

Parshat Vayechi **Shaul Robinson**

Senior Rabbi

Josh Rosenfeld Assistant Rahhi

14 Tevet 5779 **Sherwood Goffin**

Foundina Chazzan

Yanky Lemmer

Tamar Fix

Dec 21-22, 2018 Executive Director President

Alan Samuels

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

4:14pm Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday Night

4:20pm Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

> Services officiated and Dvar Torah given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld. Davening led by Chazzan Yisroel Lesches.

Shabbat Morning

7:45am Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by a shiur given by Rabbi Moshe Sokolow

9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Drasha given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld followed by Musaf. Davening led by Chazzan Yisroel Lesches.

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

9:34am 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

Shabbat Afternoon

2:45pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler 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)

3:15pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald in Rm 211

3:15pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld on "Why is the Talmud Authoritative?" (Part 4).

4:00pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. 5:15pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

GIVING

Please remember to support Lincoln Square Synagogue in your yearend giving by fulfilling your outstanding pledges and charges before December 31. To ensure that your contributions to the shul can be used as tax deductions for the 2018 calendar year, please make your payments as soon as possible. Online payments can be made until 11:59p.m. on Monday, December 31.

If you have any questions about your outstanding balance please contact the shul office at info@lss.org or call 212-874-6100.

To pay your balance online please visit www.lss.org/payment

Reminder: you must be logged in.

Join us this coming Monday, December 24: An Evening of Chazzanut with The UWS Cantors: 8:00pm

Sign up now for a Chazzanus concert with our very own Chazzan Lemmer and his colleagues. Light refreshments will be served.

Please register atlss.org/event/chazzanconcert



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush:

Yehudit and Jeffrey Neuman in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Jeffrey's mother, Malka bat Yitzchok a"h.

Main Kiddush: Please join us for a fun, dairy Kiddush courtesy of LSS!

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

Vivian Glueck Rosenberg and Henry Rosenberg in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Vivian's mother, Dreizel Vera Glueck a"h.

David Menaged in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his father, Ezra ben Sarah z"l.

The Nussbaum family in commemoration of the 2nd yahrtzeit of James' father, Asher ben Eliezer, Mr. Allen Nussbaum z"l.

Beginners Kiddush: Rachel, Coby, and Nitay Zekry and Chaviva Warner in honor of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald and to celebrate Devorah joining the tribe.

Seudah Shlishit:

Joyce and David Friedman and Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of Edith Jaskoll a"h and Debby Neumark a"h.

Barbara Schwartz Spero in commemoration of the vahrtzeit of her father, Schmuel Zanvil ben Yehuda HaCohen z"l.

The Nussbaum family in commemoration of the 2nd yahrtzeit of James' father, Asher ben Eliezer, Mr. Allen Nussbaum z"l.

HAKARAT HATOV

Josh Danziger for writing this week's Dvar Torah lan Silver for organizing the LSS Security Training on 12/12 and 12/19 Wendy Baker for organizing the Asarah B'Tevet Food Drive

MAZAL TOV

Eliana and Sam Yamshon on the birth of a baby boy. Mazal Tov also to grandparents Lee and Paul Holm, Uncle Jake Holm, great bobbie Ruth Levin, grandparents Ellen and Daniel Yamshon of Sacramento, California, Aunt Rachel Yamshon, and great grandmother Rosalie Ingerman.

Marcie and Ken Cappell on the birth of their first grandchild, born to their children Sam & Leora Cappell. Mazel tov to Leora's parents Jonathan and Ilana Silber and to the baby's great grandfather, Mr. Israel Cappell and to Sam's siblings, Jamie and Anna.



\$5 COVER CHARGE **5 COMPELLING SPEAKERS**





9:15 - COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS

9:30 - 10:30 - NECHAMA PRICE (KEY NOTE) 10:45 - 11:30 - BREAKOUT SESSION 1 (2 OPTIONS) 11:45 - 12:30 BREAK OUT SESSION 2 (2 OPTIONS)



Join us this coming Tuesday, December 25 for a riveting Yom **Iyun: From Goshen to Gotham City: Keeping** Torah Alive in Exile: 9:30am

Featuring key note speaker Nechama Price as well as Shiffy Friedman, Sarah Robinson, Zissy Turner, and Sarah Rindner. Cost: \$5 Please register at lss.org/event/vomiyun 2018

Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shabbat, January 5: Beginners Luncheon: 12:30pm

The cost is only \$25 per person. Register and pay online at www.lss.org/beginners or call 212-874-6100.

