

LSS UPDATE

LSS is closed for all services and programs, with the exception of Mincha/Maariv on Sunday through Thursday, until further notice. Please see the notice below on what to do if you want to be one of the limited numbers of participants at those minyanim.

Please see below for important Shabbat times.

SHABBAT TIMES

Friday Night:

Earliest Candle Lighting: 6:55pm
Zoom Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:00pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting: 8:11pm
Sunset (daven Mincha by): 8:27pm
Repeat Shema after 8:58pm

Shabbat:

Latest Shema: 9:09am
Latest Shacharit: 10:25am
Earliest Mincha: 1:33pm
Sunset (daven Mincha by, and begin seudah shlishit by): 8:27pm
Shabbat Ends: 9:11pm
Zoom Havdalah: 9:30pm

For access to the zoom links for Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdalah, please click the link in the electronic version of Echod.

MAZAL TOV

Jackie and Zach Lebowohl on the birth of a baby girl.

Grandparents **Tamar and Dov Kahane** on the birth of a baby girl born to their children Kelila and Tuvia Tendler.

HAKARAT HATOV

Judy Sokolow for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

LSS REOPENING

We are thrilled to announce that Lincoln Square Synagogue is open for weekday Mincha/Maariv services. Please note, this is currently BY INVITE ONLY. If you are interested in attending minyan please email rabbi@lss.org

Priority will be given to people saying Kaddish, with Rabbi and Gabbaim managing the process. Please note the survey is just a measure of your interest, it does not commit you to attend.

Mincha/Maariv will be taking place Sunday, June 14 through Thursday, June 18 at 8:20pm by invite only.

To read our President, Alan Samuel's letter, please visit our homepage at www.lss.org

SUNDAY, JUNE 28: VIRTUAL ANNUAL DINNER: 7:00pm

When the wheel was invented, people loved the idea, and wondered why no one thought of it before. The reaction to Lincoln Square Synagogue's 2020 Annual Dinner, which will be held virtually, is going to be the same. Think of the advantages: Women — no rummaging through your closet to find just the right dress! Men — no wondering whether your "good" suit still fits! Parents of children — no worry about finding a babysitter who won't be texting friends the whole time, ignoring the kids who are getting into who knows what kind of mischief! Everybody — no souvenir bencher to take with you to add to the collection of hundreds spilling out of every drawer at home!

So just set aside Sunday evening, June 28, starting at 7:00 o'clock to enjoy the 2020 LSS Annual Dinner, brought to you right in the comfort of your home. The program we've got planned is going to be a WOW! We're sure you'll enjoy it and find it inspiring.

There's an all-important commonality between the wheel and the LSS virtual Annual Dinner that's vital to point out. The wheel and the Dinner both require grease to move forward; in the case of the Dinner, the grease is your generous financial support.

And in view of the Dinner's theme -- Honoring Our Covid-19 Heroes -- you can provide that financial support in an especially meaningful way: send a message of thanks in the virtual Dinner Journal to our frontline healthcare workers. Or write a tribute to someone who has done something supportive for you personally to help you in these difficult times.

Please register & submit your ad as soon and as generously as possible. And remember, this year the full amount of your Dinner contribution is tax deductible!

Closed Captioning available.

To contribute and/or donate to a group ad, please click the link in the electronic version of Echod or visit our homepage at www.lss.org.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Yedidya Flaquer
Ms. Arlette Loeser

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Yehudit Barsky
Phil Friedman
Adam Goodman
Edmond Haddad
Rocky Kohn
Ayelet (Mael) Rosenberg
Vanessa Miller Rouzenrouch
Gary Stein

WONT YOU PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND?

Dear Member,

This is Tamar Fix, Executive Director of LSS. As you know, we are hosting our Annual Dinner virtually this year. Our Annual Dinner "Honoring our COVID Heroes!" will be held via a webinar platform and zoom after-party on Sunday, June 28 starting at 7:00 p.m. The committee is hard at work putting together an entertaining and moving evening. We are excited to announce that Modi will be joining us at our zoom After Party! Modi was voted one of the top-10 comedians in New York City by "The Hollywood Reporter" and "BackStage," and has been featured on HBO, CBS, NBC, ABC, Comedy Central, E! Entertainment and Netflix.

