

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Friday night:
4:12pm Candle Lighting
4:15pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat
Davening led by Benjamin Buller
Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.

Mashiv HaRuach Kiddush and Shiur
Following services, join us for a shiur given by Daniel Feder in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary, followed by a hot kugel kiddush in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer.

4:29pm: Sunset
5:00pm: Repeat Shema

Shabbat:
7:45am Hashkama Minyan; Location: Belfer Beit Midrash. Hashkama Kiddush to follow; Shiur by Dr. Moshe Sokolow on the third floor.
9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan;
Davening led by Max Nussbaum
Drasha before Musaf by Rabbi Robinson.
Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Main Kiddush to follow in the Ballroom.
9:30am Beginners Service led by Dr. Leonard Davidman;
Location: 3rd Floor. Beginners Kiddush to follow.
9:31am Latest Shema
9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan;
Drasha before Musaf by Rabbi Gottesman;
Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.
10:00am Youth Groups; Supervised play. Location: Second floor classrooms for ages 3+ and Room LL2 for ages 0-2
After Davening: Young Professionals Kiddush.
Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
3:15pm Louis and Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur by Rabbi Tepler in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
4:00pm Mincha; Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Followed by Seudah Shlishit.
Hebrew only shiur with Lloyd Epstein TMZ Kollel Fellow Bezalel Rac in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary
4:29pm: Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha.
5:12pm Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

**Please note that the Beginners Mishna Chavura is canceled this week.*

HAKARAT HATOV

Rabbi Efraim Tepler for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

MAZAL TOV

Great Grandmother Ruth Riemer with gratitude to Hashem for bestowing not one, but two שמחות in one month - the birth of baby boys Noah Evan (חנוכל נח) Ossip of Boston to Adam and Abbie Ossip and ליאור Timiansky of Florida to Daniella Nordlicht Timiansky and Liran Timiansky. May the Nordlicht, Ossip, and the *gansa mishpocha* continue to enjoy many years of nachat.

Adena Samowitz on the birth of twins to her niece, Yael Hirth, and Yael's husband, Dov Braun, of Boca Raton. Mazal tov also to big sister Eliana.

FAST OF TEVET: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Fast Begins: 6:05am

Fast Ends: 5:04pm

THIS SHABBAT

Mashiv HaRuach Shiur: Following Friday night services, Daniel Feder will deliver a Dvar Torah from his upcoming book 'לא בשמים היא'. A textual-based approach will be employed to explain Joseph's: refusal to contact his family, abuse of his brothers, complicity in the starvation of his father, and the enigma surrounding his additional two years of imprisonment. This analysis will draw connections to the current conditions in Israel revealing the Scripture's profound and inspirational message.

LSS Welcomes Representatives of Israeli Hostage Families: Our visitors, aged 18-24, are in New York to help raise awareness and campaign for the release of their relatives. They will be speaking in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary following the conclusion of the Shabbat morning service at approximately 11:30am.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Hashkama:
Perry Davis and Margy-Ruth in commemoration of the 20th yahrtzeit Perry's mother, Zelda Davis (Zelda bat Rav Chaim Zalman) a"h.

Sandy Gross in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her grandmother Esther bas Menachem Mendel a"h.

Main Kiddush:
Joel Seidemann in commemoration of the 6th yahrtzeit of his father Hans Seidemann who loved LSS.

Beginners:
Beatrice Stoller in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her beloved brother, Solomon Mazur, Shlomo ben Yitzchak Tzvi z"l.

Seudah Shlishit:
Gale and Steven Spira in commemoration of the 31st yahrtzeit of Gale's beloved father, Jack Fuchs (Yaakov ben Schraga Feivel) z"l.

Maura and Leonard Shaykin in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Maura's father, Jack Sheckman (Yakkov ben Gershon) z"l.

Young Professionals Kiddush:
Silver Sponsor **Matt Teichman** in honor of Rebbetzin and Rabbi Robinson.

