

**SHABBAT SCHEDULE****Friday Evening**

- 4:13pm Candle Lighting
- 4:15pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary will be led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer** and officiated by
- 4:15pm: Shir Hashirim followed by Sephardic Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash.

**Shabbat Morning**

- 7:30am: Tefillah Shiur will be given by **Rabbinic Intern Jacob Bernstein: Avot and Prayer: Setting Foundations**
- 7:45am: Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by Kiddush and shiur given by **Dr. Moshe Sokolow**
- 8:30am: Parsha Shiur will be given by **Rabbinic Intern Jacob Bernstein: Giving Thanks: The Essential Mitzvah of Hakarat HaTov**
- 9:00am: Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary. Services will be led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**. Drasha by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** before Mussaf.
- 9:18am: Latest Shema
- 9:15am: Beginners Service led by **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in room LL201 (Lower Level)
- 9:45am: Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash.
- Drasha by **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld**.
- 10:00am: Youth Groups for kids ages 2-12

**Shabbat Afternoon**

- 2:45pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash
- 3:15pm: Samson Raphael Hirsch Bible Class with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in Room 211.
- 3:15pm: Louis & Rhoda Lazar Memorial Shiur will be given by **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld** on "A Eulogy In Hevron": Love & Loss for the First Jewish Couple
- Sponsored by **Dorothea Kreiger** in commemoration of the Yahrts of **Chaya bat Zalman HaKohen, a"h**, & **Sheindel Tova bat Moshe Nachum HaKohen, a"h**.
- 4:00pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit.
- 5:13pm: Ma'ariv/ Shabbat Ends

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Chazzan Lemmer** will be at LSS on December 9th-10th: (Friday night Oneg and Tisch)

December 23rd-24th: **Guest Chazzan Aaron Max** from Australia (Erev Chanukah, Shabbat Mevarchim)

**Save the Date : December 30th** : Shabbat Chanukah Dinner after Friday evening services. More details to follow.

**Chazzan Goffin** will lead services on Shabbat Chanukah, December 31st.

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

**Main Kiddush:** Sponsored by **Francine & Jay Cinamon** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Francine's father, Dr. Leo Nagel, Aryeh ben Yisrael HaLevi, z"l.

**Hashkama Kiddush:** Sponsored by **Steve Kay Kupietzky** in honor of his father, **Rabbi Jonah Kupietzky's**, upcoming 82nd Birthday, עד מאה ועשר'ם

**Beginners Kiddush:** Sponsored by **Roberta & Robert Hadi** in honor of their son, **Jonathan Hadi's** 23rd birthday.

**Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan Kiddush:**

Sponsored by **Beth & David Badner**.

The Rabbi Cohen Memorial Minyan wishes to commemorate the shloshim of our long standing and dedicated member and friend **Dana Hudes z"l** and to his family.

Sponsored by **Martine & Jack Schenker** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Martine's father, **Henri Krenik Tzvi Hersch Ben Shalom, z"l**.

**Seudah Shlishit:**

Sponsored by **Trudy & Jay Zimmern** in memory of our father, **Sidney Klein, Alta Alexander ben Yonah, z"l**.

Sponsored on the occasion of the yahrzeit of **Rabbi Solomon Kahn, z"l**, by **Chavie Kahn & Heshy Kofman. Sarina Kofman**, Rabbi Kahn's granddaughter, will be delivering the d'var torah.

**MAZAL TOV**

Mazal Tov to grandparents **Suzan & Fred Ehrman** on the forthcoming marriage of **Esti Ehrman** in Ramat Beit Shemesh to **Motti Yagelnik** of Jerusalem. Mazal Tov also to parents **Eric & Ahava Ehrman** and uncles and aunt **Jeremy and Alyssa and Mark Loebenberg**.

**STORY TIME WITH RABBI ROBINSON**

Join us during our Main Kiddush  
for a special story given by  
**Rabbi Shaul Robinson!**

**WELCOME****Weekly Prayer Schedule**

For the Week of November 27th  
Mincha/Ma'ariv Sunday-Thursday: 4:20pm

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tues, Wed, Friday</u>	<u>Thursday</u> (Rosh Chodesh Kislev)
Daf Yomi: 7:45am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am	Daf Yomi: 6:20am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am
Shacharit: 7:10am & 8:30am	Shacharit: 7:00am & 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:10am & 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:00am & 7:40am

## SUNDAY

### Coffee & Responsa with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld

• **After Second Minyan • 9:15am**

*R. Asher Weiss on "Scrupulosity"*

## MONDAY

### Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I & II • 6:30pm

See Beginners Announcements for more information.