The dinner raises funds to assist the shul to continue operating at the standard you have come to know and trust. For many, the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic will be devastating and is of immediate concern to a significant number of Jewish families and seniors. Our immediate concern, as your shul, is to be there for vulnerable families and seniors as income streams are frozen and as communal resources diminish. The range of needs is extensive and still unfolding: individuals living in isolation, households without nearly the financial resources they previously had. All this coupled with a lack of availability for scholarships and financial assistance packages that were previously available or largely not needed. In the aftermath of this pandemic, we, Lincoln Square Synagogue, seeks to survive, thrive, and serve as a beacon of hope and stability. This pandemic has changed us profoundly. Both as a synagogue who has reached deeper to find ways to engage with members as we're quarantined and as individuals who have struggled and strived to find new footing in this new normal. Though this pandemic has told us to "stand in place" we have not. We have moved forward, grown, climbed higher, dug deeper and are using this as a transformative experience. We do look forward to joining together again but, make no mistake, there is no way back. Only forward. We will join together again as a strengthened community, as an even more appreciative and kinder community and we will know, more than ever before, that no matter what...we will always rise above and be there for each other.

Our event is expected to draw you, our dear members, as our supporters. In doing so you raise your hand and affirm that "yes I am here, I am a member, and I support." We also ask that you consider donating to our silent auction. Our Annual Dinner this year will have a silent auction component. We have many exciting items to unveil but we still need more. Do you have a skill that you are willing to teach, an hour of your time and expertise to offer? Perhaps you are a successful business person willing to donate lunch and a Q&A for one lucky member. Whatever it is that you can give, whether its financial support or experiential expertise, we want to hear from YOU! If you want to donate something via your business please note that your participating business will be prominently featured in our annual dinner journal with contact details.

Can you help us out with a donation of a product or service from your business because it will help us greatly in making this the best Annual Dinner to date! All donations are greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible. Your donation can be something as simple as a gift certificate to your business or an invitation to share lunch with you. So, please, won't you raise your hand?

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to seeing you there! Register for the dinner at www.lss.org

Please email me at tamar@lss.org and let me know how you can participate in our silent auction.

Warmly,
Tamar

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

For access to all the Zoom links for these classes, please visit www.lss.org/learningopportunities.

To dial into a class please call 646-876-9923 and enter the Meeting ID and password (if necessary) associated with the class below.

Sunday:

- **Sunday Morning Responsa**

with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld: 10:15am. *Meeting ID:* 827 823 0785
Password (if necessary): mds1234

Monday:

- **Chug Ivrit led by Harel Fenigstein:** 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. This year, we will have a special focus on Israeli poetry. *Meeting ID:* 459 533 337

- **Deep Calling Unto Deep**

Led by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld: 7:45pm-8:30pm
Meeting ID: 827 823 0785 *Password (if necessary):* mds1234

Tuesday:

- **The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha"**

led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 10:30am– 11:30am
Meeting ID: 241 022 510

- **Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group**

Led by Ron Platzer: 7:00pm-8:00pm. *Meeting ID:* 811 662 074

Wednesday:

- **Conversions and Covenant: The Halacha, History, and Science of being Jewish** led by Rabbinic Intern, Tzvi Benoff: 12:00pm

Topic: The Overlapping Worlds of Brisk and Chabad: Rav Lichtenstein and the Lubavitcher Rebbe's Views on Volunteerism in Halacha.
Meeting ID: 952 176 470

Thursday:

- **The Jacob Adler Parsha Class**

Explorations in the Weekly Parsha led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 7:00pm-8:00pm. *Meeting ID:* 912 657 888



MAZAL TOV TO ALL OUR GRADUATES:

