

## 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](mailto: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 on Shabbat
- [8] No seudah shlishit in shul; eat at home before Mincha
- [9] Read the complete Attendance Guide (see the complete Attendance Guidelines in the electronic version of Echod)

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 22 & Thursday, Thanksgiving Day,  
November 26 @ 8:30am  
Monday, November 23 — Wednesday, November 25 & Friday,  
November 27 @ 7:30am

### Mincha/Maariv:

Sunday, November 22 — Thursday, November 26 @ 4:20pm

## HAKARAT HATOV

**Maurice Spanbock & Jerry Greenberg**  
for writing this week's Dvar Torah

## THANKSGIVING

If you are interested in **bringing your Thanksgiving meal to our Spira Terrace** please find the link in the electronic echod. There are three available time slots to choose from. Member: \$8 Non-Member: \$10. (ages 6 and under free of charge). We hope to have heating installed in time and will update all asap. Please note there will be a COVID screening questionnaire sent to all attendees on the morning of Thanksgiving. Entrance will be permitted only once the screening is completed. Masks must be worn when indoors.

We are thrilled to offer you the ability to **order a prix fixe meal for Thanksgiving**. Please see menu details below. Delivery will be made to your home on Thanksgiving day. To register please find the link in the electronic echod. **Deadline to order:** This Sunday, November 22 at 3:00pm. It may look different this year but we hope you know and feel that LSS is here for you around the holidays and always. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

Regarding the terrace heating, we have researched and secured a way to add **heating on our Spira terrace**. Of course, heating an outdoor space will never be fully effective, but it will make the terrace more pleasant as the weather gets colder. We expect the heaters to be installed in time for Thanksgiving and will update all as soon as we have that information confirmed. If you are interested in sponsoring one unit (for \$1000) or taking a larger share of the costs please find the link in the electronic echod or email [Rabbi@lss.org](mailto:Rabbi@lss.org). All donations will be listed in the Echod next week.

## SHABBAT SCHEDULE

**Chazzan Yanky Lemmer is back, and will be leading Shabbat Davening in the Ballroom, so reserve ASAP!**

### Friday Night:

Zoom Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat: 4:00pm (link in electronic Echod)  
Shabbat Candle Lighting: 4:16pm  
Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat at shul: 4:20pm  
Location: Ballroom led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer  
Sunset (daven Mincha by): 4:34pm  
Repeat Shema: after 5:05pm

### 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 led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer  
Latest Shema: 9:15am

**Beginners Service:** 9:30am

Location: Belfer Beit Midrash (pre-registration required)

**Terrace Minyan:** 9:40am (weather permitting, if not it will be held in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary)

Latest Shacharit: 10:08am

**Youth Department: Groups on the Grass:** New time this week: 11:00am-12:30pm. Meet at Riverside Park @ 76thst. Bring a blanket and mask up!

**Mincha followed by Maariv at shul:** 4:15pm

Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

**Sunset** (daven Mincha by, and begin seudah shlishit by): 4:33pm

**Shabbat Ends:** 5:16pm

**Zoom Havdalah:** 5:45pm (link in electronic Echod)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**People: 10:00am (Part 2 of 2 Programs)** The Dead Sea Scrolls are the most important archeological discovery of the 20th century. We will compare the Dead Sea Scrolls biblical texts and the Masoretic text; answer the question, are the Museum of the Bible Scroll fragments: Authentic or Fraudulent? We will conclude with a virtual tour of the Shrine of the Book. The presentation will be led by Adele Wasser, a docent at the Israel Museum. Meeting ID: 923 8111 7099. *Meeting ID: 923 8111 7099*

**Tuesday, November 24: Seated in Seclusion: Breslov Hasidim and**

**Contemporary Design: 1:00pm** Eran Lederman, industrial designer and lecturer at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design will bring to us his thoughtful exhibition currently at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. In this talk, Eran will discuss his large-scale photographs of chairs, yes, chairs, a phenomenon that is erupting in forests throughout Israel. Breslov Hasidim are placing and repairing chairs as part of their religious practice of seclusion. The late Rabbi Nachman of Breslov (1772-1810) encouraged his disciples to seclude themselves within nature for one hour each day and communicate with G-d, to experience renewed strength and tikkun (repair). The talk will be moderated by Ronit Vasserman from the Art Connect Group. Registration fee: \$20. *(Link in electronic echod)*

