

## MINYAN INFORMATION

Lincoln Square Synagogue is happy to once again be open for prayer services. Here is how to secure a seat in shul, as we have a limited number during the pandemic - and what the rules of conduct are:

In advance:

- [1] LSS members must pre-register using the link in the electronic Echod.
- [2] You will then receive a confirmation email.
- [3] Non LSS members are invited, but cannot use the link; they must email Rabbi Robinson to register: rabbi@lss.org

Once in shul:

- [4] Observe social distancing
- [5] You must wear a face mask, covering your mouth and nose
- [6] No communal singing
- [7] Men must bring their own tallit in Shabbat
- [8] No seudah shlishit in shul; eat at home before Mincha
- [9] Read the complete Attendance Guide

In advance of Thanksgiving and as a small token of our appreciation to all of you who have kept minyan going strong, we have signed up for an ad free version of signup.com! We hope this improves your user experience and we look forward to having you in Shul soon!

### Shacharit:

Sunday, November 15 @ 8:30am

Monday, November 16 — Friday, November 20 @ 7:30am

### Mincha/Maariv:

Sunday, November 15 — Thursday, November 19 @ 4:25pm

## HAKARAT HATOV

Amos Alter for writing this week's Dvar Torah

## MAZAL TOV

**Dr Susan Ungar Mero and Steven Mero** on the occasion of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Jaclyn Tamar (Shoshana Tamar ) and to sisters Ariella, Danielle, Gaby, Sarah and Rebecca and Grandmother Barbara Mero .

**Audrey Kallman** on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of her Great-Grandson, Yechezkiel Bradley in Beit Shemesh, and to the Littman Bradley Family.

**Grandparents Aviva and Marvin Sussman** on the birth of a baby boy, Noah Zion, born to their children Ilana and Jon Uretsky.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

**Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush: Tziona and Daniel Josephs** in honor of the birth of their daughter, Ella Ruby.

## THANKSGIVING ON THE TERRACE

**Thursday, November 26:**

Thanksgiving 2020 may look different this year but we want to help you celebrate outdoors with family and friends on our Spira Family Terrace. If you would like to bring your own meals to our terrace please use the sign up link below or on our website. Member:\$8 Non-Member: \$10. (ages 6 and under free of charge).

Available Timeslots:

3:00pm-5:00pm

5:00pm-7:00pm

7:00pm-9:00pm

[www.lss.org/form/thanksgivingterrace](http://www.lss.org/form/thanksgivingterrace)

## ROSH CHODESH

The molad for the month of Kislev will be on Sunday evening at 7 minutes and 1 chelek after 4 pm. Rosh Chodesh Kislev will be on Tuesday.

## SHABBAT SCHEDULE

### Friday Night:

Zoom Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 4:05pm (link in electronic Echod)

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 4:21pm

Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at shul: 4:25pm

Location: Ballroom

Sunset (daven Mincha by): 4:39pm

Repeat Shema: after 5:10pm

### Shabbat:

Shabbat Morning Minyan at shul: 7:45am

Location: Spira Family Terrace (weather permitting; if not it will be in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary).

Shabbat Morning Services at shul: 9:00am Location: Ballroom

Beginners Service: 9:30am Location: Belfer Beit Midrash (pre-registration required)

Terrace Minyan: 9:40am (weather permitting)

Latest Shema: 9:10am

Latest Shacharit: 10:01am

Mincha followed by Maariv at shul: 4:20pm

Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

Sunset (daven Mincha by, and begin seudah shlishit by): 4:38pm

Shabbat Ends: 5:21pm

Zoom Havdalah: 6:00pm (link in electronic Echod)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, November 15: Women's Rosh Chodesh Shiur: 8:00pm**

Led by our Community Intern, Mindy Schwartz Zolty and Women's Tefillah Group. Topic: And Chanoch Walked With God: Decoding a Biblical Mystery. *Meeting ID: 929 6888 0715. Sponsored by Francine and Jay Cinamon to commemorate the yahrzeit of Francine's father Dr. Leo Nagel, Aryeh ben Israel Halevi z"l.*

**Monday, November 16: Live from Israel! Jewish People Coalition:**

**11:00am** Panelists include Gidi Grinstein, President of the Reut Institute and LSS member, Israel's Minister of Diaspora Omer Yankelevitch and MK Tehila Friedman, and other Israeli and Jewish leaders. They will discuss a new consultative model designed to bridge the gap between the Israeli government and world Jewry.

**Tuesday, November 17:Year-end Planning Strategies for Maximizing Charitable Impact and Minimizing Tax Burden: 7:00pm** Speakers include Amanda H Nussbaum, Teena Lerner and Steve R Graber followed by a Q&A.

