


SHABBAT SCHEDULE	
4:24pm	Shabbat Candle Lighting
<b>Friday Night</b>	
4:30pm	Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by <b>Chazzan Yanky Lemmer</b> . Dvar Torah given by <b>Rabbi Shaul Robinson</b> .
6:00pm	Friday Night Teen Seudah Oneg
7:45pm:	Friday Night Tisch with <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“Exodus of the Self”</i> (Belfer Beit Midrash)
<b>Shabbat Morning</b>	
7:45am	Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by a shiur given by <b>Dr. Evan Sehgal</b>
9:00am	Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by <b>Chazzan Yanky Lemmer</b> . Drasha given by <b>Rabbi Shaul Robinson</b> followed by Musaf.
9:15am	Beginners Service led by <b>Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald</b> in Rm LL201
9:30am	Intermediate Explanatory Service
9:40am	Latest Shema
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)
<b>Shabbat Afternoon</b>	
12:30pm	Beginners Luncheon: Welcome to all who are joining
2:55pm	Beginners Mishna Chavura with <b>Moshe Sheinwexler</b> in the Belfer Beit Midrash
3:00pm	Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society: Meets in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer to visit patients at Mount Sinai West. (New volunteers needed and welcome)
3:25pm	Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with <b>Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald</b> in Rm 211
3:25pm	Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“Seeing Your World in your Days”: Where Kabbalah and Psychotherapy Kiss</i>
4:10pm	Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. Dvar Torah given by <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“The Desire of Desire: A Meditation on Transience”</i>
5:26pm	Ma’ariv/Shabbat Ends

HAKARAT HATOV
<b>Judy Sokolow</b> for writing this week’s Dvar Torah.

MAZAL TOV
<b>Fran and Rabbi Jonah Kupietzky</b> on the marriage of their granddaughter, Danielle Wildes, to Joey Silverman. Mazal tov to Danielle's parents, Denise and Alan Wildes, Uncle Steve Kay Kupietzky, and Aunt and Uncle Joy and Morey Wildes.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
<b>Hashkama Kiddush:</b> <b>Jeremy Amias</b> in commemoration of the first yahrtzeit of his dear father, Alan Amias, Alter Yechiel ben Moshe Avraham z”l.
<b>Steve Kay Kupietzky</b> in honor of the wedding this past week of his niece, Danielle Wildes, to Joey Silverman.
<b>Main Kiddush:</b> Sponsored by <b>Yana and Josh Lukeman</b> .
<b>Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:</b> <b>Dr. William Gold</b> in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his mother, Debra F. Gold בת דבורה שלמה משה א”ח.
<b>Beginners Kiddush:</b> <b>Sarah Leah and Lou Vynereb</b> in loving memory of the yahrtzeit of Sarah Leah's father, Baruch Kalman ben Yisrael Leib z”l, 28th of Tevet, and in honor of the birthdays of their daughter Loren Adler and grandson Tani Einzig.
<b>Seudah Shlishit:</b> Sponsors welcome.

ROSH CHODESH
The molad for Rosh Chodesh Shevat will be on Sunday morning at 13 minutes and 14 chalakim after 11:00am. Rosh Chodesh Shevat will be on Monday.
THIS SHABBAT: SHABBAT MEVARCHIM
Chazzan this Shabbat: Main Sanctuary: <b>Chazzan Yanky Lemmer</b>
We welcome <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> LCSW. Reb Rosenfeld is a practicing psychotherapist currently working in the addiction field with a focus on the interface between philosophy, spirituality, and psychology. His shiurim and writings have earned him a dedicated following, and he is currently working on a monograph entitled <i>Fragmented Origins: The Kabbalistic Thought of Rabbi Shlomo Elyashiv</i> . He is also Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld's brother.

<b>Friday Evening:</b>
6:00pm: <b>The Magen Avraham Teen Department</b> presents a Friday Night Teen oneg meal at Rabbi Robinson’s house. Welcome to those joining us for games, inspiration, and candy.
7:45pm: Friday Night Tisch with <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“Exodus of the Self”</i> (Belfer Beit Midrash)
<b>Shabbat Morning:</b>
9:30am: We welcome all those participating in the Intermediate Explanatory Service featuring Mo Kiss, Kol HaNeshamah A Capella Group, <b>Rabbanit Adena Berkowitz</b> and <b>Rabbi Shaul Robinson</b> (Pre-function room)
<b>Shabbat Afternoon:</b>
12:30pm: <b>Beginners Luncheon:</b> Welcome to all who are joining.
3:25pm: Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“Seeing Your World in your Days”: Where Kabbalah and Psychotherapy Kiss</i>
4:10pm: Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. Dvar Torah given by <b>Reb Joey Rosenfeld</b> on <i>“The Desire of Desire: A Meditation on Transience”</i>

