



SHABBAT SCHEDULE	THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
<p>Friday night:</p> <p>4:15pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>4:20pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat.</p> <p>Davening led by Mo Kiss and the Kol Haneshama acapella group.</p> <p>Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.</p> <p>Neirot Shabbat Shiur and Kiddush</p> <p>Following Maariv join us for a special Chanukah Neirot Shabbat. The Shiur will be given by Rabbanit Adena Berkowitz of Kol Haneshama in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary, followed by a Chinese food hot kiddush in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer.</p> <p>4:33pm Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha</p> <p>5:04pm Repeat Shema</p> <p>Shabbat:</p> <p>7:45am Hashkama Minyan; Location: Belfer Beit Midrash. Hashkama Kiddush to follow; Shiur by Dr. Moshe Sokolow on the third floor.</p> <p>9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan.</p> <p>Davening led by Jake Nussbaum;</p> <p>Drasha before Musaf by Rabbi Robinson.</p> <p>Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.</p> <p>Cholent/Kugel Kiddush to follow in the Ballroom.</p> <p>9:30am Beginners Service led by Dr. Leonard Davidman;</p> <p>Location: 3rd Floor. Beginners Kiddush to follow.</p> <p>9:35am Latest Shema</p> <p>9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan</p> <p>Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.</p> <p>10:00am Shabbat Chanukah Youth Groups; Location: Second Floor Classrooms. Create special candy Chanukah treats!</p> <p>2:35pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler;</p> <p>Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.</p> <p>3:35pm Louis and Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur by Rabbi Charlie Savenor in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.</p> <p>4:05pm Mincha; Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.</p> <p>Followed by Seudah Shlishit in the Beit Midrash.</p> <p>*Hebrew only* shiur with Lloyd Epstein Torah Mitzion Kollel Fellows.</p> <p>Led by Yehonatan Kahana in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.</p> <p>שיעור שבועי בעברית אחר מנחה בשבת עם חברי כולל תורה מציון!</p> <p>4:30pm Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha.</p> <p>5:16pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends. Light Chanukah Candles after this time.</p>	<p>Hashkama Kiddush:</p> <p>Dr. John and Margot Mann in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of John's father, Henry Mann z"l.</p> <p>Beginners Kiddush:</p> <p>Albert Reiss in honor of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald.</p> <p>Seudah Shlishit</p> <p>Bill and Dassa Greenbaum and family, and Jeffrey and Rhonda Silkin and family, on the upcoming wedding of their children Ariela Greenbaum to Matthew Silkin and on Matthew's aufruf.</p> <p><i>To sponsor a Kiddush please email info@lss.org.</i></p>
	<p>THE HAKAMAS HAMATSEVAH OF MUK EISENMANN Z"L</p> <p>The Hakamas HaMatsevah of Muk Eisenmann z"l, husband of Vivien Eisenmann, will take place on his first yuhrtzeit on the 4th of Shevat, Thursday, January 26th at 11:30am at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Queens, NY. A Siyum Mishnayos will follow at 101 Central Park West on return from the cemetery. Mini buses will be provided but Vivien needs a firm count by the 31st of December.</p> <p>RSVP v.veico@verizon.net or 212-874-1443.</p>
	<p>MAZAL TOV</p> <p>Great-Grandparents Gale and Steven Spira on the birth of a boy to their grandchildren Sarah Golda and Lidor Ben-Arbon in Israel. Mazal tov also to grandparents Michelle and David Spira.</p> <p>Grandparents Ann Crane Lowy and Rudy Lowy on the birth of a boy to their children Tova and Alex Pfeffer. Mazal tov also to big brothers and sisters Mindy, AJ, Yitzy, and Esther.</p> <p>Bill and Dassa Greenbaum and family, and Jeffrey and Rhonda Silkin and family, on the upcoming wedding of their children Ariela Greenbaum to Matthew Silkin and on Matthew's aufruf.</p>
	<p>YOUTH DEPARTMENT</p> <p>AND THE MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Special Shabbat Chanukah Youth Groups: 10:00am: Location: Second Floor Classrooms. Join us for davening, Torah & play. Create special candy Chanukah treats!</p> <p>Every Second and Fourth Shabbat: Babies & Me: 11:00am-11:30am</p>

WEEKDAY MINYAN
<p>Shacharit:</p> <p>Sunday, December 25th @ 7:00am & 8:30am</p> <p>Monday, December 26th @ 7:00am & 8:30am</p> <p>Tuesday, December 27th and Wednesday, December 28th @ 7:10am & 7:50am</p> <p>Thursday, December 29th @ 7:00am & 7:50am</p> <p>Friday, December 30th @ 7:10am & 7:50am</p> <p>Mincha/Maariv:</p> <p>Sunday, December 25th—Thursday, December 29th @ 4:25pm</p>



Shabbat Shalom

How did the sufganiyot feel after eating a large meal?



