

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

4:20pm Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday Night

4:25pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**.
Dvar Torah given by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**.

Shabbat Morning

7:45am Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by a shiur on the third floor given by **Rabbi Moshe Sokolow**.
9:00am Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**. Drasha given by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** followed by Musaf.
9:11am Latest Shema
9:15am Beginners Service led by **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in Rm LL201
9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash
10:00am Youth Groups for children ages 2-12
11:00am "Baby & Me" (ages 0-24 months, Rm 208/210)

Shabbat Afternoon

2:50pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash
3:00pm Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society: Meets in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer to visit patients at Mount Sinai West. (New volunteers needed and welcome)
3:20pm Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in Rm 211
3:20pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by **Rabbi Noam Fix** on "*Chesed, Is It All That It's Cracked Up to Be?*"
4:05pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. **Rabbi Noam Fix** will be speaking on "*One Small Step for Man, One Giant Leap for Mankind*"
5:20pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush:

Sponsored by the generous contributions of the Fund.

Main Kiddush: Adena Samowitz in commemoration of the first yahrtzeit of her mother, Helen Sommer Samowitz, Yehudis bas Perelaya v'Yehoshua a"h.

Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:

Meryl & Benjy Brown and Michelle Tukel & Jay Brown in honor of **Lenore & Jack Brown's** special anniversary.

Fran and Phil Kalban in honor of Avi Kalban's 29th birthday.

Nancy and Harvey Rubinstein in celebration of the upcoming marriage of their daughter Cheryl to Ari Haney.

Beginners Kiddush:

Sarah Leah & Lou Vynerib in commemoration, and in loving memory of Sarah Leah's mother, Sima Bas Chava a"h and Meir z"l, & Lou's father, Moshe ben Elazar Ha Kohen z"l, in this month of Cheshvan.

Seudah Shlishit: Marion and Maurice Spanbock in celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Adena Samowitz in commemoration of the first yahrtzeits of her mother and father, Helen and Charles Samowitz z"l.

THIS SHABBAT

Shabbat Afternoon

Welcome Rabbi Noam Fix from Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel

3:20pm Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat Pre-Mincha Shiur in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary given by **Rabbi Noam Fix** on "*Chesed, Is It All That It's Cracked Up to Be?*"

4:05pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit. **Rabbi Noam Fix** will be speaking on "*One Small Step for Man, One Giant Leap for Mankind*"

Rabbi Noam Fix grew up in Queens, NY where he began his work with teens as NCSY Regional President of the New York Ohr Chadash Region. After studying in Yeshivat Sha'arei Mevasseret Tzion in Israel, Yeshivat Ohr HaChaim in Queens, and graduating Summa Cum Laude from Touro College with a B.A. in Psychology, Rabbi Fix went on to be ordained by Dayan Zalman Nechemiah Goldberg.



In 2006 Rabbi Fix opened Tomer Devorah Seminary in Yerushalayim, Israel. As Founder & Dean of TD, Rabbi Fix seeks to offer students a year of educational opportunities that maximize their personal growth and create a home away from home. Over the years Rabbi Fix's warm and gentle personality has touched the lives of countless students. His vision and leadership abilities have also led him to launching and coordinating a very successful "big-brother" outreach program in Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel. His wife, Rivka, owns and operates RM Design, an Interior Design firm. Rabbi Fix currently resides in Ramat Beit Shemesh with his wife and their six sons.

HAKARAT HATOV

David Levy for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

MAZAL TOV

Nancy and Harvey Rubinstein on the upcoming marriage of their daughter Cheryl to Ari Haney. Mazal Tov to Cheryl's brother Nathan and Ari's parents Lorraine and Craig Haney.

HOSPITALITY NEEDS

LSS Rabbinic Intern, Tzvi Benoff is in need of meals and lodging on Nov 29-30 & Dec 13-14. E: hospitality@lss.org Subject: "Interns"

SECURITY UPDATE

Community Security Service (CSS), a not-for-profit organization is now in many synagogues in the tri-state area. The team participates in ongoing training each year and collaborates closely with the NYPD, CSS and security teams at other synagogues. CSS will be providing the following courses so now is the time to join the LSS Security Team:

December 2019 - L1, Basic Security Training

January 2020 - Active Shooter Training

February 2020 - L2, Advanced training

February 2020 - ROAM, advanced training course for 'Young Professionals'

Qualifications - You'll need to be a member of LSS, be fit and able to stand guard outside of the Synagogue and complete the L1 Basic Training

To apply please email security@lss.org

Quoting:

Each course of interest

Name (first, last)

Contact number (cell phone)

