right in front of him. When he returns from the field hungry and tired, he asks Yaakov for some of the "red red". It is only the English translation that adds "pottage" or "porridge" or "lentils." Esav's words in Hebrew are two adjectives, no nouns. He can only see the surface, the modifier but not the essence. Would he be able to tell the difference between red animal food and a red human food? Such a person can have no self-awareness. When Yitzchok gives Esav a limited blessing, Esav's reaction is that he wants to kill Yaakov. He doesn't for one second wonder if perhaps he got the blessing he deserved.

Esav sees worth in the material and the immediate; he actually distains the spiritual. "Game was always in his mouth" (25:28). Although, there is nothing wrong with enjoying the world G-d created, there has to be more to life than hedonism. Not according to Esav: "and he ate and drank and arose and left, Esau despised the birthright" (25:34). According to Rashi, the birthright was the right to the priesthood. To "despise the birthright" meant that Esav considered the birthright worse than nothing. To him, the birthright meant obligations and restrictions without a benefit, and ultimately it would revert to *Shevit Levy* anyway. Perhaps Esav appreciated the monetary value of the double portion the *bechor* (first-born) was entitled to as *yerusha* (inheritance), but Esav had already calculated that Yitzchok was broke. The Ibn Ezra says if Yitzchok had money he wouldn't have so prized Esav's food; he would have bought it himself. If Yitzchok had money, both Esav and Yaakov would have had fine clothes. And if Yitzchok had money, Rifka would have sent provisions with Yaakov when he left for Paddan-aram; Yaakov wouldn't have had to use rocks for pillows on the journey.

Esav was unwilling to envision a future different from the present. Perhaps he coined the very words used throughout the ages as an excuse for resisting change: "What difference does it make, I am going to die anyway" (25:32). Esav, I want to shake you. All anyone gets is time, and it's a gift. How much good could you do in ten extra minutes; how many people could you help in ten extra years.

And in the end, we see Esav doesn't change. From the time of the paternal blessings Esav wanted to kill Yaakov. "And Esav hated Jacob because of the blessing that his father blessed him, and Esav said to himself, 'let the days of mourning for my father draw near, I will then kill my brother Jacob'" (27:41). Twenty years later, when Yaakov returns to *Eretz Yisrael*, Esav still wants to kill him. "And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying: 'We came to thy brother Esau, and moreover he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him'" (32:7). There is no forgiveness, not even acceptance; it's the same Esav.

The essence of Judaism is *teshuvah*, the right to repent and be forgiven, to grow and improve. The Rambam in his introduction to Hilchot Teshuvah says, "How does one confess: He states: 'I implore You, G-d, I sinned, I transgressed, I committed iniquity before You by doing the following. Behold, I regret and am embarrassed for my deeds. I promise never to repeat this act again.'" This is our *yerusha* from the *Avot*. B"H we are children of Avraham, Yitzchok and Yaakov. Esav wasn't included because he just wasn't Jewish.

Shabbat Shalom!