

NO MORE COVID ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

Welcome to Lincoln Square Synagogue! In accordance with NY City and State regulations, wearing of masks is now optional at all services at LSS for adults and children, regardless of vaccination status, and indoor kiddushim and meals are no longer limited to vaccinated individuals. Of course, we request that attendees be sensitive to the comfort and safety concerns of others at shul by respecting any social distancing or masking desires of others.

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Friday night:
7:00pm Mincha followed by Kabbalat Shabbat;
 Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
7:10pm Shabbat Candle Lighting
7:28pm Sunset: Latest time to daven Mincha
7:59pm Repeat Shema

Shabbat:
7:45am Hashkama Minyan; Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.
 Shiur by Rabbi Moshe Sokolow on third floor;
 Hashkama Kiddush on The Spira Family Terrace.
9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan;
 Davening led by Zak Benarroch.
 Drasha following Musaf by Oren Epstein.
 Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
 Followed by the Main Kiddush in the Ballroom.
 Parents: please bring your children for story time with Rabbi Robinson.
9:30am Beginners Service led by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald;
 Location: 3rd floor. Beginners Kiddush to follow.
9:41am Latest Shema
9:45am Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan;
 Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
10:00am Shabbat Groups; Location: Second Floor Classrooms
10:47am Latest Shacharit
11:00am Babies & Me; Location: Classrooms 206/207
12:30pm Beginners Pre-Passover Luncheon; Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
5:10pm Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler;
 Location: Belfer Beit Midrash
6:40pm Mincha; Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
**No Seudah Shlishit. Please eat prior to coming to Shul.*
7:05pm The 23rd Annual Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shabbat HaGadol Drasha by Rabbi Shaul Robinson. Topic: B'Chipazon- When Life Changes in an Instant, From Egypt to Ukraine;
 Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary
7:29pm Sunset: Daven Mincha
8:12pm Ma'ariv

THIS SUNDAY

Shmurah Matzah pickup. Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer
Please pick up by last name:
 A thru D 9:00am to 9:30am
 E thru H 9:30am to 10:00am
 J thru L 10:00am to 10:30am
 M thru N plus R 10:30am to 11:00am
 S 11:00am to 11:30am
 P and T thru Z 11:30am to 12:00am
**Please note letter P is with the last group.*

Youth Department: Afikoman Games.
 Please see next page for more information.

Hagalat Kelim:
 Sunday, April 10th 9:30am-12:30pm in LL2 Kitchen

Sunday, April 10th: LSS Clergy on the Haggadah: "Short Thoughts to Share at Your Seder" with Rabbi Shaul Robinson, Assistant Rabbi Yoni Zolty, Rabbanit Mindy Schwartz Zolty, Chazzan Yanky Lemmer, and Rabbinic Interns Efraim Tepler and Daniel Gottesman. 8:00pm.
 Via Zoom. Meeting ID: 827 0576 0130 Passcode: 736372
 Dial In: 6468769923

WEEKDAY MINYAN INFORMATION

Shacharit:
 Sunday, April 10 @ 8:30am
 Monday, April 11— Thursday, April 14 @ 7:30am
 Friday, April 15, Erev Pesach @ 7:15am

Mincha/Maariv:
 Sunday, April 10 — Wednesday, April 13 @ 7:20pm
 Thursday, April 14 @ 7:25pm

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Hashkama Kiddush: Sandy Gross in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her father, Sherman Gross z"l, Shimon Eliezer ben Sinai and Henna, on 9 Nissan.

Gala Main Kiddush: Rose and Philip Friedman in memory of Philip's beloved mother Golda Friedman a"h.

Beginners Kiddush: Helga Weisburger in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her beloved mother, Kathe Preschel, Kraindel bat David Eliezer a"h.

Co-sponsored by Helga's family, **Gabe, Anat, David, Tali, Zev, and Ezra Levi**, in honor of her birthday.

To sponsor a Kiddush please email info@lss.org.

HAKARAT HATOV

Judy Sokolow for writing this week's Dvar Torah.