LSS SOLIDARITY MISSION TO ISRAEL

Lincoln Square Synagogue is going to Israel from December 24th - 28th.
This will be a unique opportunity to visit, support, be educated and strengthened, volunteer, experience and participate in Israel's most critical moment in many decades.
Pick up a flyer from the lobby or visit www.lss.org/IsraelMission2023.

Please grab a copy LSS member Rachel Neumark Herlands' and Bill Schulder's firsthand account from their recent visit to Israel, located in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer.

Letters for Israel:
We would love to have some heart warming cards and letters to give out once we arrive. If you could take a moment to write to any or all of the following it would be much appreciated: soldiers, displaced people, families of hostages, families of fallen soldiers, and to wounded soldiers. We will make sure it gets into the right hands. Cards and letters can be dropped off in the shul office or on the lobby table in a basket next to the sign marked 'letters for Israel'.

YOUTH & MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENTS



Mazal tov to Devorah and Alexander on their recent wedding! We cannot wait to welcome you back to groups!

Youth Groups: 10:00am: Location: Second Floor Classrooms. Supervised play.

Baby & Me (Newborn-2yrs): Shabbat, 10:00-11:30am in LL203: Enjoy parent-baby bonding from 10-11am (unsupervised), followed by a lively 30-minute program led by Devorah Batt at 11:00am. A dedicated nursing area is available in LL203.

Upcoming Events:

Shabbat, December 16th: Magen Avraham Teen Department Minyan: Join your peers for meaningful tefillah and a yummy kiddush.

Motzei Shabbat, January 6th: Winter Wonderland Party: 6:00pm—7:30pm: Come in pajamas, sip on hot cocoa while you watch a movie with friends! Pizza will be served.

Sunday, December 31st: A Trip to the MET: 10:00am-11:30am: Please join us for a Youth Trip to the Met on December 31st 10:00-11:30am with docent, Elana Kaplan. Children will tour the Egyptian section of the museum and compare the artifacts to the artifacts discussed in the Torah. Please express your interest at www.tinyurl.com/TripMET

Sponsorships needed! For details email youth@lss.org.

WE STAND WITH ISRAEL

Hafrashat Challah for the Hostages: Participate in the meaningful tradition of Hafrashat Challah as a symbol of solidarity for the hostages in Gaza. Let's unite women from every corner in a shared act of connection and support. The goal is to gather 40 women for each hostage. Commit to this cause by pledging your name at www.tinyurl.com/c4Israel.

Boots for Israel: Boots for Israel began with a call from Israeli General Daniel Jacobs, seeking tactical boots for his unit. Facing a shortage of suitable footwear for reservists, our Executive Director's shul, Young Israel of Holliswood, mobilized to help. Through a stroke of luck, a local shoe wholesaler had the exact boots in stock, enabling them to send the boots to Israel at reduced rates. Now, with growing requests, they need your support to continue providing Boots for Israel. Donate today to help them sustain this critical mission. Donate at www.yiholliswood.org/payment.php

Contact Your Elected Officials: We have an essential role to play to help protect Israel. Urge members of Congress to continue speaking out and standing with Israel as it acts to defeat the terrorist threat. The message can be simple: "The Jewish community thanks you for your support. I thank you for your support. Please continue to do so publicly and proudly. It is imperative that Israel destroy any remnant of Hamas so that the people of Israel and the people of Gaza can live free of tyranny and in prosperity and harmony". Please urge your elected officials to stand with Israel! Reach out at www.takeaction.aipac.org/Wyv8pg5

Donate to American Friends of unit 669 at: Zelle: org669.afu@Donate
Paypal: @AFU669

WEEKDAY MINYAN

Shacharit:

Sunday, December 17th @ 7:10am & 8:30am
Monday, December 18th @ 7:00am & 7:50am
Tuesday & Wednesday, December 19th & 20th @ 7:10am & 7:50am
Thursday, December 21st @ 7:00am & 7:50am
Friday, December 22nd @ 6:50am & 7:30am

Mincha/Maariv:

Sunday-Thursday, December 17th-21st @ 4:20pm

CHANUKAH LOOK-BACK

To our Chanukah dinner attendees, thank you so much for joining us for what was a truly amazing evening. During this challenging period, sharing the light of Chanukah with members of the LSS and the extended LSS community this past Shabbat was truly special. We were honored and moved by the talk, delivered by Captain Bar Reuven and Chief Sergeant First Class 'G.M.' of the IDF combat search and rescue Unit 669 in which they described how the unit was formed and how they responded on Shabbat of October 7.