**Sunday, December 6: Israel Philharmonic Presents Pre-Hanukkah Global**

**Celebration Exploring Music, Movies and Miracles: 2:00pm** American Friends of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (AFIPO) and the Israel Philharmonic Foundation will premiere the "Israel Philharmonic Pre-Hanukkah Global Celebration," a multi-disciplinary program of instrumental performances, behind-the-scenes interviews, and powerful messages of hope. The event will stream internationally, free of charge, to bring music and holiday light from Israel's world-class Philharmonic to audiences around the world. *(Link in electronic echod)*

*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:

In this week's parsha, Yitzchak and Rivkah are married for over 20 years when she finds out that she is pregnant with twins. Rivkah is constantly feeling tremendous kicking inside so she decides to seek out a Rabbi by the name of Shem for some advice. He tells her the reason is that she is carrying two great nations in her, and that eventually the younger son will rise to rule the older son. Esav is born first with red hair covering his body, and Yaakov is born second, holding onto the ankle of his brother. From the start, Yakov and Esav are very different. Esav loves to hunt while Yakov loves to learn Torah.

On the day of their grandfather Avraham's funeral, Esav goes out to hunt while Yakov stays home and cooks lentil stew for his father. When Esav returns, he is very hungry and demands that Yakov feed him some of the lentil stew. Yakov agrees to give him some stew on the condition that Esav sells him his birthright. Esav agrees.

As the years go by, and Yitzchak gets older, he becomes blind and decides he would like to bless each of his sons before he dies. Esav goes out to hunt fresh meat for his father and while he is gone, Rivka dresses Yakov up as Esav with fur on his arms. She knows that it is time for Yakov to receive the first-born birthright bracha from Yitzchak. Yitzchak is tricked into thinking he is blessing Esav and gives Yakov the first-born blessing. When Esav returns from hunting and realizes he was tricked, he is absolutely furious. Rivkah tells Yakov to run away to her hometown, Charan, to find a wife and hide from Esav until he is no longer angry.

### Questions:

1. Who are the twins born in this week's Parsha?
2. Which qualities did the two sons possess?
3. How does Yakov end up with the firstborn Bracha?

1. Yakov & Esav  
2. Esav loved to hunt and Yakov loved to learn Torah  
3. First Yakov offers Esav stew in exchange for permission to get the firstborn bracha and then he tricks his father into giving it to him by dressing as his brother Esav

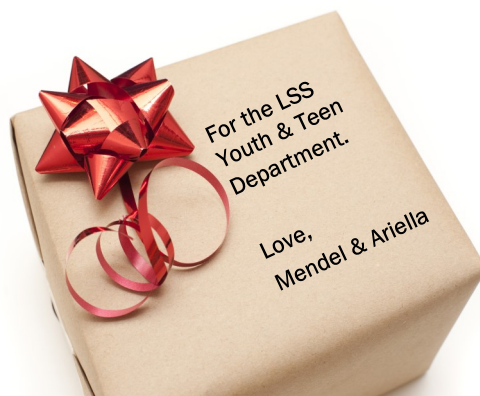
### Answers:

## WE APPRECIATE YOU

To Our Dear Youth & Magen Avraham Teen Department,

We are so grateful to you for being a part of LSS! We know how hard this pandemic has been for your children (and you!) and we want to bring your children some extra LSS love this Thanksgiving.

We have a fun gift for you and your kiddos! Sign up to let us know you'd like to receive it. Link is in the electronic Echod and in the Youth Blast.



P.S. Reminder to join us for **Groups on the Grass** this Shabbat. New time this week: from 11:00am-12:30pm. Riverside Park @ 76thst. As always bring a blanket and mask up!

## 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
- **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.
- **\*Please note time change\* Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group** led by Ron Platzer: 8:00pm. Meeting ID: 811 662 074

### Wednesday:

- **\*No Session Next Week: Paul Shaviv's Jewish History Course: The Messiah?** Resumes December 2: The Allure and the Cost of Messianism in Judaism. Class will begin at 8:00pm Dial in: (646) 876 9923 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.