Malka Sima Adler Bais Yaakov of Spring Valley High School
Eric Ajdler SAR High School
Devorah Blank Wurzweiler School of Social Work
Moshe Blank Yeshiva College
Lea Braun-Goldberg NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing
Jordana Broome SAR High School
Zachary Buller Ramaz Upper School
Tali Clements Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology
Ezra Cohen Ramaz Upper School
Madeline Dolfman SAR Academy
Reese Dolfman SAR High School
Morgan Eilers Riverdale Country School
Benjamin Emmerich University of Rochester B.A. Music & Philosophy
Ethan Freilich Baruch College B.A. Business Administration
Tamar Friling Schick DMD NYU Periodontics Program
Liana Goldstein Frisch High School
Noa Grinstein SAR Middle School
Shira Hudes Hunter College
Aavigayil Kahn Bruria High School
Matthew Kirschenbaum Baruch College B.A. Business Administration
Noa Lavi Manhattan Day School
Orah Meisels, Manhattan Day School
Gaby Mero Manhattan Day School
Tova Miller Maayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls
Jacob Neumark Fordham University School of Law
Max Nussbaum Frisch High School
Elsie Platzer Columbia University
B.A. Environmental Biology & Creative Writing
Eliana Price Rudolph Steiner School
Zoe Raykher Frisch High School
Mordechai Baruch Rosen SUNY Albany B.S. Biology
Charlie Samuels SAR High School
Shimon Zvi Savitt City College of New York B.S. Physics
Sam Schwartzben Indiana University Kelley School of Business
B.S. Finance
Cheryl Shalom Stockton College
Julia Tepper Columbia University DDS College of Dental Medicine
Benjamin Vogel Binghamton University B.A. Psychology
Libby Walker University at Buffalo BFA Theater and Performance
Natalie S. Wisotsky Yavneh Academy
Gabi Zweig NYU Rory Meyers School of Nursing

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 14: Tel Aviv, A Dream Come True: 10:00am

Last Sunday's virtual tour of Tzfat was a huge success. This Sunday, Shulie Mishkin, an American Jewish historian who made aliyah a number of years ago will "walk" us through Tel Aviv. Today, Tel Aviv is a vibrant, sophisticated city that prides itself on nonstop action, innovative culture and thriving economy. But, one hundred and ten years ago it was nothing but sand dunes. Join this tour and meet the visionaries who created the first Hebrew city. Registration fee is \$13. Please note that you need to register in advance and registration closes one hour prior to the start of the program.

Sunday, June 21: Virtual Celebrate Israel Parade The 2020 Virtual Celebrate Israel Parade will have a theme of Todah (thank you in Hebrew). We want to utilize this opportunity to express our deep gratitude to all the healthcare, first responder and other frontline workers in New York, across the United States, in Israel, and around the world. This year the parade will be live streamed on YouTube and on their website, as well as available on Facebook and Twitter via the Parade's Facebook page. More details for this year's virtual event to come!

Wednesday, June 24: The Pandemic's Impact on Israeli Society and Economy: 12:00pm Live from Israel! A few weeks ago, we heard from Magen David Adom on how Israeli doctors and scientists successfully combated Covid-19. In this webinar, we will learn how the pandemic crisis has affected nearly all aspects of Israeli society and economy, from health to macroeconomics, welfare, the labor market and educational system. We will also hear how the crisis has affected Israel's minority populations, including ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods, Arab towns and Druze villages. And, we will also hear about the unique impact of the crisis on women across different cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.

*For access to the links for these events,
please click on the link in the electronic version of the Echod.*

Shabbat Shalom!

DVAR TORAH

Parshat Beha'alotcha
June 12-13
By: Judy Sokolow

Free to be You and Me?

One might sympathize with the Israelites as they built the golden calf. After all, as newly freed slaves at the foot of Mount Sinai who were waiting for Moses to descend from the mountain, they were still insecure about their relationship with him and with G-d. But by this point, after witnessing so many of G-d's miracles and having had their prior complaints satisfied, they were still disgruntled, even with the manna they were receiving. Many joined the asafsuf (defined by Rashi as the mixed-multitude that attached itself to them when they left Egypt) and cried: "Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we ate in Egypt for free (chinam), the cucumbers and the melons and the leeks and the onions and the garlic..." (Bemidbar 11:4-5).

