

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Friday night:
5:38pm Candle Lighting
5:40pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat
Davening led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer
Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Mashiv HaRuach Kiddush and Shiur
Following Maariv, join us for a shiur given by Marie van der Zyl in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary, followed by a hot kugel kiddush in the Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer.
5:56pm Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha
6:27pm 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 Chazzan Yanky Lemmer
Drasha before Musaf by Rabbi Robinson.
Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Main Kiddush to follow in the Ballroom.
9:10am Latest Shema
9:30am Beginners Service led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald;
Location: 3rd Floor. Beginners Kiddush to follow.
9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan
Drasha before Musaf by Rabbi Tepler
Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.
10:00am Youth Groups – Supervised Play;
Location: Second Floor Classrooms.
3:45pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler;
Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.
4:40pm Louis and Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur by Rabbi Gottesman in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
5:15pm Young Professionals Women’s Seudah Shlishit in the home of Danielle Lieberman
5:25pm Mincha; Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Followed by Seudah Shlishit in the Ballroom.
Israel-Hamas Report: Following Mincha (5:25pm): Join us for a speech by Jennifer Sutton and Stephan Miller during Seudah Shlishit.
Hebrew only shiur with Lloyd Epstein TMZ Kollel Fellow Bezalel Raczy in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary
5:57pm Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha.
6:40pm Ma’ariv/Shabbat Ends

MAZAL TOV

Ian and Sunni Silver on their marriage. Mazal Tov also to parents Abe and Shelley Pollack and children Yael, Bernard, Chani, Ayumi and Jacob.
Debbie Lieber on the birth of a boy, Fred Issac (אפרים יצחק), aka Freddy, to her children Aviva and Chad Kaplan of Baltimore, MD. Mazal Tov to the entire Lieber Family

ROSH CHODESH ADAR SHENI

The molad for Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni will be next Sunday at 13 minutes and 5 chalakim after 10 am. Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni will be on Sunday and Monday.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight saving time will begin for 2024 on Sunday, March 10 at 2 a.m.

THIS SHABBAT

Welcome Mashiv Haruach Speaker, Marie van der Zyl:
Marie is the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Vice President for the World Jewish Congress. An OBE recipient, Marie is a dedicated advocate for the UK Jewish community, known for challenging misreporting and promoting racial inclusivity.



Welcome Seudah Shlishit Speakers Stephan Miller and Jennifer Sutton:
Jennifer Sutton: Dedicated leader fostering U.S. - Israel ties . Executive Director of Council for a Secure America, championing the Abraham Accords and U.S. energy security. Former Director at the Embassy of Israel in Washington D.C. Expert in strategic outreach, philanthropy, and diplomacy. Recognized as an Emerging Leader in the Jewish community.



Stephan Miller: Emmy®-winning ad maker and political strategist at CreoStrat, formerly served as the Chief Brand Strategist at Kivvit. With expertise in global political campaigns, he brings a unique perspective as an IDF veteran and currently holds the position of Israel Research Fellow at the Council for a Secure America.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Hashkama:
Nathan Aaron Rosen in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his father, Emanuel Abraham Rosen, z"l on 1 Adar II and grandfather, Haim Solomon Rosen z"l on 12 Adar I.
The Levant and Roxland Families in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of their grandfathers, Gershon ben Tzion, z"l, and Yisroel Meyer ben Shmuel, z"l
Main Kiddush:
Lynnette Gruenhut, Bill and Esther Schulder, Dr. Michael Schulder and Dr. Lu Steinberg in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of their beloved mother and mother-in-law, Shirley Schulder, which will be observed on the fifth of Adar Sheni.
Beginners:
Susan Hecht and David Cohen in honor of the Beginners Service

ISRAELI HEROES PURIM SEUDAH

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
Sunday, March 24th: 4:30pm
Join us for an amazing joy filled Purim seudah. Please come dressed as an Israeli hero. Prize for best costume (use your imagination!)
www.lss.org/form/seudah2024. Buffet by Smokey Joe’s.
Check out the Purim section on the next page for all things Purim!