ANSWER: Jam-packed!

CHANUKAH AT LSS

Thank you to our sponsors:

The Lincoln Square Menorah is dedicated by **Andy Siegel** in memory of his parents, Mary and Harry Siegel and his grandparents, Bertha and Samuel Halpert and Fanny and Israel Siegel z"l.

The inflatable Chanukah bear was donated by **Tamar Fix** in commemoration of yahrtzeit of her father, Nachman ben Chaim z"l.

The inflatable menorah was donated by **Steve Eisenberg** in memory of his father, Walter Eisenberg z"l.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 25th: Approx 9:30am:

Shiur by Rabbi Moshe Sokolow after shacharit this Sunday in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Topic: From Mikeitz to The Keitz

Monday January 2nd: New Year's Shiur: Following Shacharit (approx. 9:15am) by Rabbanit Mindy Schwartz Zolty accompanied by a light breakfast. Topic: Choni Ha-Ma'agel and the Seventy Year Sleep: Lessons from Generational Disconnection

Shabbat, January 7th: Women's Tefillah Group Parshat Vayechi: 9:00am: Location: Pre-function room. Giving women the opportunity to learn from the Torah or lead davening.

Shabbat, January 7th: Beginners Luncheon: 12:30pm: Cost is \$25 per person. Register online at www.lss.org/beginners or call 212-874-6100. Registration and payment deadline: Wednesday, January 4th.

Tuesday, January 10th: 7:00pm-8:30pm: Join JCAN NYC at a very special meeting to hear from New York City Comptroller Brad Lander! Lander, who serves as the city's budget watchdog and chief accountability officer, comes to the office with a strong track record of partnering with community advocates to win transformative change for a more just and equitable city. Lander views confronting the climate crisis as an essential part of his work; check out the Climate Dashboard and learn more about how the Comptroller's office is championing the cause of a just, livable future for all New Yorkers. For the Zoom link and more information see the online Echod.

Friday, January 20th: Young Professionals Oneg: 8:00pm: A great opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, share some Torah, and be inspired by the holiness of Shabbat! All while enjoying some delicious cholent and kugel.

Motzei Shabbat, January 21st: The Future of Israel and its Defenders: 7:30pm: This unabashedly pro-Israel documentary encapsulates contemporary perspectives of critical issues affecting Israel today. It features experts, military strategists, "start-up-Nation" leaders, journalists and current and former political leaders. The film focuses on internal and external existential threats to the safety and security of the Jewish State; a behind-the-scenes look at peacemaking from the architects of the Abraham Accords.

We will be joined by Avi Beniolo, the writer and producer of the film. Avi is the founding Chairman and CEO of The Abraham Global Peace Initiative, a Canadian NGO which promotes human rights. Cost: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Refreshments will be served.

Please note: During 2023, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the modern State of Israel. This documentary film represents the first, of what will be a year-long series of programs commemorating the anniversary. Much more to follow! Register at www.lss.org/form/future-of-israel.html

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Daf Yomi: Sunday at 7:30am Monday & Thursday at 6:10am and Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 6:20am: Location: Belfer Beit Midrash and virtual: When Rabbi Meir Shapiro proposed the idea of Daf Yomi — reading a page per day of the Talmud until you had completed the entire Talmud, he was seeking community and a way to unify the Jewish people. Help us realize his vision and unify our own Lincoln Square Synagogue community by joining us in this important tradition. Learning Daf Yomi has never been easier-join us in person or via Zoom. Schedule: Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday— virtual. Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday— in person and virtual. Dial instructions: Step 1: dial in #: 646-558-8656. Step 2: dial in code 83765052291. Step 3: password # 1948

Wednesday's: conference call only. dial in instructions: Step 1: dial in #: 267-807-9601. Step 2: code #: 3113299601.

