

Parshat Vayikra, Rosh Chodesh Nisan, Parshat HaChodesh **Shaul Robinson** Josh Rosenfeld

Senior Rabbi

Assistant Rabbi

Sherwood Goffin Yanky Lemmer

Founding Chazzan Cantor

1 Nisan 5778

March 16-17 **Alan Samuels**

Tamar Fix

Executive Director President

6:46pm Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday Night

6:50pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

Dvar Torah given by Rabbi Shaul Robinson

Shabbat Morning

7:40am 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

9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by Chazzan

Yanky Lemmer. Sermon given by Rabbi Shaul Robinson followed

9:15am Beginners Service led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm LL201 9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash

9:57am Latest Shema 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 lobby to visit patients

at Mount Sinai West. New volunteers welcome and needed 5:05pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit

Midrash 5:35pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld 5:35pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm

6:35pm Mincha followed by "Shalva" Seudah Shlishit.

7:47pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

THANK YOU TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush: Nancy and Melissa Towbin in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Albert S Towbin z"l.

Main Kiddush: Sharon and Yossef Blum on the birth of their baby daughter Maya Sophia.

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

Grandparents Fran & Phil Kalban on the birth a son, Barak Matan, to parents Yael Kalban and Hillel Gruenberg. Mazal tov to big brother Zeke.

The Silver Family in memory of the Shloshim for Jason Silver z"l and in thanks to the community for their support.

Avi Yohananoff and Danielle Weiss in commemoration of the first yahrtzeit of Avi's mother, Chemsi Bulissa bat Shlomo Kadem Cohen z"l.

Beginners Kiddush: Shoshani and Zareh families in loving memory of Farokh Bat Saltanat V' Yousef H'Levi a"h, in commemoration of her first Azkara (which is this Shabbat day).

Seudah Shlishit ("Shalva-Shudis"): Lisa and Alan Oirich who are celebrating their son, Nosson's Bar Mitzvah. The Oirich Family is sponsoring in honor of Nosson's brother and best buddy, Mordechai.

HAKARAT HATOV

Paul Shaviv for writing this week's Dvar Torah

The Mosesson family would like to thank all the participants who made a shiva minyan possible. A donation has been made in their honor.

HASHAVAT AVEIDAH

A pair of glasses were found this passed Shabbat March 9 in the Ballroom after Shabbat Across America. If you lost a pair of glasses, please call the shul office.

CATCH CHAZZAN YANKY LEMMER ON PBS!

Tune in on March 29th to PBS at 9:00pm and see the special "The Cantors of New York" which was filmed at a live concert performance at the famous Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam. For a preview of the national broadcast please visit http://www.pbs.org/video/new-york-cantors-preview-thiqmp/.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carol and Jesse Schwartz Ellyn Tanenberg

THIS SHABBAT

Parshat Vayikra-Rosh Chodesh: Rabbi Shaul Robinson will be officiating and will deliver the Shabbat sermon.

Shabbat Davening: Chazzan Yanky Lemmer

Celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of Nosson Oirich.

Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur given by

Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld at 5:35pm

The Shalva Band will perform a capella during "Shalva-Shudis" The Israeli Shalva Band is comprised of 8 talented musicians with disabilities and performs to the highest musical standards by invitation at cultural venues and dignitary events throughout the year all over Israel as well as in the U.S., Canada, UK,





Mexico and Russia. In addition to being a delightful and inspiring musical experience, the band's performances shatter attitudinal barriers, causing mesmerized audiences to believe in human potential and dignity. Mincha at 6:35pm followed by Seudah Shlishit and the band's a capella performance.

THIS MOTZEI SHABBAT

8:45pm: The What Matters Committee is excited to present an evening of exploration into the concept and historical practice of Ethical Wills, with a presentation by Lizzie Leiman Kraiem. For centuries, ethical wills have been a resource for passing our values on to other generations and a tool for guiding our own actions. In this program, we will learn about the history of this meaningful practice and how it is being revived, read examples of early and contemporary ethical wills, and consider how thinking about ethical wills may help us to prepare for Passover. Register at www.lss.org/event/ethicalwills.