Nathan Vogel for organizing this event.
 Thank you to everyone who contributed to the clothing drive for needy Israelis this past Sunday. Thanks to you, nearly 200 bags of clothing were collected and will be shipped to Israel. Thank you also to the wonderful volunteers who helped pack the donations: **Beth Alter, Leah Berowitz, Hadassah Santhouse, Charlotte Friedman, Isabelle Kish, Sarah Mero, Ron Platzner, Rima Raynes, Mary Shalit, Shirley Wald, Roslyn Zeidel, and Naomi Zweig.**



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stephanie Brownstein and Keith Gold

SUPPORT UKRAINE

The horrific humanitarian crisis in Ukraine continues to unfold. We have all seen the images of the bombing of civilian targets, the columns of refugees desperately seeking to escape, and the fierce resistance to the Russian invaders. There are about 200,000 Jews caught up in this tragedy and who need our help. Please consider making a generous contribution to either the UJA special appeal or to the Joint Distribution Committee to help our brothers and sisters. Please see our electronic Echod for donation links.

YOUTH TOYS AND CLOTHES FOR UKRAINIAN ORPHANS
 We are partnering with the David Frohlich z"l Youth Department at Congregation Bnai Yeshurun of Teaneck, NJ along with many other youth departments across America to raise money for toys and clothes for Jewish Ukrainian orphans who have arrived in Israel. 100% of the money goes directly to the kids (there is no overhead cost).
 Donate at <https://toysforkidsinIsrael.com>

YOUTH AND MAGEN AVRAHAM TEEN DEPARTMENT

Shabbat Youth Groups: 10:00am (Location: 2nd floor classrooms)

Join us for davening, Torah & play.

Youth Directors: Romy and Avraham Sanger

Assistant Youth Director: Alexander Wildes



Story time with Rabbi Robinson during the Main Kiddush!

THIS Sunday, April 10: Afikoman: 10:30 am - 12:30pm.

Join your friends of the UWS at West Side Institutional Synagogue for Pesach themed art projects, family competitions and snacks!

Families with kids of all ages are welcome! Sign up at

www.wsisny.org/event/afikoman-games.html

Tuesday, April 19: Six Flags. Come join us at Six Flags on Chol Hamoed Pesach. We have transportation included in the price for teens and families can meet us there or opt in for the transportation. Bus will leave at 8:00 am.

Sign up for teens at: www.wsisny.org/event/six-flags-teen-trip.html

Sign up for families at: www.wsisny.org/event/six-flags-family-trip.html

YOUTH DVAR TORAH

By Romy Sanger

In our parsha, the Torah presents the Torat haMetzora, the laws of the person with Tzaraat, in value-free terms, without any ethical background, reference to sin causing the onset of tzaraat, or instruction that the metzora pray or repent. The cure, similarly, does not hinge on the patient's conduct.

Elsewhere in Tanach, though, tzaraat does clearly serve as a divine punishment for wrongdoing. Miriam is stricken with tzara'at for speaking against Moshe (Bemidbar 12); Geichazi is punished for his greed and false oath to Elisha (Melakhim II 5); and Uziyahu is punished with tzara'at for offering incense in the Temple in defiance of the kohanim (Divrei Ha-yamim II 26:16-21).

Chazal focus on this element of sin. Rabbi Yossi teaches us that lashon hara causes tzaraat, Reish Lakish associates the word itself with the words motzi shem ra, and Rav Shmuel bar Nachmeni lists seven sins that cause tzaraat: lashon hara, murder, false oaths, immorality, arrogance, theft, and stinginess (TB Arachin 15).

Ramban goes a bit further in suggesting that the function of tzaraat is less punishment that awakening-in his reading the Torah is presenting an incrementally more and more severe call to rehabilitation. Hashem sends tzaraat as a wondrous sign to the sons of Israel to warn them against evil speech. In the first stage, after a Jew engages in frivolous and evil speech, the walls of his home become discolored. If he repents, good and he returns to purity. But if he continues his wrongdoing, the linens of his home then show the signs of it. And if even after they are burned he continues to sin, his skin itself becomes discolored. He contracts tzaraat and he must be separated and publicly isolated to demonstrate the severity of his sin. At the point that we get the message from Hashem and repent, we are able to end the cycle and return to purity!

QUESTIONS

1. What does Metzora mean?
2. Which two plants were used in the post-tzaraat sacrifice regimen?
3. What was done before the Kohen would inspect a house suspected of tzaraat?
4. What color was the tzaraat on the walls of a home?

1. One who has the biblical malady of tzaraat
2. Cedar and hyssop
3. Remove everything inside
4. Dark red and dark green

ANSWERS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, April 12th: Israeli Book Club: 6:30pm.