Affiliations to Jewish Organizations

Weekly Prayer

Schedule:

Day	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daf Yomi	7:45am	6:15am	6:20am	6:20am	6:15am	6:20am
Shacharit	7:10am, 8:30am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am	7:00am, 7:50am	7:10am, 7:50am
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:25pm	4:20pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 21: Challah and Cake Sale: 6:00pm-7:00pm

To preorder, please email pastry@susez.com

Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer

Sunday, November 24: Rabbi Rafi Peretz: 10:00am

Mizrachi Scholar-in-residence Rabbi Rafi Peretz will be speaking at LSS. Rabbi Peretz is the Minister of Education of the State of Israel and leader of the Jewish Home party.

Motzei Shabbat, December 7: LSS Films Present: Children of the Inquisition: 7:00pm

The film takes us on a 500-year trek across continents, following those forced by religious persecution in Spain and Portugal to convert or flee, and reaching across time to their 20th-century descendants, who seek to understand the connections that still resonate within them. Following the film, there will be a Q & A with Joseph Lovett, who wrote, produced, and directed the film.

Cost: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. To register, please visit

www.lss.org/event/film.

Tuesday, December 10: Israel: It's Complicated: 7:00pm

Join us for an in-depth, thought provoking presentation covering key social policy issues in Israel, including education, welfare, labor markets, healthcare and the demographic shifts that affect these areas. The presentation will also cover the paradox of the Start-Up Nation, how while Israel's high-tech sector is admired around the world, income inequality is high and the poverty rate is among the highest in the western world. The speaker will be Avi Weiss, President of the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel. Admission is free but please register in advance to help us plan; please visit www.lss.org/event/itscomplicated.

Shabbat, December 14: Womens Tefillah Group Presents: Luncheon Followed by Mincha: 12:30pm

Join Women's Tefillah Group for a luncheon led by teen girls. The luncheon is open to friends and families of WTG, prayer service is open to women and girls. Cost: \$35 for adults, \$20 children under 12. Registration deadline is Monday, December 9. To register, please visit www.lss.org/event/wtglluncheon.

Friday, December 20: LSS Chanukah Dinner: Following Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat Save the date. More details to follow.

Friday, December 20 and Saturday, December 21: Beginners Chanukah Shabbaton

Cost: \$50 which includes 3 meals, \$25 for just lunch. Payment and reservations must be made by Monday, December 16. To register, please visit www.lss.org/beginners.

LSS GOES GREEN

LSS has joined the city's composting program and we intend to improve our recycling efforts but we need your help. At the kiddush you will find 3 types of containers.

- The brown pails with clear plastic liners are ONLY for left over food scraps.
- The blue pails with the clear plastic liners are ONLY for hard plastic, metal and glass.
- The black pails with the black plastic liners are ONLY for non-recyclables such as napkins, paper plates and styrofoam.

When throwing away your plates, please first throw the leftover food into the brown bin, then throw the plastic plate, plastic cutlery and plastic cups into the blue pail and finally, throw your napkins, paper plates and other non-recyclables into the black pail. You will notice all pails lined up against the wall conveniently located next to one another.

Thank you for your cooperation.

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday:

- **Sunday Morning Responsa** with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld; Takes place after the 2nd Minyan. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.

Monday:

- ***(Cancelled this week) 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. Location: Rm 206/207
- **Jewish Living Workshop** 7:30pm-8:30pm. This will be the seventh of nine classes. Sign up for "hands on" Jewish living experience. We learn by doing. Topic: Zmirot Workshop, in conjunction with Shabbat 11/23 lunch placement in homes Email: jlworkshop@yahoo.com Location: Rm 208/210
- **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I and II** 6:30pm-8:00pm. The 5 classes last one and a half hours, and are free and open to all. This is the third of 5 classes. To register, please visit www.lss.org/beginners.
- **Stories to Wake Us Up: Dreams, Parables & Stories: The Radical Vision of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov** led by Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld. 8:00pm-9:00pm Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Tuesday:

- **The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 10:30am- 11:30am. Location: Rm LL201
- **Introduction to Bible Class** led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald: 6:30pm-8:00pm. Cost: \$90, free to LSS members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. To register, please visit www.lss.org/beginners. Location: Rm 206/207
- **Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group** led by Ron Platzer: 7:30pm-8:30pm. Location: Rm 211

Wednesday:

- **Beit Midrash night: The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai** given by Sara Brzowsky: 7:00pm-8:00pm Location: Rm 207
- **Jewish Science Series with Paul Shaviv** 8:00pm-9:00pm. Topic: Disruptions: Can Chazal be Wrong? Zoology and Spontaneous Generation. Location: Main Sanctuary

Thursday:

- **Women's Talk Time:** led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer: 11:30am-12:30pm. Last Week's Topic: Hope: Rm LL201.
- **The Jacob Adler Parsha Class** Explorations in the Weekly Parsha led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: 7:00pm-8:00pm. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Shabbat Shalom!