WEEKDAY MINYAN

Shacharit:
Sunday, March 10th (Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni) @ 7:00am & 8:30am
Monday, March 11th (Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni) @ 7:00am & 7:40am
Tuesday & Wednesday, March 12th & 13th @ 7:10am & 7:50am
Thursday, March 14th @ 7:00am & 7:50am
Friday, March 15th @ 7:10am & 7:50am

Mincha/Maariv:
Sunday, March 10th @ 6:45pm
Monday - Thursday, March 11th—14th: @ 6:50pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 10th: LSS Film and Culture Committee Presents: Courage to Act: Rescue in Denmark Exhibit at the Museum of Jewish Heritage: 11:00am: Join us for a personal tour of Courage to Act about the remarkable story of the rescue of the Danish Jews during the Holocaust. The exhibit employs state-of-the-art technology and creative storytelling to immerse visitors in this inspiring narrative. The tour is open to LSS members ages 9 and above (adults must accompany children). Limited to 25. Additionally, you can join us for a prix fixe lunch at 1pm at the Lox Café (under the OU) at the Museum for \$35. \$15 a ticket. Register at www.lss.org/form/danishrescue

Wednesday, March 13: Live from Israel: The October War and Its Impact on Israel's Society and Economy: 11:00am: Speaker: Professor Avi Weiss, President of the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel. The Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel is an independent, non-partisan, socioeconomic research institute based in Jerusalem. The Center conducts high-quality, impartial research on socioeconomic conditions in Israel, and develops innovative, equitable and practical options for macro public policies that advance the well-being of Israelis. The Center strives to influence public policy through direct communications with policy makers and by enriching the public debate that accompanies the decision-making process. Professor Weiss will discuss the current situation in Israel and opportunities to create a better reality in the areas of healthcare, welfare, education, the environment, the labor market, the economy, and demographics.

Admission to this virtual program is free, RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/AviWeiss>

Wednesday, March 13th: סומך נופלים, רופא חולים, ומתיר אסורים (Somaich Noflim, Rofeh Cholim, Matir Asurim): 8:00pm: An uplifting speech by Rabbi Paysach Krohn followed by a tasty reception at 9 pm. Sponsored by **Cyrus Abbe** in gratitude to Hashem on his 85th birthday. Register at www.lss.org/form/krohn

Sunday, March 17th: Book Launch: Exodus of the Mind: 10:00am: The Haggadah is not just *history*... it's *your story*. Join us for inspiring pre-Pesach learning! A new Haggadah by Rabbi Noam Fix, Principal of Tomer Devorah Seminary. "This sefer guides us on a personal journey through our personal negative and limiting beliefs towards ultimate redemption." - Rav Asher Weiss, Shlit"a.

***Offsite* Tuesday, March 19th at 11:00 am:** Embark on a gallery crawl in Chelsea highlighting contemporary artworks. Art docent Ronnit Vasserman will lead a tour of at least five galleries featuring the works of extraordinary female artists including two Israeli women, Orit Hofshi and Michal Rovner. Orit will be meeting with our group and will do a walkthrough of her exhibition before heading to DC for her talk at the National Gallery, which recently acquired one of her works. Admission price of \$80 includes guided admission to all galleries and refreshments. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/artconnectgroup>

Sunday, March 31st: Defending Two Fronts: 12:00pm: Born and raised in Canada, Noy Leyb made the life-altering decision to move to Israel and join the IDF when he was 18 years old. After completing his service, Noy continued with annual reserve training. He has a BA from IDC Hertzlia and an MBA from the University of Michigan. On October 7th, Noy was living in New York City as the founder of a startup. He immediately dropped everything and flew to Israel to join his elite commando unit on the frontline. Noy will share his first-hand experience, from the battlefield in Gaza to battling antisemitism on social media. Noy has chosen to continue his Israel advocacy full-time with a clear mission: to harness his direct experience, unique insight, and unwavering spirit to empower others and lead a movement against antisemitism. Admission is free, but please help us plan for proper seating by registering in advance. Register at www.lss.org/form/noy