## DVAR TORAH

Parshat Toldot  
November 20-21  
By: Maurice Spanbock & Jerry Greenberg

**Recent excavations at the ancient biblical site of Gerar have unearthed portions of a transcript pertaining to a civil court case from over 3,800 years ago. The following are fragments from this remarkable find.**

**The Basic Charges:** The Plaintiff, Esau Isaacson, hereby alleges that the Defendant, Jacob Isaacson, who is his younger twin brother, wrongfully defrauded him of both his birthright and his paternal blessing.

**Deposition of the Plaintiff: Defense Counsel:** Did you not willingly reject your birthright, saying what good would it do since you were about to die of hunger? **Esau:** I was half-mad with hunger and not thinking clearly. Jacob knew this and deliberately made me swear to give it up. I'm just a simple hunter. He's the intellectual genius. Clearly I was coerced and shouldn't be held accountable. It was just a mess of pottage, after all.

**Cross-examination of the Defense: Plaintiff Counsel:** Jacob, isn't it true that in response to two separate inquiries from your father, you averred that you were in fact Esau and tricked him into giving you the blessing that rightfully was meant for your elder brother? **Jacob:** I was against that idea from the start. **Counsel:** Well, which is it, Mr. Isaacson, were you lying then, or are you lying now? **Jacob:** Look, this was all my mother's idea. I tried to talk her out of it. In the end I only acted at her behest. I am by nature a sensitive, cautious man. It's my brother who's the reckless one. **Counsel:** So you claim. Yet, isn't it interesting that your very name Jacob – "He grasps the heel" – has the connotation of someone who is deliberately deceptive.

**Direct Defense Testimony from the Boys' Mother: Defense Counsel:** Did you have a difficult pregnancy with the twins? **Rivka:** It became almost unendurable. I had been barren for so long and initially was so grateful to be with child, but the two of them were constantly struggling inside me. **Counsel:** Will you please tell the court in your own words what happened when you sought Divine guidance? **Rivka:** I received the word of HaShem, who told me that my babies would grow up to become two nations, and that the elder would serve the younger. **Counsel:** And isn't that why you commanded your son Jacob to impersonate his brother? **Rivka:** Yes, you see, my husband was about to bless Esau, which was clearly against the will of HaShem. I did the only thing I could think of to stop that from happening.

**Summation of the Plaintiff Counsel:** There is a rule of law that says "Res ipsa loquitur" – "the thing speaks for itself." In other words, the case for fraud is abundantly clear. The Defendant admits it, and the facts prove it. Your Honor, you must in all fairness find for the Plaintiff and restore his birthright and his blessing.

**Judgment of the Court:** While the Res ipsa loquitur argument is compelling, there is another tenet of law that states "In haec verba" – "In these words." In the case before us, we adjudicate that "these words" are not merely part of an historical record but bear a semblance of the Divine; ergo they have a higher standing. It is the opinion of this Court that neither Rivka's nor Jacob's actions constituted any malice. The mother merely wished to serve HaShem's larger purpose, which had been explicitly stated. The son obeyed his mother's instructions, which he is duty-bound to do. Accordingly, the Court rules in favor of the Defense.

**Motion to Appeal:** There are times when people do things that technically are legal but still may be considered to be wrong. We submit that it is morally inexcusable for a wife to inveigle her son to perpetrate a hoax on his infirm, unsuspecting father. The Plaintiff, Esau, has been victimized, albeit under the guise of good intentions. Inexorably, his future is now hopeless and faithless. No one can know HaShem's mind, but surely His will could have been fulfilled in a less conniving, less harmful way. We respectfully appeal the ruling.

*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 Vayetzei (11/28)

Parshat Vayishlach (12/5)

Vayechi (1/2)

Yitro (2/6)

Mishpatim (Rosh Chodesh on Shabbat Shekalim) (2/13)

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

## CHESED OPPORTUNITY

The Upper West Side Gemach is looking for children's and babies' WARM WINTER coats, jackets, snowsuits and gloves.

Please email [uwsgemach@jewishcenter.org](mailto:uwsgemach@jewishcenter.org)

# Shabbat Shalom!

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)

### LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS

Morey Wildes, *President* ([president@lss.org](mailto:president@lss.org))

Jamie Nussbaum, Ian Silver, Paris Wald Stulbach, *Vice Presidents*

Michael Roxland, *Treasurer* Rande Price, *Secretary*

Michael Doppelt, Tanya Gershon, Adam Herbst, Yitzzy Rubin, Julie Walpert, Jay Ziffer

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