### Conversational Hebrew • 7:00pm

This is an opportunity to practice your conversational Ivrit in a friendly, participatory setting. The course is led by Hai Piasezky, the shaliach (representative from the State of Israel) for the UWS.

### Jewish Living Workshop • 7:30pm

See Beginners Announcements for more information.

## TUESDAY

### Parsha Shiur with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 10:30am

### Gemara B'Shana with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7:15 pm

A program dedicated to the memory of Bruce Ritholtz a"h with the ambitious goal of studying and completing an entire tractate of Talmud, focused on analysis and group discussion. This year we are studying tractate Megillah.

### Introduction to Bible with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald • 6:30pm

See Beginners Announcements for details.

### Beit Midrash Night:

### Samuel Group Chabura facilitated by Ron Platzer • 7:30pm

Adultery, incest, rebellion -- the travails of David, the greatest Jewish king -- A great story, complex characters, a subtle, sophisticated text.

### Beit Midrash Night:

### Tanach Survey: The Books of Samuel and Kings • 7:30 pm -

Facilitated by Marcy Zwecker and Robin Mitchnick (Meets in a private residence, please call office for details).

## WEDNESDAY

### Rabbi Robinson Lunch and Learn (Off Premises ) • 12:45pm

Class takes place at 180 Maiden Ln #34.

### Talmudic Logic with Rabbi Dennis Weiss • 7:30pm

An in-depth study of a particular topic in Talmud. This year's topic is "Lien On Me: A Study of Quasi Kinyan."

Rabbi Weiss is one of the world's unique Magidei Shiur, with a style that is rigorously intellectual and an approach that seeks the underlying conceptualization of the principles in the Talmud. The class is attended by men and women. There is no charge to attend the class.

### Beit Midrash Night • 8:40pm

Facilitated by Sara Brzowsky. The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai: We continue to analyze the Israeli poet's final masterpiece, Patuach Sagur Patuach.

Happy Learning!

## THURSDAY

**Parsha Class with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7:15pm** Join Rabbi Shaul Robinson for an exciting and timely look at the weekly portion utilizing contemporary and ancient commentators to uncover new depth in Torah study.

**Cholent Chabura with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld • 8:45pm** Welcome Shabbat early and explore a challenging new topic in Jewish thought each week in this informal and friendly gathering. Chabura meets in a private residence. *Please contact office for location.*

## **ISRAEL CORNER • פינת ישראל**

### **UN ranks IDF emergency medical team as 'No. 1 in the world'**

The United Nation's World Health Organization recognized the Israeli army's field hospital, which is regularly sent abroad to provide aid at natural disaster sites, as "the number one in the world."

The United Nations is generally seen as having a negative attitude toward Israel – as demonstrated just a couple of weeks ago when UNESCO refused to recognize Israel's historical connection to Jerusalem – so the recognition of the IDF's abilities comes as a pleasant surprise.

Israeli disaster relief delegations have been some of the first and largest to arrive at the scenes of natural disasters. Teams from the IDF Medical Corps and Home Front Command provided rescue and medical services after an earthquake in Turkey in 1999, an earthquake in Haiti in 2010, a typhoon in the Philippines in 2013 and, most recently, an earthquake in Nepal in 2015.

The military's field hospital is "not just some medics and doctors spread out in the field"; rather it is a "national treasure" that has the capabilities of an advanced, permanent hospital but can be set up almost anywhere in under 12 hours, according to its commander, Lt. Col. (res.) Dr. Ofer Merin.

## UPCOMING EVENTS - RSVP FOR ALL EVENTS AT [LSS.ORG/EVENTS](http://LSS.ORG/EVENTS)

**LSS Museum Tour: Seeking Justice: The Leo Frank Case Revisited • Sunday, November 27th • 10:15 am.**

Guided docent tour by Janice Katz at the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Admission: \$30

Reserve by November 25th at 1:00pm by clicking [here](#)

Space is limited. Flyers are available in the lobby for more information.