Exegetes such as Shadal (S.D. Luzzatto) took "free" literally, and explained that these items were cheap and plentiful in ancient Egypt and thus appropriate fare for slaves. Rashi, however, based on the Sifrei, wrote: "How can you say the Egyptians gave them fish for free when it says (Shemot 5:18) 'and straw shall not be given to them.' If they would not give them straw free of charge, would they give them free fish? So, what does free mean? Free from the commandments (mitzvot)."

Nehama Leibowitz agreed with Rashi and in her Studies in the Weekly Sidra (first series, 5715, # 32) argued that the Israelites' spoken words were masking their true complaints: the discipline and responsibility required in their new role as civilized humans with a multitude of commandments to observe and former practices—particularly sexual ones—from which they were henceforth enjoined to refrain. "Since it is human nature to suppress rather than proclaim one's hankering after these things, they disguised their real inclinations in the garb of cucumbers [etc.]" (See Studies in the Weekly Parashah: Based on the Lessons of Nehama Leibowitz by Moshe Sokolow.)

The Israelites, at that point, were far too immature to understand that responsibility is a prerequisite for freedom. Avot 6:3 refers us to the biblical verse "and the tablets (luchot) were the work of God and the writing was God's writing that was etched (charut) into the tablets" (Shemot 32:16), and states: "Do not read it as 'charut' (etched) but rather as 'cheirut' (free) because one is free only if he occupies himself in Torah." This mishnah, according to Pinchat Kehati (and others) posits that the Torah "dresses one in modesty and awe, distances him from sin and brings him close to merit, and enhances him and raises him above all things."

The psychological insight inherent in this teaching has not been lost on others. In his book, *The Second Mountain*, David Brooks quoted baseball psychologist H.A. Dorfman who advised that "self-discipline is a form of freedom... freedom from laziness and lethargy, freedom from expectations and demands of others, freedom from weakness and fear—and doubt" (p. 126). And in reminding people to wear masks, self-distance and frequently wash their hands so as to remain Covid-free, Governor Andrew Cuomo quoted Edith Hamilton who said: "When the freedom they wished for most was freedom from responsibility, they ceased being free" (4/22, televised news conference).

As committed modern Orthodox Jews with feet firmly planted in both the secular and Torah worlds, and with careers and lifestyles that offer up diverse choices, tension often stems from the reality that although American and Jewish values and practices are often compatible, often they are not. Furthermore, the wellsprings of the two systems are philosophically very different: whereas American law stems from the consent of the governed and its enactment results from choices that can be amended or reversed as political winds shift, Jewish law derives from interpretations and decisions made by a select few who have emerged through the ages as sages, and for those who accept this rabbinical authority, obligation replaces choice as the arbiter of many daily practices. Whereas, arguably, American civic life addresses the rights of citizens more than their responsibilities, a traditional Jewish lifestyle is heavy on responsibilities. Articulating and analyzing this dynamic, Rabbi Sol Roth in his article "Judaism and Democracy" maintained that these two agendas need not be experienced as contradictory because "a religious minded Jew lives in two frames of reference." Yet many feel that this can cause distress because American culture appears to be more "free" than life circumscribed by religious observance. Israeli educator Dr. Michael Rosenak, in his book *Commandments and Concerns: Jewish Religious Education in Secular Society*, pointed out that religious law is often not as rigid as we might think and that often there is a range of behaviors that satisfy religious norms, and suggested that rabbis and educators offer choices of behavior wherever possible.

For our community, the ultimate source of moral and behavioral clarity is the Torah and living our lives requires enough commitment, responsibility, and energy to keep us out of trouble. As we say in our morning prayers: "Happy are we, how good is our portion, how lovely our fortune, how beautiful our heritage."

Shabbat Shalom

We are currently looking for a writer for:

Parshat Korach (6/27)

If interested, please email Bill Greenbaum at dvar@lss.org.

In case of a bereavement, please call
our Clergy at 646-543-7485
(day or night)

If you would like to receive the
Shabbat Echod by e-mail,
sign up at www.lss.org.

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