Shabbat, May 18th: Bat Mitzvah Project: If you haven't had a Bat Mitzvah or read from a Torah scroll, here's your chance! You can read as little as 3-4 sentences. We will help you! Register at lssbatmitzvah@gmail.com

Shabbat, May 18th: The hospitality Shabbaton is back! Connect with your community and help foster a spirit of hospitality at LSS. Volunteer to be a host or sign up to be a guest and we will match you with fellow LSS community members for a Shabbat lunch. This event is open to LSS members only. Registration deadline: Monday, May 6. Register at www.lss.org/form/hospitality-shabbaton-2024

YOUTH & MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENTS

Youth Groups: 10:00am: Second Floor Classrooms, supervised play.

Babies & Me (Newborn-2yrs): Shabbat, 10:00-11:30am in LL203: Parent-baby bonding (unsupervised) followed by a 30-min program by Amanda Dryer at 11:00 am. Dedicated nursing area available.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 10th: Teen Minyan and Breakfast: 9:30am

See Purim Section below for Purim related events.

For more information email youth@lss.org.

PURIM

Mishloach Manot: LSS is thrilled to offer the opportunity to send Mishloach Manot to members of the shul. Through your participation, your friends and neighbors will receive a beautiful gift basket all while helping to support the shul in the process. Order yours today! Register at <http://tinyurl.com/LSSMishloachManot>



Deadline to order: Sunday, March 17th at 12:00pm.

Matanot L'evyonim: www.lss.org/payment.php

Sunday, March 17th: Purim Carnival: 1:30pm - 4:30pm:

Strolling magician, arcades, clown, bounce house obstacle course, face painting, carnival games, photo booth, snow cones, cotton candy, and popcorn! WonderSpark puppet show at 3:30pm. Pizza and hamentashen available for purchase. Room 206/207: Sensory Calming Room provides a relaxing yet engaging atmosphere for any child that needs it. Carnival begins at 1:00pm for those with sensory sensitivities.

Tickets in advance: \$20, tickets at the door: \$30. Be a sponsor! Register at www.lss.org/form/purim2024

Thank you to our sponsors:

Queen Esther: Tzipora and Stephen Kalish, Allison and Yitzy Rubin, and Naomi and Gary Stein

Mordechai: Jocy & David Adelsberg, Anat & Adam Goodman, Becky and Eitan Kimmelman, Shira and Avi Spira, Tanya Gershon & Joe Warshawsky, Rebecca & Daniel Weiner

Seudat Hamentashen: Jessica Caplan, Ron Goldofsky, Dr. Leora Walter & Asher Schlusberg, Lauri and Charles Stern, Debra & Adam Verstandig

Matanot Le'evyonim: Jennifer & Ami Eden, Rebecca and Rabbi Adam Friedman, Gabriela & Ariel Goldschlag, Tziona & Daniel Josephs, Sara & Zach Leibold, Ariela & Max Levy, Marina & Michael Roxland, Katie and Michael Stenbring, Jackie Retig & Jack Sztrigler, Eliana & Dr. Samuel Yamshon

Monday, March 18th: Unveiling the Unseen: Exploring Purim's Hidden Gems: 7:30pm: With LSS Clergy.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 819 1330 2280](https://lss.org/zoom/81913302280) Passcode: M6t2msd4

Wednesday, March 20th: Clashing Commentaries: 7:45pm: join us for a special joint shiur with Rabbis Gottesman and Tepler. The Rabbis will highlight pivotal moments in the Megillah and alternate sharing opposing perspectives found in the commentaries. You'll never see the Megillah the same way again! Location: Belfer Beit Midrash

Israeli Heroes Purim Seudah on Sunday, March 24th: Details on pg. 1.

Motzei Shabbat, March 23rd: Beginners Purim Bash: Maariv and Megillah reading – 7:55pm. Purim Bash – 9:10PM, featuring renowned musical artist and performer Psachya Septimus. Cost includes food, music and the Purim Shpiel: \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. Register online at www.lss.org/beginners or call 212-874-6100.