**Women's Talk Time • Thursday, December 1st • 11:30am**

Women are invited to attend an ongoing discussion group facilitated by Ruth Riemer, School Psychologist. All ages are welcome. Our last topic of discussion was: *Communicating Without Hurting*



**Documentary Film • Operation Wedding • Motzaei Shabbat, December 10th • 8:00 pm**

The riveting story of a group of Soviet Jews with a daring plan to escape to Israel and what happens after they are caught. The documentary was made by Anat Zalmanson-Kutznetsov, daughter of two of the dissident leaders, Edward Kutznetsov and Sylvia Zalmanson. With Guest Speakers Israel Zalmonson—at 21, the youngest of the group—and Glenn Richter, an LSS member who was an advisor to the film. Register at [lss.org/film](http://lss.org/film) or call 212-874-6100. Tickets are \$10 in advance/\$15 at the door.



**Young Professionals' Sake & Sushi • Motzaei Shabbat, December 10th • 8:00pm-10:00pm**

Enjoy an evening of sushi making with expert chefs accompanied with sake and Asian food pairings. Early bird pricing until December 1st. Sign up closes December 1st. [Click here to register](#).



**Breakfast at Sotheby's: Preview of Israeli Art Auction • Wednesday, December 14th • 10:00 am**

**1334 York Avenue, at 72nd Street**

See and learn about the Israeli art that will be auctioned off by Sotheby's. Cost: \$36. To register, please visit [www.lss.org/art](http://www.lss.org/art)

Sotheby's

**Teen Oneg- Game Night, Divrei Torah, Refreshments • Friday, December 16th • 7:30pm-9:00pm**

The oneg originally scheduled for November 18th has been rescheduled to Friday, December 16th.

This event will take place at the Mero home, please contact the office for the address.



## BEGINNERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You may still register for Rabbi Buchwald's **Introduction to Bible (Began Tuesday, November 1st)**. This course, which meets for another **4 weeks, from 6:30-8:00pm**, provides a general overview of the content and style of the Bible. We will review basic literary and theological approaches to Bible study, traditional and modern, through the analysis of the Biblical text. To register, please call 212-874-6100 or register online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners). **Cost: \$90, free for LSS members. No one is turned away for lack of funds.**
- The next session of the **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I & II** will meet on **Monday, November 28th at 6:30pm**, and continue for **1 more week**. The classes meet for 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners).
- The next session of the **Jewish Living Workshop** led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum will meet this **Monday, November 28th, 7:30pm-8:30pm**. The Jewish Living Workshop, a 10 sessions series, is a "hands-on" experience. We learn by doing. The workshop is free, a few sessions will require a modest fee for materials; register at [JLworkshop@yahoo.com](mailto:JLworkshop@yahoo.com) or [www.lss.org](http://www.lss.org). **Topic: Chanukah**
- Save the date! Friday and Saturday, December 23rd-24th** for the **Beginners Chanukah Shabbaton**. \$50 includes three meals (\$25 for just lunch). Don't miss it! **Payment and reservations must be received by Monday, December 19th.** Register online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners).
- Save the date! Wednesday, December 28th, 7:00 pm** for the **Beginners Annual Chanukah Bash**. Live music by Psachya Septimus. \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Register online at [www.lss.org/beginners](http://www.lss.org/beginners). Sorry, no phone reservations.



## D'var Echod B'lev Echod

Insights into the weekly Parsha and other matters at the heart of the LSS community

25 Cheshvan 5777 • November 25-26, 2016

Parshat Chayei Sara

By: Solomon Max

Avraham tells his senior servant to find a wife for his son;

לֹא תִקַּח אִשָּׁה לְבְנִי מִבְּנוֹת הַכְּנַעֲנִי אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּקִרְבּוֹ: כִּי אֶל אֶרֶצִי וְאֶל מוֹלַדְתִּי תֵלֶךְ וְלִקַּחְתָּ אִשָּׁה לְבְנִי לִיְצָחָק:

"Do not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites among whom I live. Instead you must go to my native land, my birthplace, and obtain a wife for my son Isaac."

