

Shaul Robinson Senior Rabbi

Parshat Lech Lecha Josh Rosenfeld Sherwood Goffin z"l

Assistant Rabbi

Foundina Chazzan

Yanky Lemmer Tamar Fix

13 Cheshvan 5781 October 30-31, 2020 **Morey Wildes**

Executive Director President

MINYAN INFORMATION

Lincoln Square Synagogue is happy to once again be open for prayer services. As with all our minyanim in these times, you must be pre-registered in order to attend - only those who have signed up for these minyanim and have received confirmation may participate, as we are limited in the number of people who can attend. Social distancing, wearing of masks, no communal singing and all of the other public health measures that we have been employing since we began weekday services (see the complete Attendance Guidelines in the electronic version of Echod) will be in effect. Please remember to bring your own tallit on Shabbat if you are signed up. Because there will be no Seudah Shlishit on Shabbat at the shul, please remember to eat Seudah Shlishit before you come to Mincha.

To sign yourself up for any of the below minyanim, please go to our website Iss.org. (Please note that men's and women's signups for Shabbat morning services have been separated, in order to better control the number of men and women attendees.) If you are not a member of Lincoln Square Synagogue please do not fill out the form and instead email Rabbi Robinson at rabbi@lss.org.

Shacharit:

Sunday, November 1 @ 8:30am

Monday, November 2—Friday, November 6 @ 7:30am

Mincha/Maariv:

Sunday, November 1 — Tuesday, November 3 @ 4:40pm Wednesday, November 4 — Thursday, November 5 @ 4:35pm.

HAKARAT HATOV

Mark Hus for writing this week's Dvar Torah

MAZAL TOV

Grandparents Judith Weil and Loyd Epstein on the birth of a girl, to their children Yoel and Nomi Epstein.

Grandparents Jack and Martine Schenker

on the Bar-Mitzvah of their grandson Moshe Gavriel (Max Gabriel) Shenker—Shabbat Parshat Noach. Mazal Tov to parents Alisa and Zachary Schenker, siblings Emma, Jonah and Ezra and grandparents Sara and Alan Shanske.

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. M:\$8 NM: \$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

TIME CHANGE

Sunday, November 1 2020: Daylight Savings Time: 2:00am Remember to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Friday Night:

Zoom Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 5:15pm

(link in electronic Echod)

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 5:36pm

Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at shul: 5:40pm

Location: Ballroom

Sunset (daven Mincha by): 5:54pm

Repeat Shema: after 6:25pm

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) Latest Shema: 10:01am Latest Shacharit: 10:54am

Mincha followed by Maariv at shul: 5:35pm Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

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

5:53pm

Shabbat Ends: 6:35pm

Zoom Havdalah: 7:15pm (link in electronic Echod)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 8: The Dead Sea Scrolls: Treasure of the Jewish People: 10:00am

(Part 1 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 20th 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 prsentation 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

YOUTH AND MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT

Dvar Torah:

After Noach died, many years went by and people once again started to forget that Hashem created the world. There was a man named Terach who owned an idol shop. Terach had a son named Avraham. One day, when Avraham was three years old, he looked at the world around him and realized that there must be one great, all-powerful G-d who created the moon, the sun, the heavens, the rain, the earth, and everything in the world. Once Avraham discovered that Hashem was the only true G-d, he decided to do everything in his power to teach other people about Hashem.

Avraham married Sarah, a woman who, like him, also believed in Hashem. Avraham and Sarah worked together to teach everyone around them that Hashem was the one true G-d, and that they should pray to Hashem and not to their false gods. When Avraham was 75 years old, Hashem told him "Lech Lecha": Go, and leave the town where you are living, and travel to "the land that I will show you." The time had come for Avraham and Sarah to teach people in other places about Hashem.

Avraham left his home to follow Hashem to the new land. Hashem led Avraham to the land of Israel and there Hashem told him "Look around, I promise to give this land to you and your future children." Hashem told Avraham that he would bless him with a mighty nation, and also with a son who would be named Yitzchak.

Questions:

- 1. How old was Avraham when he discovered that Hashem was the one and only God?
- 2. What does Lech Lecha mean?
- 3. Who does Avraham marry?