THIS SUNDAY

11:00am: Magen David Adom: Israel's First Responders. (pre-registration required) Learn the fascinating history of the organization, its latest technological life-saving tools and about its disaster relief operations around the world. Hear from an EMT volunteer who rode an MDA ambulance for three years and saved dozens of lives in Israel. Program dedicated in memory of LSS member, Pearl Glassberg a"h. Refreshments will be served. (This program is sold out)

NEXT SHABBAT: SHABBAT HAGADOL

The Louis and Rhoda Lazar Shabbat Hagadol Drasha will be delivered by Rabbi Shaul Robinson next Shabbat after Mincha at 6:25pm on "Matzahs Made by Machines - Bread of Affliction or Festival of Freedom?"

MAZAL TOV

Lisa and Alan Oircih on the occasion of their son, Nosson's Bar Mitzvah.

Grandparents Helen & Charles Samowitz on the birth of a great grandson to parents Tzipora & Gedalya Frome of Lakewood, N.J. Mazel Toy to great Aunt Adena Samowitz & to big brothers - Shalom, Moshe Yosef, Yaakov, Eli, Shmuel & Yisroel. Mazel Tov to Grandpa Rabbi Mitchell Samowitz and Helen & Charles Samowitz who also welcome a great granddaughter, Esther to parents Basya & Mordechi Rothstein of Oak Park Michigan. Mazal Tov to siblings Bracha, Sholom, Moshe, Shmuel, and Avromi. Mazel Tov to Aunt Adena and Grandpa Rabbi Mitchell Samowitz.

Rosa Gorden on the upcoming marriage of her grandson, Gabriel Malitzky, of New York, to Katherine Haves, of New York, this coming Sunday. Mazal Toy also to aunt and uncle Elana and Zachary Gorden and to cousin Mendel.

Joseph Verschleisser on the birth of a baby boy to his children Elisha and Alan Richter in Philadelphia. Mazal tov to big sister, Sarina. Mazal tov to Aunt Raquel, Uncle Ari, and cousins Tzvi and Freddy Selevan.

Dr. Judy and Cyrus Abbe on the engagement of their daughter Rivka to Yehoshua Szafranski, son of Sherri and Chaim Szafranski of Teaneck NJ.

Rama and Reuben Seltzer on the upcoming marriage of their son, Jon to Miriam Krauss.

PESACH IS COMING!

Chametz Sale forms, Maot Chittim information, Hagalat Kelim, Pesach Hospitality information and the Full Pesach Schedule can be

found on our website at www.lss.org/pesach

Annual Chametz Drive Sunday, March 25 10:25-2:00pm

Collect your non-perishable Chametz, either opened or closed for hungry non- Jews. Volunteers welcome. To volunteer please email Wendy Baker at wbaker@panix.com

Pesach Hospitality at LSS:

In the spirit of "Kol Dichfin Yeitei V'yechol," we encourage our members to participate in our annual Pesach Seder Hospitality

Program. We wish to ensure that all members will be able to participate in traditional seders in a warm environment.

To accomplish this, we need both hosts and guests. If you are conducting seders and can accommodate one or more guests or if you would like an invitation,

please feel free to ask; you will be warmly welcomed. To participate, please contact us at hospitality@LSS.org to let us know and we will contact you with

details. We hope that you will join us in ensuring a meaningful Pesach for all our members. Thank you. -LSS Hospitality Committee LSS Beginners, interested in hospitality for Passover sedarim and/or Shabbat or Yom Tov meals, may contact Rabbi Buchwald at 646-871-0012 or

email blanche@njop.org. Please leave an accurate message with dates of meals & specify lunch or dinner. Deadline: Thursday March 22, 12:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

traditional Passover Seder. Refreshments will be served. Cost: \$15 before March 22nd, \$20 at the door, payable to LSS (earmark Model Seder). For information or to make your reservation, contact LSS at 212-874-6100 or at www.lss.org/beginners. Friday and Saturday, March 23-24: Beginners Passover Shabbaton. The Shabbaton is devoted to the theme of Passover. Reservation deadline: Tuesday, March

Thursday, March 22, 7:00pm: Beginners Model Seder Join Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald and Psachya Septimus for an intimate and exciting early rendition of the

20th. Cost is \$50 (includes two meals). Register online at www.lss.org/beginners.