Why were the daughters of the Canaanites excluded from consideration? There does not appear to be a divine request that demands that Avraham locate a wife for Isaac from his ancestral home. There are two streams in Judaism that have different responses. One response (the racist response) returns to the Noah story and remembers;

אָרוּר כְּנָעַן עֶבֶד עֲבָדִים יִהְיֶה לְאַחִיו: וַיֹּאמֶר בְּרוּךְ ה' אֱלֹקֵי שָׁם וַיְהִי כְנָעַן עֶבֶד לָמוֹ: יִפֹּת אֱלֹקִים לִיְפֶת וַיִּשְׁכֹּן בְּאַהֲלֵי שָׁם וַיְהִי כְנָעַן עֶבֶד לָמוֹ:

"Cursed is Canaan he shall be a slave's slave to his brothers. Blessed be Hashem, the Lord of Shem. Canaan shall be his slave. May Hashem expand Yefeth, but may he dwell in the tents of Shem. Let Canaan be their slave!"

This is noted by the Spanish Jewish philosopher and poet Judah Halevi (1075-1141 CE) in his book the Kuzari: "Every human on earth has his own potentials; consequently, an individual with perfect potentials becomes perfect, and another with imperfect potentials remains imperfect, for example, a Cushite who is able to receive nothing more than the human shape and speech in its least developed form." This racist response is not the halachic response. The argument by Yehudah Halevi is non-halachic - a tacit acceptance of the racist assumptions of the "civilized world" of his time.

In what might be thought of as divine intervention, our sages cancelled these hints of predestined inferiority. In the Talmud Berachot, all nations mentioned in the Torah are effectively declared to be non-existent.

"Sennacherib king of Assyria long ago went up and mixed up all the nations, as it says- 'I have removed the bounds of the peoples and have robbed their treasures and have brought down as one their mighty inhabitants.'"

The Talmud determined that the biblical chain of ancestry was a historical artifact that was no longer a viable method of distinguishing peoples. The halacha affirms that today there is no inherited method of connecting any person on earth with biblical curses. There are no races. A letter from the Rambam to a recent convert to Judaism highlights this fact.

A man identified as Ovadyah wrote to Rambam to ask several questions. One of them discusses the obligations of a convert. Ovadyah was not of Jewish ancestry: Could he say the standard phrases in prayer, which refer to "the Lord of our forefathers?"

Rambam answers Ovadyah's question in the affirmative: A convert should say all prayers exactly like any other Jew. "Know that most of our forefathers who left Egypt worshipped idolatry while in Egypt, 'mixed with the nations and learned from their actions,' until Hashem sent Moshe, our teacher and ... separated us from the nations, and gathered us under the wings of the Shekhina – us and all converts – and gave us all one law. Do not think lightly of your lineage; if we relate to Avraham, Yitzhak and Ya'akov, you relate to He who spoke and the World came into being...: 'This will say, 'I am to Hashem,' and this will call in the name of Ya'akov.' [Is. 44:5]] The convert will say, 'I am to Hashem,' and the Israelite will call in the name of Ya'akov."

If the halacha denies the existence of races, it does not deny the differences between ethnicities, cultures and religions. It also affirms the ability of an ethnicity to improve its moral structure – hence the seven Noachite commandments.

Avraham, when he opted for looking elsewhere for a daughter-in-law, had plausibly identified the fact that the culture of Canaan was beyond repair. The Torah—and archeological evidence—identifies the fact that child sacrifice was widely practiced in Canaan. Although Abraham's family worshipped idols they were not in the same league as the residents of Canaan. Avraham had painful memories of children being sacrificed; perhaps his decision to look elsewhere for a daughter-in-law was based on memories of the Akedah.

Modern biology has gradually begun identifying the fact, as stated in the Talmud, that all peoples are a mixture of attributes, and "race" is an erroneous concept. Biology also tells us, the more mixing, the more robust the germ line.

I have had a personal feud with the forces of racism. In census documents, or questionnaires I do not identify myself as white or Caucasian. When forced I call myself Ashkenazy.

May we live in a world where, as Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "people are judged by the content of their character."

שלום שבת

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](http://www.lss.org).

### LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS

Shirley Stark, *President* ([president@lss.org](mailto:president@lss.org))

Ian Silver, Jay Ziffer, Ari Klapholz, *Vice Presidents* Dr. Jamie Nussbaum, *Treasurer*

Michael Roxland, *Controller* Adam Herbst, *Financial Secretary*

Jackie Kotler, *Executive Secretary* Gloria Kestenbaum, *Corresponding Secretary*

Morey Wildes, *Recording Secretary*