We read books written by Israeli authors and then discuss them. The next book is *Fanny and Gabriel* by Nava Semel. To register for the discussion, please see the electronic Echod or email harelf@jafi.org and you will receive the link.

Wednesday, April 27th: Lunch and Learn with Rabbanit Laurie Novick on "Judaism and Acculturation: U'vechukoteihem Lo Teleichu". 12:30pm

Location: Ballroom. Laurie Novick is Director and Head Writer of Deracheha, an online halachic education initiative under the auspices of Yeshivat Har Etzion. She has worked as a Yoetzet Halacha for over eighteen years, is a certified Yoatzot Halacha Fertility Counselor and Sharsheret Breast Cancer Educator, and taught at Nishmat for many years. Laurie has masters degrees in Talmud, in Bible, and in Jewish Education, and has done graduate work in Counseling. Lunch is complementary but please register in advance in the electronic Echod. Sponsorships welcome.

Shabbat, April 30th: Scholar in Residence Rabbi Yonatan Rosensweig on Judaism and Mental Health in partnership with Mizrahi World Movement and Israel360.

See flyer for full SIR schedule. Rabbi Yoni Rosensweig is rabbi of the Netzach Menashe community in Beit Shemesh and is a teacher of Halacha, Gemara and Jewish thought. He previously served as Rosh Kollel of the Mizrahi community in Melbourne, Australia. Rav Yoni is today's leading voice in the field of mental health and halacha. He is the author of Nafshi B'She'eilati and the founder of Maaglei Nefesh, the Israel Institute for Mental Health and Halacha.

Sunday, May 1st: Matan and Lincoln Square Synagogue Yom Iyun:

My Heart Is In the East: 10:00am-1:00pm. Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Light brunch included. Please see flyer for a full list of speakers and topics.

Monday, May 9th: LSS and the Manhattan Yoetzet Initiative Present: A Jewish Approach to Sexuality and Intimacy with Shiffy Friedman, Yoetzet Halacha of Manhattan. 7:00pm.

Hosted by Adina Dolfman. Location: The Rushmore party room at 80 Riverside Blvd. Light refreshments provided. Open to married and unmarried women. RSVPs encouraged! To RSVP please email Adina Dolfman at Adina.Dolfman@gmail.com. Shiffy Friedman serves as Yoetzet Halacha for multiple Manhattan synagogues. In this role, she provides personal consultation and leads communal education in the area of women's health and halacha. She has taught in various formal and informal Jewish educational settings for over a decade, and currently teaches Talmud and Halacha at her alma mater, Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School. She and her husband, Rabbi Noam Friedman, live with their three children in Morningside Heights, where they serve as the OU-JLIC couple at Columbia University/Barnard College. For questions related to women's health and halacha, be in touch with Shiffy at nycyoetzet@gmail.com or 646-598-1080.

**If, due to a disability, you need an accommodation made or you need help registering for an event, please call (212)-874-6100.*

LSS BAT MITZVAH PROJECT

Women! If you have never had a Bat Mitzvah or haven't read from the Torah, sign up now at LSSbatmitzvah@gmail.com. Read only 3-4 sentences and we will help you do it with recordings and mentors. Do not wait, sign up now!



WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday:

- *Canceled this week* 9:15am-10:15am: Pesach Sh'eilot and Tshuvot: led by Assistant Rabbi Yoni Zolty.** Come and learn some classic and contemporary responsa Sunday mornings after Shacharit. In person and via Zoom. In person location: Belfer Beit Midrash. Meeting ID: 838 3061 9860 Passcode: 354153. Sponsors are welcome.

Monday:

- 11:00am-12:00pm: A Gemara Class Bava Kama: Laws of Personal Injury led by Rabbi Robinson.** Location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Repeated on Zoom Tuesday at 8:00pm.
- 7:00pm-8:15pm: Chug Ivrit led by Harel Fenigstein Chadashot (News from Israel).** Available in person or via Zoom. Register at <https://www.jotform.com/212903440529048>
- *Will Resume after Pesach* 7:00pm-8:00pm: Shabbat in the City: How Halacha Responds to Modern Innovations in a Cosmopolitan World led by Assistant Rabbi Yoni Zolty.** In person location: Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Meeting ID: 822 5613 5886 Passcode: 114608
- 7:30-8:30pm: Beginners The Jewish Living Workshop led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum.** This Monday only, hybrid workshop in person and via Zoom. For in person info email jlworkshop@yahoo.com. Register at www.lss.org/beginners. Meeting ID: 852 4193 5346 Passcode: 226256