Motzei Shabbat, March 23rd: Volunteering - Teen Mishloach Manot Packaging: 8:30pm

Sunday, March 24th:

10:15am: Magen Avraham Teen Department delivers Mishloach Manot to the homebound.

Israeli Heroes Purim Seudah: 4:30pm: Join us for an amazing joy filled Purim seudah. Buffet catered by Smoky Joe's. Please come dressed as an Israeli hero. Prize for best costume (use your imagination!) www.lss.org/form/seudah2024

WE STAND WITH ISRAEL

HAKARAT HATOV

Janine Sherr for writing this week's Dvar Torah

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Please note that Paul Shaviv's class 'The Shoah: Jewish Rescuers and Resisters' has been postponed until further notice.

Sunday, March 10th

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

Monday, March 11th

- **7:00pm: Chug Ivrit Chadashot (News from Israel) with Gali Rabin.** This week's class will be held in person in room 206/207
- **7:30pm: Jewish Living Workshop:** "Hands on" Jewish living experience with Dassa and Bill Greenbaum. Email them at jlworkshop@yahoo.com for more information. Visit www.lss.org/beginners to register. Topic: Weekday Prayers Starting Out
- **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.

Tuesday, March 12th

- **Nuggets of Wisdom: A 10-Minute Morning Mishnayot Session After 7:50am Shacharit Minyan:** Led by Bezalel Racz. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
- ***CANCELED* 11:00am-12:00pm: The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Studies in the Weekly Parsha"** led by Rabbi Robinson. Location: LL201
- **6:30pm: United Hearts for Israel:** Register at www.tinyurl.com/UnitedHeartsIL. Listen to a recording of Rabbi Robinson's previous Am Yisrael Chai Class on "Shema-Yisrael: What Judaism Taught the World" at www.lss.org/classrecordings
- **7:00pm: Introduction to the Bible With Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald:** Explore the Decalogue and other biblical texts. This is a free class on Zoom! Co-sponsored by NJOP. Visit www.lss.org/beginners to register. Sponsors welcome, contact Jessica at jessica@njop.org or 646-871-0012.

Wednesday, March 13th

- **Nuggets of Wisdom: A 10-Minute Morning Mishnayot Session After 7:50am Shacharit Minyan:** Led by Bezalel Racz. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
- **6:30pm: United Hearts for Israel:** Register at www.tinyurl.com/UnitedHeartsIL2
- **6:00pm: Beit Midrash Night with Lloyd Epstein TMZ Kollel Fellow Bezalel Racz:** 6:00pm: Group Mishnah Learning, 6:30pm: Mishnah Lecture, 6:45pm Mincha Break, 7:30pm: Kabbalah and Its Influence on the Birth of Chassidut. Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.

Thursday, March 14th

- **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](https://www.lss.org/learningopportunities)
- **7:15pm: Jacob Adler Parsha Class: Explorations in the Weekly Parsha:** Led by Rabbi Robinson. 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

Upcoming Opportunities:

Monday, March 4th: Hebrew Reading Crash Course –Level 1 With Sharona Spivack: 6:00pm: Tailored for beginners, this course teaches the Hebrew alphabet and reading skills. The 5 classes, each lasting 1 1/2 hours, are free of charge! Register at www.lss.org/beginners.

UPCOMING EVENT: Tuesday, March 19th: An Evening of Heroes: 7:30pm: Join us as we welcome our guests of honor for an unforgettable evening. Proceeds will go to the Gush Etzion Foundation.

Rachel and Evyatar Edri: Rachel was held hostage for 20 hours in Ofakim and her son aided in freeing her.

Michal Greenglic: sister of Shauli, who put his singing career on hold to fight in Gaza and was killed in combat.

Mordechay Shenvald: was seriously injured in Gaza when his tank was hit by an anti-tank missile; an IDF soldier and gifted musician whose violin touches everyone's heart.