Answers:

1. Three years old

2. Go, leave, to the land that I will show you

3. Sarah

Upcoming Events:

October 31 @ 10:00am—11:30am:

Youth Department Presents Groups on the Grass: 10:00am - 11:30am. Location: Riverside Park (76th Street). To register email youth@lss,org

November 15 @ 8:00 pm:

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

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: 9:45am. Meeting ID: 827 823 0785 Password (if necessary): mds1234

Monday:

- *Please note that the zoom info has been updated* 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: Transition Prayers. 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. 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: Jesus: Jewish or Christian? *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. Sponsored by Adena Samowitz in memory of her mother Helen Samowitz, Yehudis bas Perelaya and Yehoshua a'h.
- 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 4: Shabbetai Zvi—The Most Successful

November 11: Jacob Frank—The Strangest

November 18: Menachem Mendel Schneerson-Has to be Discussed!

November 25: No Session

December 2: The Allure and the Cost of Messaianism in Judaism

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

DVAR TORAH

Parshat Lech Lecha October 30-31 By: Mark Hus

Those of us who prayed at the ballroom service last Shabbat were privileged to hear a D'var Torah from Mindy Schwartz Zolty, our community intern, in which she began by asking: who was it who left Ur Kasdim to travel to the land of Canaan? The correct answer was Terach, the father of Abram (hereinafter "Abraham"). Ms. Zolty then went on to explain that we remember Abraham as the person who traveled from Ur Kasdim because he had the strength and fortitude not just to start out on the mission toward Canaan, but to reach the goal that was set for him by G-d. She urged us all to follow through on the many resolutions that we might have made to improve ourselves during the month of Tishrei, but which we have long since forgotten, because while starting out to achieve a goal is admirable, reaching it is so much more important.

Rabbi Robinson, speaking at the funeral of Ms. Lila Roberts, A"H, explained that the Torah had reversed part of the story and that Abraham had actually left Haran before his father had passed away and not afterwards, as it would seem from the text. The Rabbi explained that this was because the last thing that we would want to see is even a hint that Abraham was not appropriately and completely respectful of, and devoted to, his father.

When we discussed Ms. Zolty's D'var Torah at our Shabbat table last week, my brother and I both wondered why this week's portion starts off with the directive to Abraham to leave his land, his birthplace, and his father's house. How could Abraham leave his birthplace, we wondered, when he was already in Haran. Art Scroll, realizing and acknowledging that apparent discrepancy, translates the word "moladetecha" as "your relatives," which is a real stretch. Hearing Rabbi Robinson's words suggesting, as Rashi frequently points out, that the incidents described in the Torah are not necessarily on a firm timeline, presented another possible resolution.

Abraham was told by G-d to leave his land, his birthplace, and his father's house when he was still in Ur Kasdim, and still living in (or near) his father's house. His problem was that he found it difficult, (being the respectful and dutiful son that he was) to leave his father behind to follow G-d's will. Accordingly, he convinced his father to uproot himself from his land and his birthplace and be, not just Abraham's partner, but the leader of the expedition to Canaan.

For whatever reason, when they reached Haran, Terach and his family stopped and stayed. It is apparent that Abraham remained there for a while because the Torah tells us that when he left Haran, at the age of 75, he took with him all of the souls that they made in Haran, (which Rashi explains as all those people that he and Sarah had been able to convert to monotheism while they lived in Haran) an endeavor that obviously took some time.

At some point, however, Abraham understood that he would have to move on and complete his mission and follow God's words so, having already left his birthplace and his land, he finally accepted that it was time to leave his father's home as well. Abraham teaches us several lessons of great import. First, that it is imperative to be respectful and concerned about one's parents – and everyone else, for that matter.

Second, that is critical to follow the words of G-d. And third, and most vital, is that every possible effort must be made to make the first two principles complementary – not confrontational. This is not always easy, but it is always worthwhile.

This D'var Torah is dedicated to the memories of Rabbi Herschel Cohen, Z"T"L, whose twentieth yahrzeit we observed this past week, and Ms. Lila Roberts, A"H, a force of nature whose internal fire was extinguished this past week, in her ninety-eighth year. May their memories be for a blessing.

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 Chayei Sara (11/14) Parshat Toldot (11/21) Parshat Vayetzei (11/28)

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 <u>www.lss.org</u> or email <u>info@lss.org</u>

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