Tuesday:

- 11:00am-12:00pm: The Marilyn & Sam Isler, "Haggadah Insights" led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson: Topic.** Meeting ID: 241022510. Passcode: 983323. Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer
- 1:45pm-2:45pm: Journey through Nach: Sefer Yehoshua led by Rabbinic Intern Daniel Gottesman.** Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer
- *Will return April 26th* 8:00pm: Beit Midrash night, The M'lachim (Kings) Study Group led by Ron Platzer.** Meeting ID: 850 0937 1460 Password: 560900
- 8:00pm: A Gemara Class Bava Kama: Laws of Personal Injury led by Rabbi Shaul Robinson.** Meeting ID: 858 4080 4793 Passcode: 931015

Wednesday:

- 12:00pm-1:00pm: Personalities from the Haggadah in Rabbinic Literature led by Rabbanit Mindy Schwartz Zolty.** Location: Shele Danishefsky Covlin Foyer
- 7:00pm-8:15pm: Chug Ivrit - Safa Ivrit (Hebrew Language) led by Harel Fenigstein.** Available in person or via Zoom. Register at <https://www.jotform.com/212903661753153>

Thursday:

- *Permanent Time Change from 11:30am to 11:00am* 11:00am-12:00pm: Women's Talk Time: led by School Psychologist Ruth Moser Riemer.** Meeting ID: 972 4054 8238 Password: 142533
- *Time Change* 7:45pm: Redemption and Rejuvenation: Pre-Pesach series by Rabbi Shaul Robinson.** Meeting ID: 912 657 888 Passcode: 226974. In person Location: Belfer Beit Midrash.

*Dial in code for all meetings hosted by LSS is 646-876-9923

ALL THINGS PESACH

Please visit www.lss.org/passover-2022.html to view all things Pesach including the Pesach Schedule.

Shmurah Matzah: Pick up THIS Sunday, April 10th by last name:

A thru D 9:00am to 9:30am

E thru H 9:30am to 10:00am

J thru L 10:00am to 10:30am

M thru N plus R 10:30am to 11:00am

S 11:00am to 11:30am

P and T thru Z 11:30am to 12:00am

*Please note letter P is with the last group.

Sell your Chametz:

Deadline for the online form: April 13th at 5:00pm.

Our Clergy will be available for the sale of Chametz as follows:

Sunday, April 10th: 9:15am-1:00pm

Monday, April 11th: 8:15am - 11:00am, 5:00pm-7:00pm

Tuesday, April 12th & Wednesday, April 13th: 8:15am-11:00am, 6:30pm- 8:30pm

Please see www.lss.org for the form.

Burning of Chametz:

Friday, April 15th: 7:00am-11:49am outside of the LSS building.

Hagalat Kelim:

Sunday, April 10th 9:30am-12:30pm in LL2 Kitchen

Shabbat HaGadol:

The Louis and Rhoda Lazar Shabbat Hagadol Drasha will be delivered by Rabbi Shaul Robinson on: Shabbat, April 9th after 6:40pm Mincha B'Chipazon-When Life Changes in an Instant, From Egypt to Ukraine

Pesach Seder order through Sova Catering:

If you are in need of a seder during Pesach, please consider ordering through Sova Catering. Please see online Echod to order.

Pesach Hospitality:

Dear Members of LSS:

Honoring the ancient tradition of kol dichfin yetei v'yechol, we are reaching out to you to participate in our Pesach Seder Hospitality Program.

Our mission is to ensure that all members have an opportunity to participate in a traditional seder in a warm environment. To accomplish this we need both hosts and guests.

If you will be conducting seder(s) at home this year and can accommodate one or more guests, please let us know the number of guests you can host for which seder(s) by emailing us at Hospitality@lss.org. Please include the words "Seder Host" in the subject line. Our experience over the years has shown that hosts "get" as much as they "give" by extending hospitality and we are confident this will be a meaningful experience for you.

If you would like an invitation, or if you know of an LSS member who would appreciate one, please let us know which night(s) at Hospitality@lss.org. Please enter the words "Seder Guest" in the subject line. Please understand that Seders can run late, and that respectful guests should plan on remaining through the end. *Please note that given limitations on the number of people that can be hosted due to the pandemic priority will be given to members.* Please feel free to note pertinent restrictions, requests or questions in your message. We hope that you will join us in ensuring a meaningful Pesach for all our members.