To all of our dear members,

We had the honor of hosting Unit 669 at our Chanukah dinner. If you would like to share with friends and family how Unit 669 has responded to the war, watch this video from one of the Israeli main news channels: www.youtube.com/watch?v=flsgCk9S7A8. As Operation Swords of Fire enters its third month, Unit 669 continues its operation of saving lives by rescuing wounded soldiers from Gaza (often, under enemy fire), providing emergency medical treatment, and swiftly bringing them back onto Israeli soil and delivering them to hospitals. We are incredibly sad to have learned of yesterday's tragic deaths of two soldiers, both Air Force Elite Unit 669: Maj. Ben Shelly, 26, of Kidron, and Sgt. First Class Rom Hecht, 20 of Givatayim. May their memory be a blessing. The need to replenish combat and medical equipment is great. You can help the Unit to continue saving the lives of wounded Israeli soldiers by making a contribution at www.afu669.org/donate. Receive updates on Unit 669's missions by subscribing to their mailing list at www.tinyurl.com/AFU669Subscribe. We pray for the safety of our soldiers and of Israel and we look forward to a day when we can celebrate coming together again without the sadness and tragedy that currently surrounds us.

From the Chanukah dinner to our Clergy on Chanukah Zoom session, from the musical Havdalah to the Youth department bubble show, and to our Magen Avraham Teen Department minyan...the energy and connection to each other and Israel was palpable. Thank you to all those volunteers who were a part of making this such a successful Chanukah at Lincoln Square Synagogue: **Michael Doppelt, Rande Price, Nathan Vogel, and Julie Walpert, and as always a big thank you to our CSS team. A warm welcome and congratulations to our new CSS recruits.** As we say goodbye to Chanukah this year we want to remind you of words from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, z"l, who once said "There always were two ways to live in a world that is often dark and full of tears. We can curse the darkness or we can light a light, and as the Chassidim say, a little light drives out much darkness. May we all help light up the world."

Sincerely,
Rabbi Robinson, Senior Rabbi
Tamar Fix, Executive Director
Paris Wald-Stulbach and Michael Doppelt, Co-Presidents

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 20th: Stop the Bleed & Emergency

Preparedness: 7:00-8:30pm: Led by Hatzalah Volunteer, Dr. James Nussbaum PT, PhD, SCS, EMT. Registration is now closed.

Shabbat, January 6th: Beginners Luncheon: The cost is now \$35 per person. Registration will close Wednesday, January 3rd at 12:00pm. Register online at www.lss.org/beginners

Sunday, January 7th: LSS Films & Culture Committee Presents Prayer for the French Republic at the Manhattan Theater Club: 2:00pm Join LSS friends to see this 2022 Drama Desk award winner. The story begins in 1944, with a Jewish couple in Paris desperately awaiting news of their missing family. Seventy years later, we see the couple's great-grandchildren facing the same questions as their ancestors: Are we French? Are we Jewish? Are we safe? This timely narrative explores five generations of a French Jewish family grappling with belonging, assimilating, and continuing tradition amid rising antisemitism. Plus, there is an exclusive post-show discussion with a production representative immediately after the play. Order your tickets today at www.lss.org/form/frenchrepublic. A limited number of \$110 orchestra tickets are available to LSS members: maximum of two ticket purchase. The play is approximately 3 hours long with two intermissions plus a 20-30-minute discussion.