Please make your reservations and payment by Thursday, January 3rd.

Friday Evening, January 11: Dinner and Dvar 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: early bird price is \$36 for members. After Jan 3rd, \$41 for members, \$47 for non members. Please register at www.lss.org/event/dinnerdvar.
Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.

Shabbat, January 12: Womens Tefillah Group: 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 wtg@lss.org. Location: 3rd floor gym

Saturday Evening, January 12: LSS Film Club presents Remember Baghdad: 8:00pm 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. Narrated in English, the documentary combines vivid home movies, compelling interviews with individuals who lived through the dramatic events of the last century, and archival footage that presents the history of the Middle East through a surprising new lens. 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 www.lss.org/form/rememberbaghdad. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Sunday, January 13: Upper West Side Blood Drive: 10:00am

Join us for our annual Upper West Side blood drive. Participating shuls: LSS, OZ, JC, and S&P Please sign up to volunteer at donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/75459

Sunday, January 13: LSS Presents Lelamed: A New Women's Torah Leadership Initiative 10:00am Join this new and exciting program that will create a cadre of women with the practical skills to become leaders and educators within our shul community. Please register at www.lss.org/event/lelamed. Location: Rm 206/207

Wednesday, January 30: No One Left Behind: How JNF Promotes Inclusion in the IDF: 7:00 pm 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. Please note this is at an offsite location. Location: Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, 30 West 68th Street

Wednesday, February 27: Israel & Zionism: The Complete Background Given by Paul Shaviv: 8:00pm Flyer with details below

SPONSOR A SHIUR

To sponsor a shiur please visit www.lss.org/form/sponsorship Clergy Shiur (\$360)

Rabbinic Interns/Community Educators Shiur (\$120)

TORAH INSPIRATION FROM RABBI ROBINSON

Join our Torah WhatsApp Group for a daily dose of inspiration! To join please click the link from this week's electronic Echod or email Rabbi@lss.org.

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday:

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

Monday:

- (Cancelled this week) 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
- The Journey: An In-Depth Study of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov's Epic Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld: 8:00pm-9:00pm The last session will be on Dec. 24 Location: Beit Midrash

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

<u>Wednesday:</u>

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

Thursday

- Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer: 11:30am-12:30pm. Last week's topic: Loss <u>Location:</u> Rm LL201.
- The Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 7:00pm–8:00pm. <u>Location:</u> Belfer Beit Midrash

ROBIN EPSTEIN

Robin Epstein, our former Administrative Assistant, stopped by LSS to introduce us to her beautiful daughter, Ellie.

The office team was thrilled to see her and meet her new addition!

To reach out to Robin you can email robinepstein85@gmail.com



CHESED OPPORTUNITY



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, teethers, 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.

Weekly	Prayer Schedule:	December 23				
Day	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daf Yomi	7:45am	6:15am	7:45am	6:20am	6:15am	6:20am
Shacharit	7:10am, 8:30am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 8:30am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am
Mincha/Maariv	4:20pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:20pm

HOSPITALITY NEEDS: Please email hospitality@lss.org with the subject line "Intern" and your availability to meet our current needs

Rabbinic Intern, Zac Schwartz is in need of lunch for Nov. 24, and both meals and lodging on Nov. 30-Dec. 1 and Dec. 21-22.

Community Educator, Zissy Turner and her husband, Sam, are in need of dinner and lodging on Nov. 16-17, lunch on Dec. 15 and both meals on Jan. 11-12.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

זרעים Seedlings (2 years old) Room 210 אורשים 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 End of Bereshit (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

Parshat Vayechi concludes Sefer Bereishet, the first book of the Torah. Vayechi discusses how Yakov blessed his children and passed away at the age of 147. Before he died, however, Yakov made Yosef swear that Yakov wouldn't be buried in Egypt. Rashi (47:29) gives three reasons why: 1) The earth of Egypt would turn into lice during the 10 plagues 2) Yakov didn't want to be outside of Israel when *Moshiach came and 3) Yakov didn't want the Egyptians worshipping him.*

Yakov called Yosef a second time to bless Yosef's children, Menashe and Ephraim. Yakov put his right hand on Ephraim, the younger son and his left hand on Menashe, the older son. When Yosef tried to correctly place Yakov's hands, Yakov explained that Menashe would be great, but Ephraim would be even greater. Rashi explains that Gideon would be a descendant of Menashe, and Yehoshua, who brought the Jewish people into Israel, would be a descendent of Ephraim.