Thank you,
LSS Hospitality Committee



PESACH 2022

APRIL 15TH - APRIL 23RD

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH EREV PESACH TAAANIT BECHOROT	SHABBAT, APRIL 16TH PESACH	SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH PESACH	MONDAY, APRIL 18TH CHOL HAMOE'D PESACH 2ND DAY OF OMER	TUESDAY, APRIL 19TH CHOL HAMOE'D PESACH 3RD DAY OF OMER
7:00am-11:49am Burning of Chametz 7:15am Shacharit Siyum for the First Born following Shacharit Approx. 8:15am Break Fast following Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan 10:45am Latest time to eat Chametz	8:00am Hashkama Minyan 9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan 7:10pm Mincha 7:37pm Sunset 8:18pm Candle Lighting 8:19pm Maariv 8:19pm Begin Seder	8:00am Hashkama Minyan 9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan 7:25pm Mincha 8:20pm Maariv/Havdalah	7:15am Shacharit 7:30pm Mincha/Maariv	7:15am Shacharit 7:30pm Mincha/Maariv
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20TH CHOL HAMOE'D PESACH 4TH DAY OF OMER	THURSDAY, APRIL 21ST CHOL HAMOE'D PESACH 5TH DAY OF OMER	FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND PESACH 6TH DAY OF OMER	SHABBAT, APRIL 23RD PESACH 7TH DAY OF OMER YIZKOR	
7:18pm Candle Lighting 7:25pm Mincha/Maariv 7:35pm Sunset 8:07pm Start Seder	7:15am Shacharit 7:30pm Mincha/Maariv	7:15am Shacharit 7:24pm Candle lighting 7:30pm Mincha/Maariv	8:00am Hashkama Minyan 9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan 6:18pm Earliest Candle Lighting 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:25pm Candle Lighting 7:43pm Sunset	8:00am Hashkama Minyan 9:00am Chazzan Sherwood Goffin Memorial Minyan 7:15pm Mincha Neilat Hachag following Mincha 7:44pm Sunset 8:26pm Maariv/Havdalah

OFFICE HOURS

Friday, April 15th: 9:00am-1:00pm.
Monday, April 18th-Wednesday, April 20th: 10:00am-4:00pm.
Thursday, April 21st: 10:00am-1:00pm.
Friday, April 22nd: Closed.

*Schedule subject to change

DVAR TORAH

Parshat Metzora

April 8-9, 2022

by Judy Sokolow

Tzara'at, Trees, and Community

I assume that we all know by now that the skin affliction *tzara'at*, although it is often translated as leprosy, was not a medical condition; rather, it was a signal from G-d that the victim was being called out for *lashon hara* or defaming someone's character. This was discerned from the episode in Shemot 4:1-8 when Moshe slandered the Jewish people by claiming that they would doubt that G-d had really sent him to rescue them, and again, when Miriam, joined by Aharon, instigated a verbal assault against Moshe about his new Cushite wife as reported in Numbers 12 and Devarim 24: 8-9. People who like word plays connect the sound of *metzora* with the phrase *motzi shem ra* or besmirching someone's reputation.

Victims of *tzara'at* were, among other things, required to leave the camp for seven days. This led some to infer that the condition was contagious, a highly tenuous conclusion, considering that the priests whose job it was to check for the condition and administer the atonement ritual, ceased their inspections for bridegrooms during the week of their wedding and for the people at large who came in crowds to Jerusalem to mark the three pilgrimage festivals (Nega'im 3:2). (For more on this subject see *Studies in the Weekly Parashah Based on the Lessons of Nehama Leibowitz* by Moshe Sokolow.)

Why then was a person afflicted with *tzara'at* made to undergo the rehabilitation process not only outside the inhabited area but "sitting alone" (last week's parashah 13:46), away from even other impure people? Arguably this is to signify how divisive *lashon hara* can be and how damaging to communal well-being. Indeed, Rashi, citing a midrash, wrote: "Since he caused separation through evil talk between husband and wife or between a man and a friend, therefore he also should be separated."