NEXT SHABBAT & WEEKEND
<b>Friday Evening, January 11: Dinner and Dvar</b> Warm up your winter Shabbat with an intimate and lively buffet with fellow LSS members catered by Sova Caterers. Guest Speaker: Community Educator, Zissy Turner. Cost: Last chance for early bird price: \$36 for members. Tomorrow, Friday morning, \$41 for members, \$47 for non members. <u>Location:</u> Belfer Beit Midrash. Please register at <a href="http://www.lss.org/event/dinnerdvar">www.lss.org/event/dinnerdvar</a> .
<b>Shabbat, January 12: Womens Tefillah Group:</b> Special Women’s Tefillah led by teen girls Shabbat morning followed by luncheon (must be pre-registered; open to Women’s Tefillah Group members and their guests only). If interested, email <a href="mailto:wtg@lss.org">wtg@lss.org</a> . <u>Location:</u> 3rd floor gym
<b>Saturday Evening, January 12: LSS Film Club presents Remember Baghdad:</b> <b>8:00pm</b> A fascinating story about the experience of the Jews of Iraq — a country they called home for 2,600 years until forced to flee for their lives. We are excited to be joined by Edwin Shuker, whose story is among those told, for a Q & A following the film. Cost: \$15, \$20 at the door. Please register at <a href="http://www.lss.org/form/rememberbaghdad">www.lss.org/form/rememberbaghdad</a> . <u>Location:</u> Belfer Beit Midrash
<b>Sunday, January 13: Upper West Side Blood Drive and Jewish Genetic Screening: 10:00am</b> Participating shuls: LSS, OZ, JC, WSIS, and S&P. Join us for our second annual Upper West Side blood drive for NY Blood Center. Additionally, register for Jewish Genetic Screening through JScreen. This comprehensive screening panel tests for more than 200 diseases. Cost for genetic screening: \$149 and/or register to donate blood by visiting <a href="http://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/75459">donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/75459</a> <u>Location:</u> Ballroom
<b>Sunday, January 13: LSS Presents LeIamed: A New Women’s Torah Leadership Initiative 10:00am</b> Learn the practical skills to become leaders and educators within our shul community. <u>Location:</u> Rm 206/207 Please register at <a href="http://www.lss.org/event/leIamed">www.lss.org/event/leIamed</a> .

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday, January 15: Young Professional Women's Learning Session: 8:00pm**  
Join Community Educator, Zissy Turner for a shiur on "I Am Not a Man of Words: Examining Moshe's Speech Impediment." Light refreshments will be served. Please register at [www.lss.org/event/ypwomen](http://www.lss.org/event/ypwomen). Address given upon registration.

**Motzei Shabbat, January 19: The Segulah Circle: A Performance to Change One's Fortune: 7:30pm:** A project of the LSS Chesed Fund, join us for a private performance to support local community members who are survivors of tragedies and recovering from life altering critical injuries. Please register at [www.lss.org/event/segulahcircle](http://www.lss.org/event/segulahcircle) and for more information.  
Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary

**Wednesday, January 30: No One Left Behind: How JNF Promotes Inclusion in the IDF: 7:00pm** The United Congregations for Israel group (of which LSS is a member), together with the Jewish National Fund, invite you to "No One Left Behind: How JNF Promotes Inclusion in the IDF". Lt. Col. Tiran Attia, Director of Special in Uniform, will discuss an innovative program that integrates youth with disabilities into the IDF. Please register at [www.jnf.org/nycspecial](http://www.jnf.org/nycspecial). Please note this is at an offsite event  
Location: Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, 30 West 68th Street

## COMMUNITY KOLLEL

Beginning January 8th, Lincoln Square Synagogue is excited for the launch of a new weekly Community Kollel which will take place every Tuesday night from 7:30pm-9:30pm. Featuring a fully immersive learning environment through multiple shiurim as well as one-on-one chevruta learning with six highly talented aspiring educators. This unique program caters to aspiring learners of all backgrounds, from beginner to yeshiva veteran! Organized by our Rabbinic Intern and Teen Director, Zac Schwartz.

### Program Highlights:

A fully immersive learning environment every Tuesday night from 7:30pm-9:30pm in the LSS Belfer Beit Midrash.

A marketplace of captivating learning styles (from lecture style to hands-on textual), diverse skill levels (beginners to veteran) and riveting topics.

Customize your learning experience with unique structure of 3 slots of 40 minutes.