Save the Date: April 18; 7:15pm: LSS Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration. More details to follow.

CAN YOU HELP?

Can you help the shul? Every month hundreds of dollars are spent storing several items for the shul. As I'm sure you can appreciate, these payments add up and we are looking to see if any member can help by offering the shul free storage. We currently have 3 large glass crates that are 15.5 X 24, 14.5 X 24 and 9.5 X 23 that are being stored. If you are able to help, please email Tamar Fix, at tamar@lss.org.

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday

Purchase your Shmurah Matzah

by Thursday,

March 22!

www.lss.org/matzah

- Sunday Morning Responsa with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 9:15am-10:00am Belfer Beit Midrash.
- Drisha @ LSS; 10:00-11:30am. Sefer Devarim: Prohpet, King, Judge and Priest in the Covenantal Community Taught by David Silber. 10 sessions: Feb 4-April 29. Cost: LSS members: \$125, Non LSS members: \$250 Enter coupon code "Iss" for LSS member rate. Register at www.drisha.org. Rm LL201
- 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:

- 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. 2 classes remaining.
- The Jewish Living Workshop Led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum; 7:30-8:30pm 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: Shabbat Day Meal Experi-
- "The Philosophy of...Purim: The Holiest of the Year? And Pesach: These Songs of Freedom" Led by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; 8:00pm-9:00pm.Can we approach the upcoming holidays with an expanded consciousness of their significance and meaning? Join Rabbi Rosenfeld to study and reveal the inner dimension of Pesach. Experience Pesach with fresh understanding and insight, courtesy of exciting thinkers like Rav Yitzchak Hutner, Rav Shagar, Rebbe Nachman and others. Remain-

ence. Rm 208

ing Classes: Monday, March 19. Belfer Beit Midrash.

- Talmud Class for Women Studying Mesechet Ketubot led by Rachel Rosenthal, PhD candidate in Rabbinic Literature at JTS; 8:00am Rm LL202. 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.
- The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha" led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 10:30am 11:30am RmLL201
- Intro to Bible: The Ten Commandments with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald; 6:30pm-8:30pm. 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. 3 sessions remaining. To register, please call 212-874-6100 or register online at www.lss.org/beginners. Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. - Room 206/207.
- 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. Rm 211 (canceled until after Pesach)

Wednesday:

- Drisha @ LSS; 9:30am-10:45am. Tanakh: A literary approach—Taught by David Silber, Isaiah's Messianic Vision and Its Resonances Throughout the Bible— Taught by Yisca Zimran, Biblical Religion and Its Near Eastern Context—Taught by Deena Grant, Biblical Poetry—Taught by Michelle Levine. 12 Sessions: Feb 7— May 16. Cost: LSS members: \$150, Non LSS members: \$300 Enter coupon code "lss" for LSS member rate. Register at www.drisha.org. Rm LL201
- Drisha @ LSS; 11:00am-12:15am. Aggada: Inside the World of the Rebbe. Taught by Wendy Amsellem. 6 Sessions: Feb 7- March 21. Cost: LSS members: \$75 Non LSS members: \$150 Enter coupon code "Iss" for LSS members rate. Register at www.drisha.org. Rm LL201

entertaining look at faith controversies throughout Jewish history. 10 lectures series: January 10-March 21***Please note that there will be a "make-up" class

- Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai given by Sara Brzowsky; 8:00pm-9:00pm Rm 207
- Heretics & Heresies: Real and the Imagined. This week: "Yechi..." Led by Paul Shaviv; 8:30pm-9:30pm. Belfer Beit Midrash. A new series taking a proactive and an
- for the canceled class due to the snow storm on Wednesday, April 11 Thursday:

• The Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Shaul Robinson; 7:15pm-8:15pm-Belfer Beit Midrash

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:

10:00 am - Dropoff

10:30 am - Davening

10:50 am - *Mah Nishtanah* in Yiddish - win an Amazon Gift Card (Room 206/207)