Yakov then blessed each of his sons and after he died, the brothers mourned him for forty days. Yosef asked permission from Pharaoh to take Yakov to Israel to bury him. Pharoah let Yosef go because Yosef had sworn to his father and Pharaoh didn't want Yosef to break his word. Bereishit ends, telling us that Yosef lived to see his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Before he died, Yosef made his brothers swear that they too would take him out of Egypt.

After Shul ask Your Children:

Why didn't Yakov want to be buried in Egypt?

Why did Pharaoh let Yosef leave?

How many languages did Yosef speak?

How old was Yosef when he died?

Who was Ephraim's descendant?

Baby & Me Recap:

This past Sunday morning, Baby & Me celebrated a fantastic edition of Babies & Brunch! We sang Hebrew songs led by Tkiya Sing-A-Long, enjoyed delicious Bagels and Co. breakfast, and capped off with Llama Llama Loves to Read. If you're interested in sponsoring the next edition of Babies & Brunch, please email youth@lss.org. Looking forward to seeing you this Shabbat at 11:00 am on the third floor!

Upcoming Event:

Motzei Shabbat, 12/16: Pizza and Movie Night: 6:00 PM Wreck it Ralph

Shabbat Shalom, Ariella & Mendel



Register at:

www.lss.org/event/wreckitralph

Parshat Vayechi December 21-22 Written by: Josh Danziger



Parshat Vayechi

In this week's parsha, just before the blessing of the tribes, Jacob blesses Joseph and his two sons, and says

"And I have given you one portion over your brothers, which I took from the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow."

Rashi comments: "with my sword and with my bow: i.e., his wisdom and his prayer."

The connection between the sword and wisdom is its own topic, but we can gain insight into the link between the bow and prayer, and specifically to the prayer innovated by Yaakov Avinu, from the writings of Rav Moshe Shapira.

We know that the three daily prayers, in concept if not specific wording, were instituted by the *avot* — the morning prayer by Avraham, the afternoon prayer by Yitzchak, and the nighttime prayer by Yaakov. Each prayer reflects something different in the world and is linked to its time of day. In short, Avraham's prayer is that of beginning, that the day and all that comes of it should be directed correctly. Yitzchak's prayer is that of ending and destiny, that all should come correctly to its final destination.

Yaakov's nighttime prayer is different. A person engulfed in true night (which we generally lack in the modern, industrialized word) has no ability to perceive anything beyond himself. The most profound feeling is that of aloneness. The sages in Bereishit Rabbah comment that when the verse says "Yaakov remained alone," he emulated the attribute of *Hashem*, as it says "God alone shall be exalted on that day." His aloneness is the awareness of his own being and that comes to include the awareness of the True Existence. Whereas Avraham attaches himself at the point of origin, and Yitzchak at the point of destiny, Yaakov attaches himself to existence itself.

This is the link between the bow and prayer. While the archer needs to draw the bow taut, the arrow doesn't fly from this action directly. Rather it flies from the force of the bow returning powerfully to itself. And this is the exact nature of what prayer truly is and is meant to be; it's the experience of a person returning powerfully to his or her truest self and standing in the presence of God, who is the true existence. We can see this also in the reflexive nature of the Hebrew word to pray "lehitpalle,!" which has the connotation of "to stand in judgement of oneself."

Rav Shapira points out another fascinating insight which is also mentioned by the Ben Ish Hai and others: The word for human being in Hebrew is *adam*. If you actually spell out all the letters, Aleph, Daled, Mem (Aleph=Aleph, Lamed, Phei; Dalet=Dalet, Lamed; Taf; Mem=Mem, Mem), the "hidden" letters included in the full spelling of the characters has all the letters in *mitpallel*, indicating that man's inner and hidden essence is that of one who prays.

Whether it's through a connection to our traditional liturgy, our own personal words, or something in between, may we all merit to return powerfully to ourselves and to Hashem in true and meaningful prayer.

Shabbat Shalom!