The lengthy purification ritual for *tzara'at* is spelled out in our parashah in Chapter 14. My interest here is to focus in particular on the flora used in this process: a branch from the mighty cedar tree (*etz erez*) bound together with some lowly hyssop shrub (*eizov*). These, working in tandem, symbolized the *metzora's* need to subdue his arrogance. As Rashi explained (14:4): "For plagues result from haughtiness. What is his remedy that he should be healed? He should lower himself from his pride... like hyssop."

This is not the only interaction between man and trees in the Torah. Perhaps the most famous appears in a discussion of rules of engagement during war where we are told not to destroy trees because, according to some translations, "man is the tree of the field" (Devarim 20:19). Back in January, Jesse Cogan, in a *devar Torah* in these pages to mark Tu B'shvat, cited several explanations of this verse and appropriately urged us to consider proper use of our natural resources. But, out of context, the phrase has been used in many homilies, to which I would like to add another.

The December 6, 2020 *New York Times Magazine* included an article by Ferris Jabr entitled, "The Social Life of Forests," that focuses on the "groundbreaking research" of forest ecologist Professor Suzanne Simard. As Jabr put it: In a forest, trees, even those of different species, "routinely exchange water, food and chemical messages through vast underground networks of roots and fungi, openly helping one another survive" (p. 6). In fact, when trees of just one species are planted to restore a deforested area, they do less well than when differing species are planted near each other. This begs the question: According to Darwinian theory, species are in competition with each other, and it is the fittest that survive. But, when it comes to forests, it appears that cooperation wins the day.

So, are humans like the trees in the field? The war in Ukraine reminds us with horror how evil some people can be. But the war is also motivating so many others to forge pathways to be supportive, generous, and even life-saving, not only locally but globally. May this ever-growing forest of collaboration and kindness flourish and thrive and come to universally define what it means to be human to the point when there will be no war anymore.

DVAR TORAH

The next Shabbatot available to write a Dvar Torah are:
Shabbat Pesach 4/16 and 4/23, Acharei Mot 4/30, & 5/14 Emor
For more information, please email Bill Greenbaum at dvar@lss.org.

A LETTER FROM YAD LEAH

Thank you very much for opening up your shul to partner with Yad Leah and host a Clothing drive for Israel. Under the guidance and leadership of Nathan Vogel, your community collected over 200 bags of clothing. This clothing will be sorted at our facility in Passaic, New Jersey and then shipped and distributed to our network of gemachim throughout Israel.

The impact of giving clothing is so much more than just offering someone protection from the elements. The clothing donated at LSS will give people dignity, confidence, a sense of stability and hope.

Just last week, I received the email below from one of our Yad Leah branch coordinators in Central Israel. It poignantly illustrates the incredible and meaningful impact of your clothing donations.

Dear Yad Leah family,

We just had our Pre Pesach Gemach "sale". The clothing helps so many people. I want to share with you one story.

Yael called me today and told me that she had come to a gemach sale to find clothing for a friend. This friend and her husband both lost their jobs during COVID and have accumulated HUGE debt. Thank G-d, they are both now finally working and slowly paying back their debts. The constant financial stress and need to work very long hours is totally overwhelming, clouding their ability to think about anything else except for money.

Knowing that they did not have the resources nor time to think about purchasing clothing, Yael surprised her and bought her clothing for her four girls for Pesach, complete with dresses, stockings, headbands, and shoes!! Yael then shared with me the reactions of her friend, and of the daughters who without Yad Leah would have gone without proper clothing for Pesach.

It was a big stress reliever, to feel like a "regular" family and have beautiful clothing for the holiday. And the JOY that the clothes gave that family. Oh the joy that you gave them: relief from their economic stress, from thinking about debts and loans all day, and how to buy enough food to feed the family. Yad Leah gave them the ability to have quality fashionable clothing to wear. You literally brought so much happiness into their lives. The girls were giggling, laughing, smiling, hugging each other, jumping up and down and then crying that someone cares and they are not alone.

Somehow when one feels beautiful, it gives hope that these hard times will pass.

So I am passing on tears of joy, with lots of hugs from this family to Yad Leah. May God bless you to always be on the giving side of life, With much admiration and appreciation for all you do for us, Mayrav, Yad Leah Gemach Coordinator

Thank you Rabbi Robinson, Tamar, Nathan and the Upper West Side community for taking the time, effort and energy to share your clothing and show you care.

With warm wishes for a chag kasher v'sameach

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 or

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