



ECHOD

PARSHAT YITRO • 17 SHEVAT 5774 • JANUARY 17-18 2014
CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:38PM

Shaul Robinson
Rabbi
Sherwood Goffin
Senior Cantor
Yanky Lemmer
Cantor
Elana Stein Hain
Community Scholar
Lloyd Epstein
President
Ben Keil
Executive Director

Friday Evening

4:38pm: Candle Lighting
4:40pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary

Shabbat Day

7:45am: Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by Kiddush and shiur with **Rabbi Moshe Sokolow**
9:00am: Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary
9:15am: Beginners Service in room LL201 (Lower Level)
9:30am: Youth Breakfast
9:40am: Latest Shema
9:45am: Rabbi Hershel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash
9:45am: Teen Minyan in room 210 followed by kiddush.
10:00am: Tween Minyan for boys and girls in 5-7th grade in the ballroom. Includes tefilah, snacks, games & prizes.
11:15am: 9th Annual Jonathan H. Spanbock Memorial Lecture in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary. *"Inside-Outside: Biblical Leaders and Their Non-Jewish Mentors"* delivered by **Ms. Judy Klitsner**

Shabbat Afternoon

3:00pm: Bikur Cholim Meet in front of LSS. New volunteers are needed.
3:15pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash
3:45pm: Afternoon pre-mincha shiur *"Would You Murder and Also Inherit?: A Biblical Story of Crimes, Misdemeanors, and Other Addictions"* delivered by **Ms. Judy Klitsner**
3:45pm: Bible Class in room 210 with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald**
4:30pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit
5:39pm: Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

Thank you to our volunteer Security Guards, Greeters, and Ushers this Shabbat

Weekday Prayer Schedule Sunday, Jan. 19 - Friday, Jan. 24

Mincha/Ma'ariv: Sun-Thursday at 4:45 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue, Wed & Fri	Thur
Shacharit: 7:10am	Shacharit: 7:00am	Daf Yomi: 6:20am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am
Daf Yomi: 7:45am	Daf Yomi: 7:45am	Shacharit: 7:10am	Shacharit: 7:00am
Shacharit: 8:30am	Shacharit: 8:30am	Shacharit: 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:50am

If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpacha (Jewish Family Law), please contact our new Yoetzet Halacha, Lisa Septimus, at 917-382-9008 or email nycyoetzet@gmail.com.



Welcome to our Scholar-in-residence, Ms. Judy Klitsner who will be delivering the Jonathan H. Spanbock Memorial Lecture in Jewish Ethics

Judy Klitsner is a senior lecturer at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, where she has been teaching Bible and biblical exegesis for more than two decades. A disciple of the great Torah teacher Nechama Leibowitz, Judy has had a profound impact on a generation of students of whom many now serve as teachers and heads of Jewish studies programs in the US, the UK and Israel. In her teaching and in her writing, Judy weaves together traditional exegesis, modern scholarship and her own original interpretations that are informed by close readings of the biblical text. She lectures at synagogues, campuses and adult education programs throughout the US, as well as in Israel, the UK and South Africa. She is the author of *Subversive Sequels in the Bible: How Biblical Stories Mine and Undermine Each Other* (Jewish Publication Society, paperback by Koren Publishers), which received a 2009 National Jewish book award.



Thank You To Our Kiddush Sponsors

Hashkama Kiddush

Sponsored by the Fund

Main Kiddush

Sponsored by **Marion and Maurice Spanbock** in memory of their son, **Jonathan Spanbock, z"l**, and in honor of the Jonathan Spanbock Memorial Lecture in Jewish Ethics.

Beginners Kiddush

Sponsored by **Kim Gantz Wexler and Sanford Wexler** in commemoration of the yahrtzeits of their fathers, **Emanuel Gantz** and **Nathan Wexler**; and by **Ilan and Aviva Itzhak**, for **Rabbi Buchwald**, the Rabbanit, and the Beginners Service, in gratitude for the beautiful Ketubah and for our chatuna.

Seudah Shlishit

Sponsored by **Mark Hus & Shirley Stark** and **Susan Stark** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Shirley and Susan's father, **Eliyahu ben Chaim Dov, z"l**. CoSponsored by **Susan Ruttner** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her father-in-law, **Moish Weinman, z"l**; and by **Ron Goldofsky**, in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of his father, **Yitzchak ben Eliyahu, z"l**.