**Wednesday, November 18: Live from Israel! A walk Along Derech**

**HaAvot: 6:30pm** Join us for a virtual walk along the Derech HaAvot - Route of the Patriarchs - in Gush Etzion, just south of Jerusalem. We will walk where Avraham and Sarah walked (and find out how we know!) and actually go into an amazing archeological find - a totally preserved Second Temple period mikveh. The tour will be led by beloved former LSS member, Peter Abelow.

**Sunday, November 22: The Dead Sea Scrolls: Treasure of the Jewish**

**People: 10:00am (Part 2 of 2 Programs)** What do you know about the Dead Sea Scrolls? Who wrote the scrolls? Why are these ancient documents a source of fascination for both Jews and Christians around the world? The Dead Sea Scrolls are the most important archeological discovery of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will review the dramatic discovery of the scrolls in the caves of Qumran, the archeological finds of Khirbet Qumran and the sectarian group associated with the site. We will examine why these texts continue to mesmerize and captivate both scholars and the public at large. The presentation will be led by Adele Wasser, a docent at the Israel Museum. *Meeting ID: 923 8111 7099*

For access to the links for these events, please click on the link in the electronic version of the Echod or visit our website at [www.lss.org](http://www.lss.org)

## YOUTH AND MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT

### Dvar Torah:

This week's Parsha begins with the death of Sarah, the very first Jewish matriarch. Avraham mourns her loss and purchases a piece of land in Israel, in Chevron, the Cave of Machpelah, to bury her in. Eventually this will be the place where all the Jewish Avot and Emahot, except Rachel, are buried.

Yitzchak is now in his 40s and Avraham decides it is time to find him a wife. He sends Eliezer, his trusted worker, to go to Charan, Avraham's hometown and find him a wife. Eliezer is a little nervous as he approaches the city. He wonders how he will know that he has met the right woman to be Yitzchak's wife so he asks Hashem to give him a sign when he's met the right woman. Along comes Rivkah, and she offers water to both Eliezer and his camels; this is the sign that Eliezer needed. Rivkah invites Eliezer back to her home to meet her father where they agree that Rivkah will return with Eliezer to marry Yitzchak.

Rivkah and Yitzchak get married, and the three mitzvot that Sarah had brought into her home once again returned—the mitzvot of Challah, Shabbat Candles and the laws of family life—and the cloud of Hashem once again hovered over the tent. At the end of the Parsha we learn that Avraham dies at the old age of 175, and is buried next to his wife Sarah.

### Questions:

1. Where does Avraham bury Sarah?
2. Who else is buried there today?
3. Who does Yitzchak marry?

1. The Cave of Machpelah
2. All of our Avot & Emahot except Rachel
3. Rivkah

### Answers:

### Upcoming Events:

**November 14 @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am :**

Groups on the Grass in Riverside Park (76th Street)

**November 15 @ 8:00 pm:**

Magen Avraham Teen Department and The ADL - Online Extremism: Outsmarting Propaganda and Combating Disinformation

## 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: 9:45am. 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. Meeting ID: 85387443723 Password: 180613
- **Jewish Living Workshop** led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum: 7:30pm-8:30pm. Topic: Zemirot Workshop. Meeting ID: 938 8328 9103 Password: 832084
- **Talmud Class** with Rabbi Robinson: 8:00pm–9:00pm We will be studying the second perek of Sanhedrin, that deals with Justice, Governance, Monarchy and the Legal System. Previous background will be useful but not essential - each shiur will focus on the text and classical commentaries, but will touch on contemporary and modern issues arising from the Gemara. Meeting ID: 916 3915 9514

### Tuesday:

- **The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 10:30am–11:30am Meeting ID: 241 022 510
- **Introduction to Bible** with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald: 6:30 - 8:00pm. This course provides a general overview of the content and style of the Bible. We will review basic literary and theological approaches to Bible study, traditional and modern, through the analysis of the Biblical text. Registrants will receive the Zoom link prior to the start of the course. To register, please call 212-874-6100 or register online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners). Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.
- **Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group** Led by Ron Platzer: 7:00pm-8:00pm. Meeting ID: 811 662 074

### Wednesday:

- **Paul Shaviv's Jewish History Course:** The Messiah? Topic: Jacob Frank — The Strangest: Meeting ID: 916 6638 3728 Password: 362427

### 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.
- **Parashat HaShavua** led by Rabbi. Moshe Sokolow: 8:15pm. Meeting ID: 846 701 6968.

## PAUL SHAVIV'S JEWISH HISTORY COURSE: WEDNESDAY MINISERIES: THE MESSIAH?

November 18: Menachem Mendel Schneerson-Has to be Discussed!  
November 25: No Session  
December 2: The Allure and the Cost of Messianism in Judaism

All classes will begin at 8:00pm  
Dial in: (646) 876 9923 Meeting ID: 916 6638 3728 Password: 362427



# Shabbat Shalom!

## DVAR TORAH

Parshat Chayei Sara  
November 13-14  
By: Amos Alter

### There's Something About Terach

As we learn in this week's Sedra, Eliezer tells Rivka's family (Gen. 24:47), that he had asked Rivka who she was, and when she told him her family connections, he gave her jewelry. Rashi notes that Eliezer changed the order of events (id. vv. 22-23) — first he gave her the jewelry, and only then asked who she was. Rashi explains that Eliezer changed the order deliberately, for he was telling Rivka's family (v. 38) that Avraham had specified someone from his family, a specification lacking in the actual conversation between Avraham and Eliezer (id. 24:4).