Monday, December 26th

- ***CANCELLED* 11:00am-1:00pm: Gemara Class Bava Kama: Laws of Personal Injury led by Rabbi Robinson:** Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
- ***CANCELLED* 7:00pm: Chug Ivrit Chadashot (News from Israel) with Gali Rabin:** The class is taught almost exclusively in Ivrit.

Tuesday, December 27th

- ***CANCELLED* 11:00am-12:00pm: The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the Weekly Parsha" led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson:** Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
- **7:00pm-9:00pm: Weekly Beit Midrash Night:** Location Beit Midrash. Featuring Chaburas from LSS Clergy and Kollel Fellows! Dinner Included. Sponsorships welcome.
 - 1. 7:00pm:** Highlights from the Daf with Assistant Rabbi, Yoni Zolty
 - 2. 7:00pm:** Fundamentals of the Parsha with Rabbinical Associate, Efraim Tepler.
 - 3. 7:00pm:** Fundamentals of Avodat Hashem through the lens of Chazal with Community Intern, Tzophia Stepansky.
 - 4. *CANCELLED* 8:10pm:** The Kaddish Class with Rabbi Shaul Robinson.
 - 5. 8:10pm:** Ezra- Nechemia: with Kollel Fellow, Yehonatan Kahana.
 - 6. 8:10pm:** Jewish Sages Throughout the Ages with Kollel Fellow, Yechiel Rozenberg.
- **8:00pm: The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group led by Ron Platzer:** If you are interested in joining, please contact Ronald Platzer at RPlatzer@citytech.cuny.edu

Wednesday, December 28th

- **11:00am: Shmuel Aleph (1 Samuel) led by Assistant Rabbi, Yoni Zolty:** Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer.

Thursday, December 29th

- **11:00am-12:00pm: Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer.** Meeting ID: 972 4054 8238 Passcode: 142533
- ***CANCELLED* 7:00pm: Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha by Rabbi Robinson.** Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.

Sunday, January 1st

- **9:15am-10:15am: Sh'eilot and Teshuvot by Assistant Rabbi Yoni Zolty.** Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.



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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DVAR TORAH PARSHAT MIKETZ

Dvar Torah: Miketz

On Successful Leadership

Jeff Schwartz

In this week's parasha we are given an opportunity to compare the leadership demonstrated by two of Jacob's sons in a moment of crisis. Do Reuben and Judah have what to teach us as we come to terms with the leadership being shown in contemporary Israel by Naftali and Itamar?

The crisis described in Parashat Miketz—as is strangely often the case in Genesis in the land flowing with milk and honey—is famine. Having already been to Egypt once to buy food and been accused there of spying, the brothers knew they could return a second time only if they brought Benjamin, thereby proving they were members of a simple family just trying to survive and not a cabal intent on gathering intelligence and overthrowing Egypt's Pharaoh. Jacob would not agree to this at first, but they needed to eat. Initially, Reuben tries to convince Jacob to send Benjamin, and he says (Genesis 42:37): “You may slay my two sons (et shnei banai tamit) if I fail to bring him back to you. Put him in my care (tnah oto al yadi) and I will return him to you.”

What to make of this? As Shai Held (in *The Heart of Torah*) sees it, this is an impetuous and unthinking leadership style. After all, are not Reuben's sons also Jacob's (grand) children? The approach of Reuben also reminds us of Lot's offer of his two daughters to the people of Sodom to demonstrate his commitment to his guests, something which seems morally off to us there and here, and fittingly, in our parasha, Jacob ignores Reuben's offer. He responds not to Reuben but to the brothers collectively and says (42:38): “My son shall not go down with you (lo yeireid bni emachem).” Jacob fears that he will lose Benjamin as he lost Joseph and be aggrieved to death. A few verses later the family again discusses the crisis as they are still running out of food. This time Judah steps up and says (43:8-9): “Send the lad with me, and let us arise and go, so we will live and not die, we as well as you and our children. I will personally guarantee it (anochi e'erveinu)....and if I do not bring him back to you and stand him before you, then I will have sinned against you for all time (v'chatati l'cha kol hayamim).” This time, thoughtfully emphasizing life (and guilt) and not death, Judah is effective. Jacob relents and sends Benjamin.

I think the issue here is leadership effectiveness and not motivation or goal, for both Reuben and Judah are focused on trying to preserve the family and purchase food. Reuben, however, seems too hot-headed and extreme, demonstrating his commitment to bringing back Benjamin by offering up his children if he should fail, while Judah is cooler and focused on life. Are there other instances in Genesis in which these two brothers demonstrate similar styles?

