

## LSS UPDATE

LSS is closed for all services and programs, including Shabbat services and programs, until further notice.

This Shabbat marks 10 weeks apart and yet, in many ways, we realize how this challenging time is bringing us all closer through chesed and virtual connection.

Please see below for important Shabbat times.

## SHABBAT TIMES

### Friday Night:

**Today is the 36th day of the Omer**

Earliest Candle Lighting: 6:37pm

Zoom Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:00pm

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 7:49pm

Sunset (daven Mincha by): 8:06pm

Repeat Shema after 8:54pm

**Count day 37 of Omer**

### Shabbat:

**Today is the 37th Day Omer**

Latest Shema 9:13am

Latest Shacharit: 10:27am

Earliest Mincha: 1:28pm

Sunset (daven Mincha by, and begin seudah shlishit by): 8:06pm

Shabbat Ends: 8:51pm

Zoom Havdalah: 9:10pm

**Count day 38 of the omer**

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

## MAZAL TOV

Grandparents **Debby and Simcha Pollack** on the birth of a baby boy to their children, Leora and Jason Cohen. Mazal tov to sister Carter, aunt and uncle Tina and Doron Zollman, and cousins Chloe and Gilda.

## TIMES FOR WEEKDAY DAVENING

For access to the times for weekday davening, please click [here](#).

## REMINDER

Thursday night, May 21 and Friday, May 22 are Yom Yerushalyim. It is customary to say Hallal after the Shacharit Amidah on Yom Yerushalyim.

## ZOOM NOTICE

Zoom is now requiring that all users update their zoom accounts. All users who don't update it by May 30 may experience difficulties signing into classes and programs.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

*Though we will not be joining together for communal kiddushim, we want to take this opportunity to list those sponsors that had every intention of sponsoring. We wish Mazal Tov's to those celebrating and Elyui Neshamot to those who are commemorating the loss of a loved one. May we very soon have the zechut again to share together in smachot and, lo'alenu, if difficult times befall, may we at the very least have the zechut to take comfort in coming together.*

**Main Kiddush:** Linda, Michael, and Jonathan Roth in honor of Sydel Roth's 85th birthday.

**Beginners Kiddush:** Elaine Witty-Komito in commemoration of the second yahrtzeit of her husband, Larry Komito, Yehudah Leib ben Yaakov, z"l, v'Stisha, tlich't.

## HAKARAT HATOV

**Jesse Cogan** for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

## LSS SUPPORTS WEST SIDE HATZOLOH

As a shul, we join in unity, to support and show appreciation for our local Hatzoloh and its volunteers, our heroes on the frontlines that heed the call 24/7 for us, our families and our community.

Now, even more than ever West Side Hatzoloh needs our support. Taking care of our community during the COVID-19 crisis requires tremendous resources above and beyond those required for normal operations.

Support West Side Hatzoloh Today!

Please click [here](#) to donate with our shul's team, and together we will show West Side Hatzoloh that LSS cares.

## MISHNAH LEARNING

Every year Lincoln Square Synagogue collectively studies the entire Mishna before Shavuot. We ask as many people as possible to choose what they want to learn, and complete it by the second day of Yom Tov. Especially this year, our Mishnah learning is even more important!

We are dedicating this year's learning for the refuah sheleimah, complete healing for all the people affected by the terrible pandemic, in our communities and all over the world.

We can't accomplish the goal without YOU! We promise you a meaningful and rewarding experience. Please help us achieve our participation goal of having every member and friend of LSS study a portion of Mishnah. Volunteer mentors or study partners are available upon request. Alternatively, you can email Bill Greenbaum or Janine Sherr at [mishnah@lss.org](mailto:mishnah@lss.org).

Finally, we're again making available the option to learn in memory of one or more of the IDF soldiers who fell in the defense of Medinat Israel. This is a completely voluntary option, but those who participated in past years found it to be a very meaningful experience. Please email Nathan at [nvogel212@gmail.com](mailto:nvogel212@gmail.com) to learn more.

Please click the link in the electronic version of Echod to donate

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Sunday, May 17: LSS Presents: A Mother Daughter Learning: Grandmothers, Sisters and Aunts welcome too!: 2:00pm**

We invite you to connect through Torah study and through the empowerment of coming together with other Jewish women.

Topic: Vegetarianism and the Treatment of Animals According to Jewish Ethics.

**Sunday, May 17: LSS in Conjunction with Congregation Shearith Israel Presents: Smash the Stigma: A Jewish Communal Conversation on Suicide and Depression: 7:00pm** Come hear and interact with therapist/chaplain Rabbi Mimon Mamane, LMSW, of Congregation Magen David on Sullivan Street, and two exceptional presenters, Nina Kampler and Dr. Phil Roth, who will share their firsthand experiences of losing a young adult child to suicide.

**Wednesday, May 20: Talk Time with Rabbi Shaul Robinson and Ruth Riemer: 2:00pm** A few months ago, if you were told you may end up in the hospital for holding your new grandchild or leaving your house for grocery shopping, you would think that you were listening to a science fiction plot. Join Rabbi Shaul Robinson and Ruth Riemer in an open discussion on the strangeness of our new reality.

**Sunday, May 24: New Member Brunch with Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 12:00pm** *Pre-registration required.* Bring your brunch and pull up a chair to join us for some relaxed conversation with Rabbi Shaul and Sarah Robinson. This event is for members who have joined in 2019 and 2020.