11:00 am - Which Korban Quiz (Room 208/2011)

11:00 am - Baby & Me

This weeks Parsha: Vayikara

This Shabbat, we begin the third book of the Torah, the book of Vayikra. Parshat

Vayikra discusses the Korbanot, sacrifices made on the altar. There were several different kinds of Korbanot:

- (1) Olah: this was completely burnt and no one ate any of it
- (2) Shalomim: the Cohanim along with the person who brought the animal got to eat some of it (3) Chatot: an offering brought for certain averot, mistakes
- (4) Mincha: a flour and water offering, some of which was burnt, some was eaten by the Cohanim
- (5) Osham: an offering brought for a specific type of mistake.

What can we learn? The Torah says "Adam Ki Yakriv Mikem Korban" (1:2), "When a man will bring from among you a Korban to Hashem." It seems like the word "Mikem" is in the wrong place. What does it mean that he will bring from you? Our rabbis explain that a Korban had to be brought not only from an animal but from oneself too. It's not enough to sacrifice an animal on the altar, we must also sacrifice a bit of our own animalistic desires.

After shul you can ask your children:

- 1. What are different Korbanot discussed in Parshat Vayikra?
- 2. What was the reason for each of the Korbanot?
- 3. Who was allowed to eat each one?
- 4. How does Rabbi Jonathan Sacks explain the redundancy of the two words in the first pasuk, Vayikra and Vayedaber?
- 5. What are the two words that teach us that we must teach our children?

Baby & Me Recap

This past Shabbat in Baby & Me, the babies reviewed the steps of the Pesach Seder and sung *Kadesh Urchatz*. Afterward, we read new books from the PJ Library, including *Kayla* & *Kugel and The Almost Perfect Passover* and *Passover*. The babies asked the four questions with a special rendition of *Mah Nishtana* and finished with a special book about the different scenarios when we say *Todah Rabah* and *Shalom* called *Thankful for Today*.



Shabbat Shalom! Ariella & Mendel Lazarus

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Event:

March 24: Teen Minyan and Kiddush in the pre function room @10:00am. We are looking for sponsors for this Kiddush-please email us if interested at teens@lss.org

Shabbat Shalom! Danielle & Ariel Sterman

NORPAC MISSION TO WASHINGTON, Wednesday April 25

Two weeks ago we celebrated the holiday of Purim. Mordechai and Esther were able to thwart the planned destruction of the Jewish people because they had access to the levers of power. Fortunately for the Jewish people - so do you. One doesn't have to look very far to find the enemies of the Jewish People seeking to attack the State of Israel. Be the hero of your generation. Your participation can change the course of history and *does* make a difference! Join me, Rabbi Robinson, and our LSS contingent as we advocate with over 1000 participants, on the NORPAC one day mission to Washington taking place on Wednesday, April 25th.

DID YOU MAKE IT TO AIPAC?

Did you make it to AIPAC last week? If not, now is the best time to sign up for the next year's AIPAC Policy Conference on March 24-26, 2019. Early Bird Registration for the Conference is \$399 (non club) and \$299 (club rate) instead of the regular \$599 and it's 100% refundable before January 18, 2019. There will be a AIPAC Conference Shabbaton taking place March 22-23. Early Bird Registration for the shabbaton is \$299 (non club) and \$225 (club rate) instead of the regular \$399. Deadline: Friday, April 13. See www.aipac.org for information or to register.

By: Paul Shaviv



Sacrifices and Simcha - On the Same Day

On the same day that we launch into Sefer Vayikra, with its dense, intricate and complex laws regarding the array of Korbanot which we are to bring in the Bet Hamikdash, we celebrate an anniversary which opens a window into a completely different Jewish religious vision.

One of the most original and enigmatic personalities in modern Jewish history – Nachman of Bratzlav – was born in 1772 on Rosh Chodesh Nissan, which in that year (as today) fell on Shabbat.