As told previously (in Parashat Ve'yeshuv), Joseph was looking for his brothers in the fields. As they saw him approach, the brothers discuss how fed up they were with Joseph's favored status and dreams and consider killing him. Reuben speaks up (37:21-22): “Let us not take his life (lo nakenu nefesh)” and then adds: “Shed no Blood. Cast him into this pit in the wilderness, but do not touch him yourselves (v'yad al tishlichu vo).” The narrator tells us Reuben intends to come back and save Joseph later, but two things are interesting. First, he offers his advice in the heat of the moment, when talk of murder is exciting the brothers and the possibility of it being accepted is least likely. And second, Reuben speaks partly as a co-conspirator (lo nachenu nefesh) and partly as an authority, switching to the more removed second person (v'yad al tishlichu vo). The text is unclear as to whether the brothers ignore or accept Reuben's advice; although they throw Joseph

into a pit, they then sit and eat and it is unclear if they are leaving him in the pit with the expectation that Joseph will die there, or if they plan to murder him after lunch. A few verses later however, after the passion of the moment has cooled, Judah speaks with what Jonathan Sacks calls ‘quiet authority’ and advises against the possibility of murdering Joseph (suggesting that this is still a possibility). Judah uses language that is inclusive and not authoritarian and in so doing he wins the brothers' trust (37:26-27): “What do we gain by killing our brother (ki na'harog et acheenu) and covering up his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, but let us not do away with him ourselves, after all, he is our brother (ki acheenu bsareinu hu).” The end of the verse makes it clear that his brothers agreed (va'yishm'u acheev).”

In yet other instances in Genesis, Reuben intends to do good but does so in a manner that is not quite right. To assuage his mother's loneliness and yearning for love, he brings her an aphrodisiac plant (dudaim), so that Jacob might spend more nights with Leah. To defend Leah's honor, Reuben defiles Bilhah (or moves the marital bed out of her tent). Again, it's not the purpose that's off, what child doesn't sense a mother's heartbreak and wish to assuage it? It's the execution. Noble goals don't justify unsavory or morally problematic actions. And Jacob gets this. In Vayechi (49:4) he ‘blesses’ Reuben: “Turbulent as water, you shall not have preeminence (pachaz ka'mayim al totar).” Reuben is, in this metaphor, reckless and ‘unstable of character’ (per Jonathan Sacks), and therefore unfit for leadership.

For someone who has been watching Israeli politics quite closely over the last few years, it's hard not to see the inciter Ben Gvir as Reuben and the tactical Bennett as Judah. Both care deeply about Israel; both want to ensure its citizens are safe. Their goals, like Reuben and Judah's, are noble. But one of them expresses his beliefs in a provocative way to score points with his base and boost popularity (even if it incites violence); was not accepted into the IDF because he was seen as unstable; attended a recent yahrtzeit gathering for Meir Kahana; and gave a prominent place in his living room to a picture of a Jewish/religious murderer. The other observed the 70-70 rule (since 70% of Israeli citizens agree on 70% of issues, he tried to work on solving those issues without inflaming the public about the other 30%) and publicly admitted that he was ‘surprised’ to learn that left-of-center politicians love their country as much as those on the right. Does the Miketz narrative suggest which of these two is demonstrating the preferred leadership style?

I will end by admitting to a selective reading of the behaviors of Reuben and Judah which, since they are complex characters, could probably be read to show the reverse of what I have concluded. So it is when we interpret our canonical texts in light of current events, modern ideas and today's moral sensibilities. However, I maintain a prayerful attitude: May it be that Israel's leader, whoever he or she is (now or in the future), leads in a way that maintains social unity, promotes civil peace, strengthens democratic institutions, ensures Israel's security and governs morally so that all of us who care deeply about Israel can celebrate proudly as it approaches its 75 th Yom Ha'atzmaut.

DVAR TORAH

The next Shabbatot available to write are: Vayechi 1/07 and Va'eira 1/21

Dvar Torah writing is open to all LSS members. Guidelines will be provided on request. For more info, call Ricky in the LSS office, or see Bill Greenbaum in shul, or email him at dvar@lss.org.

Enjoy reading the weekly Dvar Torah

-in print, in the Shelly Danishesky Foyer, or

-on Lss.org under the Echod tab, or

- in the Electronic Echod from info@lss.org (available to print at home).