Shlomo Hammer: serves in the 551st brigade, which tragically lost 13 soldiers while fighting in Gaza; Shlomo fought bravely in Gaza for three months straight. Orna and Asher Naim- parents of Amir, the only casualty in Kibbutz Erez, which was saved due to his bravery.

6:55pm Mincha/Maariv 6:30-7:15pm - VIP Event (Belfer Beit Midrash)

7:30pm: Doors Open: Evening of Heroes (Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary). General Admission: \$36 pp VIP event: \$180 (entrance fee paid for separately). Register at www.lss.org/form/heroes

150 Days in Hell : 11:00am every Sunday: Meeting point: Naumburg Bandshell Terrace Dr. Near, W 72nd St, New York. Run For Their Lives Manhattan, a group with 52 locations worldwide, has now been walking and running every Sunday, demanding the release of the Israeli hostages still held by Hamas. We will continue until the last hostage has been freed. Please join us and pass this information on to friends and families. Join the Whatsapp Group at <https://bit.ly/FamiliesHQ-USA>

Assuta Ashdod Hospital: Established in 2017, Assuta Ashdod Hospital is Israel's first new medical facility in 40 years, recognized for healthcare innovation. Located 16 miles from Gaza, it features a unique bomb-shelter infrastructure for uninterrupted services during threats. The hospital played a vital role in providing 24/7 emergency treatment for soldiers, Nova festival survivors, and terror victims. During Israel's ground invasion, Assuta treated 23% of the IDF's critically injured soldiers, showcasing exceptional emergency and trauma care. Support at www.intlfriendssofassutaashdod.org. Learn more on October 7th in an interview with Dr. Debra West at <https://ouwomen.org/video/#6Boa7XpM>.

ACHI (American Communities Helping Israel): Support Israel's economy post the Gaza War at ACHI's Market: www.achi613.org/achi-market/. Explore nearly 250 Israeli vendors offering art, jewelry, food, clothing, and more. Easily make purchases or send gifts with global shipping options.

Contact Your Elected Officials: Please urge your elected officials to stand with Israel! Reach out at www.whitehouse.gov/contact/

Wednesday, May 15th: Annual NORPAC Mission to Washington: Join NORPAC's crucial annual Mission to Washington this election year to support Congressional backers of Israel facing extremist propaganda. Depart from LSS in the morning, return the same day on the Manhattan bus, with meals provided. Register at <https://norpac.net/mission-to-washington> for early bird prices.

SUPPORTING ARTISTS IN ISRAEL

This Week's Featured Artist: Racheli Sharfstein

Reish Studio, founded by Racheli Sharfstein in Tel Aviv, specializes in product design, providing a humorous perspective on the relationship between objects and users.

Inspired by the art world, Racheli's timeless creations feature modern colors, seamlessly blending into home spaces. Collaborating with diverse designers, she promotes constant development and curiosity, resulting in refreshing objects. Influenced by children's games and nostalgic imagery, Racheli's hand-designed, painted, and assembled items offer a unique take on everyday objects.

Instagram: www.instagram.com/studio_reish/

Purchase at <https://reish.co/>

See past featured artists at www.lss.org/supportisraeliartists.

DVAR TORAH PARSHAT SHEKALIM-VAYAKHEL

By: Janine Sherr

In memory of Janine's beloved mother, Rochelle Muller, א"ח רחל חיה בת אברהם יעקב וחנה, who gave selflessly to her family, students, and community.

Give and You Shall Love

In Parashat Vayakhel Moses gathers the people and instructs them to bring contributions for the Mishkan (Sanctuary). They immediately start to donate a wide variety of materials, including gold jewelry, linen, acacia wood, spices, oil, and precious stones. But then something remarkable happens: the people can't stop giving.

The people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the Sanctuary left what they were doing and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done." So Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the Sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from giving more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work. (Exodus, 36:3-7)

The Children of Israel were a quarrelsome and rebellious group, but they were also exceedingly generous. This beautiful trait has remained an intrinsic part of the Jewish character until this day.