Nachman was born in the Ukraine. He was the great-grandson of the Ba'al Shem Toy (via Odel, the Besht's daughter), and the grandson of Nachman of Horodenka, one of the Besht's earliest followers. Despite this illustrious pedigree, he was unhappy and dissatisfied with the Hasidism of his time. At the age of 26, he visited Eretz Yisrael, which seems to have been a transformative experience. Shortly after his return, he settled in Bratzlav, and began to attract followers and develop his teachings. Sadly, already stricken with ill-health, he was forced to move to Uman, where he died in 1810 at the early age of 38. His foremost disciple, Nathan Sternhartz (1780 – 1844), subsequently printed and published many volumes of his teachings.

Nachman's teachings are unique. He encouraged deep personal, spiritual exercises and explorations among his Hasidim, teaching that they had to simultaneously experience the highs and the lows of the human condition. ("The whole world is a narrow bridge.") Bratzlaver Hasidim have to spend a minimum of an hour a day in unrestrained, vocal direct prayer, voicing their deepest emotional and spiritual needs. This practice – 'Hitbodedut' (self-isolation) should be carried out in the open, in isolated, deserted places.

Most famous of his writings were his allegorical stories – thirteen of which were published in Yiddish and Hebrew by Nathan Sternartz. They feature kings, palaces, princesses, obstacles, journeys, dreams – and invite the reader into a mythical, mystical, allegorical world, capable of being understood at many levels.

One of the best-known is the tale of the Prince who thought he was a turkey. To his father's frustration, the Prince shed his clothes and lived under a table, where he lived on seeds and grains he found in the dust. Eventually, a sage sought to cure him, and joined him, naked, under the table. The sage persuaded the Prince that he, too, was a turkey. He convinced the Prince that turkeys, too, could wear clothes; that turkeys, too, could eat regular food; and, eventually, that turkeys, too, could adopt the regular lifestyle of Princes. The Prince emerged from under the table and rejoined the Royal Court of his father.

What are possible meanings of this Kafka-esque parable? Some suggest that it plays on the uncertainty of the human condition. Is our human identity an illusion? Do we exist at a base level, which needs heightening to achieve even a minimal sentient standard? Alternatively (and I have often quoted this interpretation), perhaps the message is a very basic message about education and communication? To reach another person, you have to meet him or her where they are, and speak in language that relates to them. Only then can you proceed.

The Bratzlavers never appointed another leader after Nachman. Because of Nachman's radical teachings, they were – and are – regarded with great suspicion by other Hasidic groups. Surviving as a small, peripheral group for a century or more, in the last decades they have flourished. In the age of flower-power, New Age mysticism and 'Jewish Renewal,' they have found new appeal.

In public consciousness, they are known – for better or worse – for the annual mass pilgrimage to Rav Nachman's grave in Uman, following Nachman's promise of rewards to Hasidim who came to spend Rosh Hashanah in his presence; for enlivening and enthusing the Israeli public with dance, music and singing ("Reb Nachman stated: It is a great mitzvah to be in a permanent state of simchah"); and most perplexingly, for painting the 'Na-nach-Nachman-me'Uman' slogans all over Israel. This last follows the message of the saintly R'Yisroel Ber Odesser (1888 approx. – 1994 – 106 years!), who discovered a 'petek' – a single short message apparently from Rav Nachman, containing that formula, and the exhortation to make it known, for miraculous results. The sheet of paper – whose authenticity is not accepted by all – was discovered by R'Yisroel in a siddur in a shul in Tiberias, and came to public knowledge in the 1980s.

Without central leadership, there are several fragmented groups calling themselves 'Bratzlav.' They range from conservative, serious groups through to almost anarchistic, wild elements. It retains an attraction as a mystic, liberating, joyous sect which simultaneously has elements of meditation and elevation. Like the redeemer of the Prince who thought he was a turkey, it seems to speak to many 'searching' Jews in language and concepts that they understand. They are often Jews who are not reached at all by more conventional Jewish groups.

So - on this 246th anniversary of the birth of Reb Nachman zatz"l, Rosh Chodesh Nissan which falls on Shabbat, pause for a moment to reflect on the life and teachings of one of the more exotic stars in our constellation!

Shabbat Shalom!

Weekly Prayer Schedule: March 18				Mincha/Ma'ariv: 6:55pm (Sun– Th)		
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

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