LSS YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Critters & Cream Cheese

Sunday, November 17th, 10:00am to 11:30am
Featuring the Nature Company

Join us with your child (ages 0-5) for a
Bagels & Co. brunch and a post parshat
Noach animal show!

Generously sponsored by:
Anat & Adam Goodman



REGISTER AT:
WWW.LSS.ORG/EVENT/CRITTERS

YOUTH AND MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT



זרעים Seedlings (2 years old) Room 210
שורשים Roots (3-4 years old) Room 211
ניצנים Buds (K-1st) Room 208
פרחים Flowers (2nd-7th) Room 206
ענפים Branches (2nd-7th) Room 207

Schedule:

10:00am: Drop-Off (Room 208/210, 211)
10:45am: Davening, Circle Time, and Baby & Me (208/210)
11:10am: Recreation, Games, and Rehydration
11:30am: Parsha & Candy: Lot & the City of Sodom
11:45am: Groups end

Dvar Torah:

In this week's parsha, Hashem told Avraham that He intended to destroy the city of Sodom because of how evil the people were. Avraham tried to negotiate with Hashem and eventually they came to a compromise; if Avraham could find just ten good people in the city, Hashem would save it.

Two angels entered the city of Sodom and headed to the home of Lot, Avraham's nephew. What they found there was hospitality similar to that of Avraham himself; Lot welcomed the angels into his home with open arms. But when his neighbors in Sodom realized that Lot was acting kindly towards visiting strangers, a mob formed outside his home. The angels then told Lot who they really were and encouraged him to take his family and leave. Lot failed to convince his entire family to leave, and only his wife and two daughters joined him. The angels warned them not to look back, but Lot's wife did not listen and she immediately turned into a pillar of salt.

After Shul Ask Your Children:

1. Where did Lot and his family live?
2. Why did Hashem want to destroy Sodom?
3. What happened to Lot's wife when they were fleeing the city?
4. Who was born at the end of this week's parsha?

Answers:

1. Sodom
2. The people were evil and wicked
3. She turned into a pillar of salt
4. Vitzhak

Upcoming Events: To sponsor an event please email youth@lss.org

Friday, November 15: Let's Chalk Shabbat: 1:30pm-2:30pm

Motzei Shabbat, November 16: Glow in the Dark Musical Havdalah: 5:20pm

Sunday, November 17: Critters and Cream Cheese: 10:00am
Sponsored by Anat & Adam Goodman

Sunday, November 24: Teen Bagels & Brachot: 9:45am
Followed by brunch and "Ask the Rabbi" with Rabbi Robinson.
Sponsor needed.

Motzei Shabbat, December 7: Upper West Side Teen Event
Save the date. More information to follow.

Sunday, December 22: Youth & Teen Chanukah Chagiga: 11:00am-1:00pm
Sponsors needed

Shabbat, January 10: Youth Department Shabbat Dinner
Save the date. More information to follow.

Magen Avraham Teen Department

BAGELS & BRACHOT

Sunday, November 24 at 9:45am

Shacharit Followed By Brunch and "Ask
The Rabbi" with Rabbi Robinson



DVAR TORAH

Parshat Vayera
November 15-16
By: [David Levy](#)

Hashgachah Pratit (Divine Providence) vs. Bechirah (Free Will)

The [Akeidat Yitzchak](#) in this weeks [parsha](#), also *layned* in the [synagogue](#) on Rosh Hashanah, and a source of inspiration in [Jewish art](#), raises [ethical](#) and [halakhic](#) questions about *Hashem's hashgachah pratit* (providence), omniscient foreknowledge (*yediyah*), and human free will (*bechira*). A key *pasuk* for addressing this question is: "*For now I know that you fear G-d.*"

Constellations of commentaries configure within the spectrum of the providence argument and strong free will argument. There is a divine, enigmatic, almost [Kafkaesque](#) paradox, containing deep esoteric mysteries as expressed by Rabbi Akiva in Pirkei Avot, "Everything is foreseen but freedom of will is given." Yes, G-d observes everything, as Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi notes: "Know that a seeing eye and hearing ear are above," but there can be no accountability or responsibility if we do not believe that human beings have true freedom of choice, as argued by [philosophers](#) Rabbi Yosef Albo in Sefer Ha-Ikkarim and Gersonides in Sefer Milchamot HaShem. Only in rare cases does *Hashem* withdraw His free will, as He did in hardening Pharaoh's heart. On the *Yamim Noraim*, we note that Jews can change their "fate" (*goral*) via *teshuvah*, *tefillah* and *tzedakah*. This is contrary to the [Dead Sea Scroll sect](#) that believed in absolute divine providence.