Rabbi Sacks z"l highlights Maimonides' comment in this regard: "We have never seen or heard about a Jewish community which does not have a charity fund." (Laws of Gifts to the poor 9:3)

Regarding the mitzvah of tzedakah, Maimonides further states:

We are obligated to be more scrupulous in fulfilling the commandment of *tzedakah* than any other positive commandment because *tzedakah* is the sign of the righteous person, a descendant of Abraham our father, as it is said, "For I know him that he will command his children...to do *tzedakah*..."

(Laws of Gifts for the Poor, 10:1-3)

According to Rabbi Sacks z"l: "Maimonides is here saying more than that Jews give charity. He is saying that a charitable disposition is written into Jewish genes, part of our inherited DNA...Whether this is nature or nurture, to be Jewish is to give." Or, as a recent Birthright advertisement exclaimed, "Our Jewish Generosity Is Our Superpower!"

Rabbi Eliyahu Eliezer Dessler, in his classic work, *Michtav M'Eliyahu* (*Strive for Truth!*) explains that G-d, the ultimate Giver, has granted mankind, fashioned in His image, the "sublime power of giving." (p. 119). Rav Dessler then famously asks: Do we give to others because we love them, or does love grow as a result of giving? He concludes: "a person comes to love the one to whom he gives...if I give to someone, I feel close to him: I have a share in his being. It follows that if I were to start bestowing good upon *everyone* I come in contact with, I would soon feel they are *all* my relatives, *all* my loved ones" (p. 130).

The ongoing war in Israel has revealed, perhaps more than ever before, our innate Jewish character. We can't hold ourselves back from giving

more and more: letters, Tefillin, boots, helmets, warm winter clothing, meals, pizza and barbecues for our soldiers; clothes and toys for displaced families; Shabbat meals for families with fathers at the front. A lady named Anat Ishai baked 100 kg of challah for soldiers, and there was "The Persian-Jewish grandma ('Chicki' Elghanian) (who) want(ed) to feed the entire IDF from her apartment" (*Times of Israel*, Jan. 13, 2024). It was estimated that North American Jewry raised one **billion** dollars for Israel in the first month of the war alone!

As we know, people donated their skills, their homes, or their time. Some tied tzitzit for soldiers; hotels, moshavim, kibbutzim, and private citizens hosted evacuees. Restaurants in Tel Aviv koshered their kitchens so they could send meals to *dati* soldiers. Singers entertained the troops. Israelis from across the country, as well as volunteers from the diaspora, helped farmers gather their crops and fruit.

And to our tremendous sorrow, so many of our courageous soldiers and security personnel have given their limbs or their very lives for Israel and the Jewish people.

The following poem circulated last December as the story of Joseph and his brothers unfolded in the weekly parsha. It perfectly captures the beautiful spirit of our times and the outpouring of love and giving.

A COAT OF MANY COLORS

My son returned from battle, his duffel bursting
With things that I had not packed for him.
Socks donated by the Jews in Argentina,
A quilted blanket smelling like someone else's home,
A blue towel from a family from the Moshav,
Tzitzit from Jerusalem,
A fleece jacket, gifted by a high tech company;
A scarf knitted by an elderly lady,
Undershirts purchased by online shoppers,
A sheet that was given to him by a friend.
Gloves bought by teenage girls, |
A jacket from the closet of someone who
came and requested to give.
I spread out all of these garments
and weave together a new coat of many colors.
See, Yosef, your brothers were there for you.

Poem written by: Racheli Moshkovitz (translated by Chavi Swidler Eisenberg)

But I'm left wondering: Will we be able to sustain these feelings of unity and love? Perhaps, as Rav Dessler suggests, if we keep on giving, especially to those we consider "different" from ourselves, we can continue to love each other even after this war ends.

*The next Shabbatot available: Vayikra, Shabbat Zachor 3/22-23
Parah 3/20-30, Shemini - Shabbat HaChodesh 4/5-6*

Enjoy reading the weekly Dvar Torah in print, in the Shele Danishefsky Foyer or on ss.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.