Engaging & accessible Kollel Members, all young professional aspiring educators, available to learn with one-on-one and/or in a chabura in any topic of choice and any skill level.

Electrifying speakers and mouth watering food while you learn!

Unique WhatsApp Torah bites from Kollel Members to continue the learning into the week!

To register please click on the link in the Echod electronic version or email [teens@lss.org](mailto:teens@lss.org)

## WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Sunday:

- **Sunday Morning Responsa** with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; Takes place after the 2nd Minyan - Belfer Beit Midrash.

### Monday:

- **Chug Ivrit** given by Hai Piazesky and Dan Munk. 7:00pm-8:15pm. In this class, we read articles from the Israeli press, watch videos of news stories, documentaries and comedy clips, listen to (and sing along!) to Israeli songs and chat in Ivrit. Location: Rm 207

### Tuesday:

- **The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 10:30am– 11:30am. Location: Rm LL201
- **Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group** led by Ron Platzer: 7:00pm-8:00pm). M'lachim, the Book of Kings - the death of David, the magnificent reign of Solomon and his fall, the split kingdom, the dramatic tales of Elijah and Elisha, and so much more. Join our lively weekly study/discussion group as we analyze, pasuk by pasuk, these exciting Biblical narratives. Location: Rm 211

### Wednesday:

- **Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai** given by Sara Brzowsky: 7:30pm-8:30pm. Location: Rm 207

### Thursday:

- **Women's Talk Time:** led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer: 11:30am-12:30pm. Last week's topic: I Can't Throw that Out Location: Rm LL201.

## CHESED OPPORTUNITY: Monday, January 21

Join GOOD+ Foundation for a fun day of volunteering to create "diaper cakes" for parents in low-income communities throughout New York City. Volunteers will package essential newborn items including diapers, onesies, teethingers, wash cloths, bibs and socks into cute welcome home gifts to celebrate new babies and alleviate some financial stress for new moms and dads. Volunteers must be at least 10 years or older. Please register at <https://www.timeforgood.org>



**HOSPITALITY NEEDS:** Please host our Rabbinic Intern and Community Educator for Shabbat meals and /or lodging. Please email [hospitality@lss.org](mailto:hospitality@lss.org) with the subject line "Intern" and your availability to meet our current needs.

**LSS Teen Director and Rabbinic Intern, Zac Schwartz** and his wife, **LSS Teen Director Rachel**, are in need of meals on Feb. 1-2.

**Community Educator, Zissy Turner** and her husband, Sam, are in need of lunch Jan. 11-12 and meals and lodging for Jan. 25-26.

## Weekly Prayer Schedule: January 6

Day	Sunday	Monday (Rosh Chodesh)	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Daf Yomi</b>	7:45am	6:15am	6:20am	6:20am	6:15am	6:20am
<b>Shacharit</b>	7:10am, 8:30am	7:00am, 7:40am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am
<b>Mincha/Maariv</b>	4:35pm	4:35pm	4:35pm	4:35pm	4:35pm	4:35pm

## 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



### Shabbat schedule:

10:00 am Drop Off (Rooms 206-211)  
 10:45 am Davening, Circle Time, and Healthy Kiddush (Rooms 206-211)  
 11:00 am Parsha & Candy: The First Seven Plagues (Rooms 210-211)  
 11:00 am Baby & Me (3rd-floor gym)  
 11:10 am Recreation, Games, and Rehydration (Room 206-207/Pre-Function)  
 11:45 am Groups End

### Dvar Torah:

In Parshat Vaera, Hashem commands Moshe to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let the Jewish people go. Moshe complains again to Hashem about his speech defect and Hashem appoints Aharon as Moshe's spokesperson. Hashem tells Moshe that when Pharaoh asks for a supernatural miracle, Moshe should take his staff, throw it, and it will turn into a snake. When Moshe does this, Pharaoh's magicians do the same with their staffs and Moshe's snake swallows their snakes. Moshe turns the waterways of Egypt into blood; Pharaoh's magicians do the same. The land of Egypt is overrun with frogs but Pharaoh's magicians can do the same. With third plague, lice seep into every nook and corner. This time, Pharaoh's magicians cannot do the same. Rashi explains that lice were too small for their magic to work on. Still, Pharaoh does not relent.

The fourth plague arrives: wild animals are everywhere (except Goshen, where the Jewish people live) but Pharaoh's heart remains hardened. The fifth plague brings sickness on all the cattle of the Egyptians. Still, Pharaoh will not release the Jewish people. Hashem instructs Moshe to take a fistful of soot from a furnace and throw it into the sky. All the Egyptians are afflicted with boils but Pharaoh still refuses. Moshe brings on the seventh plague -- hail. At this point, those Egyptians who believe in Moshe put their own cattle indoors. Rashi comments that in each piece of hail, there was a tiny flame, a supernatural occurrence. But Pharaoh does not let the Jewish people go.