Hasdai Crescas suggests that G-d already knew how Avraham would react. Thus, the test was to raise Avraham's fear in God from potential to actual love thereby perfecting it, a similar interpretation to that of [Ramban](#). R. Isaac Arama maintains that G-d tested Avraham for the sake of instructing the patriarch (not G-d). The Degel Yehuda thinks that the test was to [educate mankind](#) regarding *zekhut avot* (the merit of the ancestors).

Since G-d is perfect, self-sufficient, not finite, and omniscient (not ignorant), G-d did not learn anything new from *Akeidat Yitzchak*. Rather, He made others know that there was one person of complete *emunah*, Avraham, who was willing to go to the limits for the love of G-d, even so far as to give up the one hope he had always longed for—offspring to carry on his legacy of [ethical monotheism](#). [Rambam](#), in the Moreh Nevukhim, points out that not only did Avraham demonstrate perfect love and fear of *Hashem*, but was brought to a noetic limit (*gevul*). In [Hasidic](#) parlance, Avraham enacted *bitul hayesh* or total ego annihilation in order to be one (*unio mystica*) with Hashem's will (*ratzon*).

It is at the mind's limits of reason that more mystically inclined commentators enigmatically draw on [angelology](#) the study of angels to explain the *Akedat Yitzchak*. Sforino comments, "Now I know. I, the angel, now know God is justified in considering you greater than His angels, as our Sages say, 'The righteous are greater than the ministering angels (Sanh. 93a). The almighty had prior knowledge of your potential as a God-fearing man, but an angel's actual knowledge can only be drawn from what is actual, not contingent.'" Rabbi Moshe Alshich of [Safed](#) identified the angel that averted the disaster as Michael, who is associated with mercy and water. Thus, it was Michael who proclaimed, "Do not throw your hand upon the lad" (i.e. harm him). Perplexingly, Shalom Spiegel in his book, The Last Trial, cites Efraim of Bonn, who maintained that Yitzchak was sacrificed and then his ashes were [resurrected with the dewes of resurrection](#) brought to heaven, a model for some [Shoah theologies](#).

The Ladino commentary, Me'am Loez, also evokes angelology by noting, "The angel (Michael) replied 'Do not do anything to him.' The entire reason for this was to test you, to allow you to demonstrate your faith and love. But now I know that you fear and love God. With this, I will shut the mouths of those who denounce you." [Rambam](#) explains that *Iyov's* (Job's) test was also allowed in order to shut the mouth of Satan, and to bring *Iyov*, from a level of *yirah* (fear) to *ahavah* (love) of Hashem. [Rav Saadia Gaon](#), however, argued that *Iyov* was tested for being silent in Pharaoh's court when the Hebrew boys were legislated to be drowned.

[Rav Kook](#), a religious Zionist, continues the mystical thread from the "lights of return" through the trope of light, by writing in an epistle, "When the divine light had to shine forth in its purity, it was revealed in the fierceness of its brightness in the trial of Avraham which showed the passion to build a house for *Hashem* ([the Beit HaMikdash](#)) for Him to dwell in, and to offer [korbanot](#) instead. That is why [Rashi](#) is very precise and sensitive in noting that the [Hebrew language](#) employs the term "bring him up" and not "sacrifice Yitzchak" (but rather the ram). How wonderful is the ascension of our prayer to remember the merit of the first *avot* who fought against emotional barbarity in the struggle towards the Divine. The impression of pure divinity was too lofty and refined to be the feeding ground for the multitude of nations. Came the father of the multitude of nations and showed the way. However low humanity would sink, through idolatry and human sacrifice, there was always room for the penetration of the pure light. The sacrifice of Isaac is recalled in mercy for the merit (*zekhut*) of all generations.

May the light of Hashem 'rebound back' to the future, so the light (207) of Shabbat (702) is manifest 24/7 biyamei hamashiach, chadeish yameinu kikedem.

Shabbat Shalom

DVAR TORAH

We are currently looking for writers for:

Parshat Vaera (1/25)
Parshat Beshalach (2/8)
Parshat Mishpatim (2/22)

Email dvar@lss.org or see Bill Greenbaum in shul.

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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