Other exegetes (Rashbam, Radaq, Ramban) learn that the order was indeed as Eliezer described it, and offer various explanations as to why the narration of the event seems to be different.

The difference of opinion seems to turn on whether, as Rashi would have it, Avraham never intended to require (or at least Eliezer never understood him as requiring) that Avraham's prospective daughter-in-law be from the family of his father, Terach. When, however, Eliezer learned that Rivka was from that family, Eliezer said to himself, "Noch besser," and wove it into his story. The other commentators, however, understood Avraham to have meant that from the start (or at least that Eliezer so understood him), and therefore the order of events must have been as Eliezer later described them.

The question then devolves into what Avraham meant, or at least how Eliezer understood him. What do the terms in HaShem's first directive to Avraham — *מארחך וממולדתך ומבית אביך* mean? If one assumes Avram was born in Charan, and there received the Command to go forth, the three terms, assuming they are all meant geographically, mean the same thing, Charan; they are stated in various ways for other reasons. If, however, one assumes that Avram was born in Ur Kasdim, and/or that Ur Kasdim was his land, then, assuming a geographical meaning to all three terms, one or two meant Ur Kasdim, and the remaining term(s) meant Charan.

In our Sedra, Avraham charges Eliezer to find a wife for Yitzhak, but not from the daughters of Canaan. Instead, Eliezer should go (Gen. 24:4) *אל ארצי ואל מולדתי* and obtain a wife for Yitzhak there. Assuming *ארצי* and *מולדתי* are the same place, and not spoken of in the alternative, Avraham meant, depending on the assumptions we discussed above, either Charan or Ur Kasdim.

Presumably, Eliezer knew which one of those assumptions was correct, and therefore knew what Avraham meant geographically. He proceeded to go *אל עיר נחור* which is Charan, *אל עיר נחור*. Whether Charan being Nachor's city was a factor in his choice of destination (or in his understanding of Avraham's choice of his destination), depended on whether he read Avraham as indeed meaning his family when he sent Eliezer off. And while the Mefarshim argue about whether Eliezer's question to Rivka, "Whose daughter are you?," preceded or followed his giving her the jewelry, those in Rashi's camp must answer why Eliezer found it necessary to ask that question at all. How many

other possible fathers in Charan would Eliezer have known about, so that Rivka's answer would have been meaningful to him?

We understand why Avraham didn't want a wife for Yitzhak from the local girls. But what was so special about Charan, if not for Nachor's family being there? After all, Charan was Hamitic territory (See Ramban on Gen. 11:28), except for Nachor's family, and one would think that Avraham at least would have preferred a Semitic girl. But what would have been so special to Avraham about *בית אבי*? We know from several incidents — some in the text, some in the Midrashim — that Nachor's descendants were idol worshippers, so why were they so special? The answer must be the value Avraham placed on descent from Terach.

We tend to view Terach, as Rashi, and the Midrashim he chooses as his sources, paint him. However, other Mefarshim do not go that route. What the text tells us about Terach is that he set out for Eretz Canaan, presumably a positive. (When HaShem commanded Avraham to go forth, He did not state a target, but Avraham inferred it from Terach's target.) That Terach failed to make it there is of less importance — many other famous people in our history also started to go to Eretz Yisrael and failed to make it, from Moshe Rabbeinu to the Vilna Gaon. What ended up being most significant about Terach is that, if one does the math, one sees that the Shevatim descended from Lea and Rachel (themselves descended, as was Ya'akov, through multiple lines from Terach) had more of Terach's blood in them than they did of Avraham's.

I believe that Avraham did indeed mean for Eliezer to find a wife for Yitzhak from descendants of Terach, and that Eliezer correctly read him. There does not appear to be any other advantage to Charan as a site for bride-hunting. Furthermore, when Eliezer returned from Charan, he related to Yitzhak all he had done (Gen. 24:46). When Yitzhak charged Ya'akov with finding a wife, he insisted that Ya'akov obtain a wife from the family (id. 28:2). Obviously, the way Eliezer related it to Yitzhak, that was the understanding of Avraham's charge, and the way to go.

*Shabbat Shalom*

## DVAR TORAH

We invite all members to write a Dvar Torah for the Shabbat Echod from September through June. Enrich our Shabbat with your Torah thoughts. The next Shabbat available are:

Parshat Toldot (11/21)  
Parshat Vayetzei (11/28)  
Parshat Vayishlach (12/5)

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) or email [info@lss.org](mailto:info@lss.org)

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