AGUNAH

Please join Ora on **Sunday, December 17** for a rally against **Chaim Lauber** who has been refusing to issue an unconditional Get for over 5 years to Esther Eisemann Lauber, daughter of Vivien and Muk z"l Eisenmann and a child of Lincoln Square Synagogue. Location: Outside of 311 Kell Ave, Staten Island. Learn more about this case at www.getora.org/chaim-meir-lauber

SHABBAT GREETERS

Donate your time and be a greeter! When people first walk into our shul, they should be greeted by helpful, friendly people. Become a greeter on Shabbat and help convey the true spirit of LSS. There are two morning greeting shifts (9:00-10:00am and 10:00-11:00am), with one greeter per shift. You will enjoy meeting new people, putting names to faces, and helping to make every person who walks into shul feel welcome. Register at www.lss.org/form/greeter. If you have any questions or need help signing up please email president@lss.org.

CHAZZAN SCHEDULE

Cantor Lemmer's schedule from December to January is now up on our website! Visit www.lss.org/chazzan.

LSS SOCIAL WORKER

Please reach out to Daniella if you're interested in meeting. Therapy can be helpful for many different reasons. It can provide a space for processing a major life transition or a significant loss. It could help if you're struggling with anxiety, depression or loneliness. You do not need to make a long term commitment. Daniella is available to meet for even one session! Availability: Tuesday: 1:00pm-5:00pm and Thursday: 9:00am-1:00pm. Book a session at: www.calendly.com/dveres/social-worker-at-lss

About Daniella: Hello! My name is Daniella Veres. I am originally from Montréal, Canada and have been living on the UWS for the last 7 years. I graduated with a Masters of Social Work from NYU's Silver School. I am a Licensed Social Worker at the Jewish Board where I'm committed to helping others lead a more optimal and productive life. I am passionate about helping others develop tools and skills to help navigate through life's transitions and make positive changes while improving relationships and learning to tolerate distressing emotions

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 17th

- **9:15am Kosher Made Clear - Hilchot Kashrut Tzurba Style:** Led by Rabbi Tepler this week. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Monday, December 18th

- **7:00pm: Chug Ivrit Chadashot (News from Israel) with Gali Rabin:** This class is taught almost exclusively in Ivrit. This week's class will be held on Zoom Meeting ID: [835 3789 4515](https://us02zoom.us/j/83537894515) Passcode: [701985](https://us02zoom.us/j/83537894515).

Tuesday, December 19th

- **11:00am-12:00pm: The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the Weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: Location: LL201
- **6:00pm: Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level I with Reva Rapps.** This will be a series of 5 classes that last 1 hour and are free and open to all. Register at www.lss.org/beginners. Location: 206/207
- **6:30pm: United Hearts for Israel:** If you have been affected by the crisis in Israel, The Jewish Board invites you to their community of healing. Register at www.tinyurl.com/UnitedHeartsIL
- **8:15pm: 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 20

- **6:30pm: United Hearts for Israel:** If you have been affected by the crisis in Israel, The Jewish Board invites you to their community of healing. Register at www.tinyurl.com/UnitedHeartsIL

Thursday, December 21st

- ***CANCELED* 11:00am-12:00pm: Gemara Makot Class:** led by Rabbi Robinson: Location: LL201
- **11:00am-12:00pm: Women's Talk Time:** led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer. Meeting ID: 972 4054 8238 Passcode: 142533
- **7:00pm: Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha:** led by Rabbi Gottesman. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Daf Yomi: Sunday at 7:30am, Monday and Thursday at 6:10am, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6:20am: Location: Belfer Beit Midrash and Virtual. Details on www.lss.org/LearningOpportunities

CSS NEEDS YOUR HELP

The news in Israel proves more than ever the importance of security. Our small team greets you when you arrive and ensures your safety by screening all who enter. But we need you to join us, we need a bigger team. With enough new volunteers, a commitment of one two-hour Shabbat shift every six weeks is all we need to ask of you. Please answer the call to volunteer. If you see something suspicious report it to a CSS member. Email: security@lss.org

END OF YEAR GIVING

Tax-Wise Strategies to Easily Maximize Your End-Year Gifts:

Donations coming from IRA accounts designated as RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) Donating stocks, bonds, or mutual funds is easy and financially savvy. When you contribute appreciated securities, you not only support LSS but may also enjoy potential tax benefits. Visit www.lss.org/securities for guidance on how to advise your broker. Your smart giving makes a significant difference! Closing out past membership dues and charges, Gifts of Cash, Gifts of Appreciated Securities, IRA Charitable Rollover, A tax free gift from your IRA, Gifts in Your Will or Revocable Trust, Gifts of Retirement Assets, Gifts of Real Estate, Gifts of Life Insurance, Long term appreciated securities. If you have any questions please email finance@lss.org or call 212-874-6100 ext 106. To pay your balance online please visit www.lss.org/payment Reminder: you must be logged in.