### After Shul Ask Your Children:

- A) Who was Moshe's spokesperson?
- B) Where in Egypt did the Jewish people live?
- C) Which plagues are covered in this Parsha?
- D) Why were the Egyptian magicians unable to emulate the plague of lice?
- E) What was supernatural about the hail?

Answers:

A: Aharon

B: Goshen

C: The first seven plagues are discussed in Vaera: 1) Blood, 2) Frogs, 3) Lice 4) Wild Animals 5) Cattle illness 6) Boils 7) Hail

D: Rashi says that black magic couldn't work on a creature as small as lice.  
 E: In each piece of hail, there was a tiny flame.

## YOUTH DEPARTMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

**Motzei Shabbat, 1/19: Pizza and Movie Night: 6:00 PM Wreck it Ralph**



**Sunday, 1/27: Babies & Brunch, Winter Crafts: 10:00am - 12:00pm**  
 Sponsored by Estee and Eli Friedman and Debra and Avi Srulowitz



**SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, 3/17: Purim Carnival: 1:00pm - 4:00pm**



Shabbat Shalom, Ariella & Mendel



## Parshat Vaera: Saving our Planet

As a Torah community, we can find instruction and inspiration to address contemporary issues in our laws and traditions. As our responses to the challenges posed by global warming become more and more urgent, does our heritage offer us guiding principles?

Yes, far more than can be encapsulated here. But we begin with a lesson from this week's parashah. We read that, although God dispatched both Moshe and Aharon to convince Pharaoh to emancipate the Jews, it was Aharon whom He commanded to strike the river with that mystical staff that initiated the first two plagues. Why so? Rashi noted: "Since the river offered protection to Moshe when he was cast into it, therefore it was not smitten by his hand" (Shemot 7:19). Thus, we are taught to be grateful. But gratitude is due not only to people, but to the natural world as well.

Using the Nile to save baby Moshe was entirely consistent with the Torah's message that God created nature to benefit humanity. Indeed, Adam in the Garden of Eden, as the archetype for the relationship between Man and Earth, was made boss over the natural order (Bereishit 1: 28-30), with God "placing all at his feet" (Tehillim 8:7). But with this entitlement came obligation. Man was required not only to "work" the land but also to "keep" it (Bereishit 2:15). Furthermore, as the Midrash forewarns, there would be accountability: "Be careful not to damage or destroy My world for if you damage it, there will be no one to fix it up after you (Kohelet Rabbah 7:13).

The natural order is key to Jewish life. The timing of reciting prayers and observing holidays depends on the sun, moon, and flow of the seasons. People find divine inspiration in the wonder of God's creations. Upon visiting Switzerland, Rabbi Sampson Raphael Hirsch reportedly remarked, "When I shall stand before God, the Eternal One will ask me with pride: Did you see my Alps?" Indeed, there are blessings not only over foods, which are part of nature, but also over extraordinary natural phenomena (mountains, oceans, deserts, thunder, lightning).

We are taught that every creature has a purpose (Talmud Bavli Shabbat 77b); not to unnecessarily destroy trees and by extension not to be wasteful in general (based on Devarim 20:19-20); and to be compassionate to animals by, for example, not muzzling an ox at work in the field (Devarim 25:4) or by helping to unload an overburdened donkey even if it belongs to our enemy Shemot 23:5).

It is comforting to know, that according to the Green Building Council, our shul is LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified. But are we doing enough now? Are we fulfilling the Torah's mandate or are species disappearing, habitats being compromised and the very air we breathe being poisoned on our watch?

Recent reports indicate that the natural order has already deteriorated to a critical point and that immediate remedies are needed to forestall truly difficult times for our offspring. Jewish tradition records that Honi HaMe'agel questioned an elderly man about why he was planting a carob tree, which takes 70 years to bear fruit, when he would certainly be deceased by then. The man responded that just as his ancestors had planted for him, he was planting for future generations.

Armed with the inspiration of our texts and traditions, may we each do more as stewards over God's creation to rescue our planet, for failing to do so is not only self-destructive, but an affront to God.



Please note that much of the above was culled from "The Jewish View of Ecology and the Environment." Please access [morashasyllabus.com/class/Ecology.pdf](http://morashasyllabus.com/class/Ecology.pdf) to read the article in its entirety.