**Tuesday, May 26: Live from Israel: Magen David Adom: Covid Heroes: 2:00pm** Israel responded to the corona virus pandemic early, quickly and strongly. As a result, Israel's mortality rate (fewer than 300 people in a nation of 9.2 million) is a small fraction of that of other countries. How did they do it? Not surprisingly, Magen David Adom was in the front lines of this battle. Join this Zoom session to hear from four of its heroes. The four speakers will be Uri Shacham, Deputy Director of Magen David Adom and Chief of Staff, Michael Strongin, Chief of Riverdale Hatzalah EMS and Director at Bank of Montreal, Professor Eliat Shinar, Director of Magen David Adom's Blood Services Division, and Yuval Eran, Magen David Adom Paramedic. In order to join this webinar, you need to register in advance. Once you register, you will be emailed the link to use on the date and time of the webinar.

**Wednesday, June 3: Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Governors: 7:30pm** See electronic version of the Echod for the zoom link.

**Wednesday, June 10: Membership Meeting: 7:00pm** Zoom link will be emailed out the week of the event.

**Sunday, June 28: Virtual Annual Dinner: 7:00pm** Save the date. More information to follow.

*For access to the links for these events,  
please view the electronic version of the Echod.*

## WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

For access to all the Zoom links for these classes, please visit [www.lss.org/learningopportunities](http://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
- **Jewish Living Workshop: 7:30pm-8:30pm** led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum. The Jewish Living Workshop, a 9 session series, is a "hands-on" experience. We learn by doing. The workshop is free, a few sessions will require a modest fee for materials. To register and get access to the password, please email [JLworkshop@yahoo.com](mailto:JLworkshop@yahoo.com). Meeting ID: 774 751 778.
- **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: House of Jacob Arise and Go: Rabbi Yosef Rosen's Postcard Responsa on Zionism and the Forefathers. Meeting ID: 952 176 470
- **Jewish History Course led by Paul Shaviv: 8:00pm-9:00pm** Meeting ID: 989 1372 9583

### **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

# Shabbat Shalom!

## DVAR TORAH

Parshat Behar-Bechukotai

May 15-16

By: Jesse Cogan

### *Finally*

Ah.....The Tochacha, Followed by "Chazak," said loud.

Seven times in 20 sentences a word appears that never appears in the Torah. The word is Keri. Keri means casually. "Don't Walk with Him in Keri." Walk with him purposely. It's a Sefer Vayikra word and why the first word of the Book has a small Aleph.

Moshe wanted Vayikar." G-d wanted Vayikra. Moshe, the world's most modest man, didn't want G-d to "shout him out." He wanted G-d to casually bump into him. He didn't think he was worthy of a "shout-out."

Most Meforshim say that the last sentence of Bichukosai is about all mitzvot. There are no Mishpatim or Chukim in the Tochacha. The Tochacha is only about what will happen if you don't do the mitzvot.

The Rav says that Bichukosai is about the exile from Bayis Rishon. It was a 70-year exile. (Yirmiyahu was right!)

Ki Savo is about the exile from Bayis Sheini. The conciliatory words are in Parshas Nitzavim. The Jews would have to wait. Amalek. Purim. Av Harachamim, Expulsion, Disputation, Nazi. Pogrom. Yellow star. Galus. Black September. Munich. Skin-heads. False Messiahs. The events of World War II. Coronavirus. All these words entered our vocabulary. We are waiting and wait-ing.

Im Kol Zeh Achakeh Lo.

Bichukosai is mild. Ki Savo is more severe. Bichukosai prepares us for Zman Matan Toroseinu; Ki Sova is in Elul—right before Rosh HaShana.

The Tochacha has become a question in the Gemara, Aggadeta, and Halacha. Not the text. But who gets the Aliya?

From rabbi to Baal Koreh. From not calling up the person by name to not calling anyone. Split up the Tochacha.

Pay someone!

My favorite Tochacha story (I couldn't resist!) is the one about the shtibel in Krakow. They couldn't find anyone to take the Tochacha Aliya for the following Shabbos. Im Kol Zeh Achakeh Lo.

Finally, they found a poor man in the back of the room and agreed to pay him. He had to be there at 10:00.

At 10:15, he huffs and puffs his way into the small synagogue. He was asked why he was late.

"Foon ein Tochacha ich ken machin a leiben?"

But why?

Mostly because of embarrassment. Or...."Is this the only Aliya I could get?" Somehow, people feel that the Torah reading reflects on them. I'll take the Akeida.

Scream it! It's all about teshuva. It starts with "If....."

All of the brachot of Shemona Esrei praise G-d. He gives intelligence. He forgives. He hears prayers. He heals the sick. He re-deems. He builds.

But when it comes to teshuvah, He wants it from us. The bracha says: Ha'rotzeh Bi'teshuva.

On the top of your lungs!

Chazak Bechira Chofshis! Finally!

### GLOSSARY

*Tochacha*: The curses of admonishment

*Sefer Vayikra*: Book of Leviticus

*Aleph*: First letter of the Hebrew Alphabet

*Meforshim*: Commentaries

*Mishpatim*: Logical laws

*Chukim*: "No-Reason" laws

*Amalek*: Name of the evil nation

*Purim*: Holiday in which Jews were first threatened outside of Israel

*Av Harachamim*: Memorial prayer said for Jews killed by the Crusaders in 1000 CE

*Galus*: Diaspora

*Im Kol Zeh Achakeh Lo*: Regardless, I will wait for Him. (Maimonides)

*Baal Koreh*: Reader of the weekly portion

*Aliya*: Call call to the Torah

## DVAR TORAH

We are currently looking for writers for:

Shabbat Shavuot (5/30)

Parshat Shelach (6/20)

Parshat Korach (6/27)

If interested, please email Bill Greenbaum at [dvar@lss.org](mailto: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](http://www.lss.org).

### LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS

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You may contact our officers by emailing [Officers@lss.org](mailto:Officers@lss.org)