DVAR TORAH PARSHAT MIKETZ

By: Rabbi Efraim Tepler

Parshat Mikeitz is perhaps the most dramatic parsha in the Torah from the perspective of interpersonal relationships. Yosef sees his brothers for the first time in two decades, and instead of revealing his identity to them, Yosef treats them harshly. He accuses them of being spies, holds Shimon prisoner, demands that Binyamin be brought down to Egypt, and even plants a silver goblet in Binyamin's sack. So much for a warm reunion! One must ask: What is Yosef's goal in putting the brothers through all of these hardships? Is it all a quest for revenge, or is there something deeper at play?

A second question: Why does Yosef not make contact with his father at the very moment he rises to the position of viceroy of Egypt? An Egyptian royal surely would have his fair share of messengers at his disposal to deliver a letter to the Land of Canaan!

Rav Yoel bin Nun of Yeshivat Har Ezion posits an astonishing theory. He suggests that up until Parshat Vayigash, Yosef suspects that Yaakov – his father who loved him most – was actually the mastermind behind the plot to kick Yosef out of the family! Consider the events of Parshat Vayeishev from Yosef's perspective. What was the last interaction Yosef had with Yaakov before Yaakov dispatched him to check on his brothers in Shechem? Yosef had recounted his dream of the sun, moon, and the stars only to be **scolded** by Yaakov in front of his brothers. A short while later, Yaakov sends him off to Shechem where immediately upon arrival he is stripped of his coat, thrown into a pit, and sent on a caravan down to Egypt. Yosef quite reasonably suspects that Yaakov orchestrated the whole thing! Just as Yishmael and Esav were rejected in favor of their brothers, so too Yosef feels that he has been rejected in favor of the sons of Leah! Just look at the name Yosef chooses for his eldest son: "Joseph named the first-born Manasseh, meaning, 'God has made me forget completely my hardship and my parental home'." Yosef has seemingly moved on from his past life because he suspects that his father Yaakov has rejected him.

When Yosef sees his brothers decades later, his past life that

he had "forgotten" returns to center stage. As Yosef grapples with how he will choose to interact with his brothers and his father, he needs answers to some very important questions: Which of the brothers sold him? Was Yaakov truly the mastermind behind the plot? Do the brothers regret their actions? Is Binyamin now in the line of fire just as Yosef had been? If Yosef – the powerful viceroy whom the brothers now depend on – reveals himself right away, he will not get honest answers since the brothers will surely fear him and will not speak openly. Instead, he sets up various tests, and in so doing, Yosef begins to unveil what truly happened on that fateful day 22 years prior. Yosef learns that not only was Yaakov not behind the sale, but he has been devastated and living in sorrow ever since. This explains why Yosef cries uncontrollably in next week's parsha when he hears Yehuda describe that Yaakov was crushed when he learned Yosef was missing!

I invite you to read *Mikeitz* with fresh eyes and to think about how Yosef's doubt as to the role Yaakov may have played in the sale might motivate each of Yosef's actions. There is much more to say, but for now...wishing you a Shabbat Shalom!

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

The next Shabbatot available: Bo 1/19-20, Yitro 2/2-3, Mishpatim/Rosh Chodesh Adar One 2/9-10, Terumah 2/16-17.

Enjoy reading the weekly Dvar Torah

-in print, in the Shelly Danishefsky Foyer, or

-on lss.org under the Echod tab, or

-in the Electronic Echod (available to print at home).

In case of a bereavement, please call our Clergy at 646-543-7485

If you would like to receive the Shabbat Echod by e-mail, sign up at www.lss.org email

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Please note that the deadline to submit content for the Echod, excluding sponsorships, is Wednesday at 3:00pm.