Mazal Tov To Our Members

- ◆ Mazal Tov to **Gefen and Adi Ehrman Loebenberg** on their Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat in Raanana, Israel. Mazal Tov to parents **Mark and Alyssa**, grandparents **Fred and Suzan Ehrman** and Uncles **Eric and Jeremy**.
- ◆ Mazal Tov to **Esty and Eyal Shavitzky** on the birth of a baby girl. We welcome the three of them as new members to the LSS community!

Please Note: We are aware that the main sanctuary Hearing Induction Loop is not yet operational, and we are doing our best to expedite its activation. We apologize for the delay.

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES with THE JOSEPH SHAPIRO INSTITUTE

SUNDAY

- Midrash on the Upcoming Parsha
Dr. Ben Elton • 9:15am

TUESDAY

- Parsha Class
Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 10:30 am
- Tuesday Beit Midrash Night
8:15-9:15pm • *Chavurot led by LSS members:*
 - ◊ Tanach Survey: The Books of Samuel and Kings.
Led by **Marcy Zwecker** and **Robyn Mitchnick**.
 - ◊ The First Book of Samuel: Politics and Kingship.
Led by **Ron Platzer**.
 - ◊ The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai.
Led by **Sara Brzowsky**.

WEDNESDAY

- Talmudic Methodology
Rabbi Dennis Weiss • 7:30pm
- Talmudic Tales of 'the Other' 3-week series (NEW)
With **Ms. Ilana Gadish** • 7:15pm
- Wednesday Beit Midrash Night
8:15-9:15pm • *Chavurot led by LSS members:*
 - ◊ Yiddish Writings of the Rav.
Led by **Moshe Sheinwexler**.
 - ◊ Your People Shall be My People—Now What?
Led by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**
 - ◊ (NEW!) The Laws of Prayer through the Mishnah Berurah
Led by **Dr. Ben Elton**

THURSDAY

- The Jacob Adler Parsha Class
Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7pm

For more information on all the weekly learning opportunities, visit lss.org/classes

Youth Announcements

Youth Groups Shabbat Schedule

Youth Breakfast at 9:30
Pre-K: 10:00 am — Room 208
K and 1st grade: 10:00 am — Room 207
2nd - 4th Grade: 10:00 am — Room 206
Teen Minyan: 9:45am — Room 210
Tween Minyan: 10:00am—Ballroom

Bingo

Shabbat Morning right after davening in the ballroom, ages 4 and up.

It's LSS's newest craze! Kids of all ages play BINGO for fun and prizes!

Parent Child learning

Parent Child Learning will meet again this Motza'e Shabbat from 6:30-7:30. Pizza and refreshments will be served, there'll be a raffle, and Children of all ages and their Parents are invited! FREE

Upcoming Youth Events

The Challenge of Dinosaurs-

Sunday January 26th, 10am-Noon, Teens, Tweens and Adults. FREE.

Rabbi Natan Slifkin will be giving a presentation on Judaism, dinosaurs, and the age of the universe.

Simchah Dancing

Sunday February 2nd, 10am-11:30am, Girls 5th grade and up. \$18. Learn the steps to your favorite Simcha dances. RSVP please email avi@lss.org.

We had a wonderful inaugural Parent Child learning and a great Tu B'shvat event this past week!



LSS Security Update – January 18, 2014

Thanks to this week's security volunteers:

Gale Kaufman, Bill Greenbaum, Harvey Stein, and Lenny Davidman

LSS security volunteers are committed to protecting all those who enter our shul from threats to our safety.

Q. What is your role?

A. Report suspicious activity

If you see suspicious activity, please report it to shul security - this can save lives. When reporting give the most accurate description possible:

- Brief description of the activity
- Location of the activity
- Physical identifiers of anyone you observed
- Descriptions of vehicles
- Information about where the people involved in the suspicious activity may have gone
- If there is a **life threatening emergency**, please call 911. LSS needs you to join the security committee. Contact **Harvey Stein**, Head of Security security@lss.org **If you see something, say something. Exit the shul only through the main lobby. All other exits are for emergencies only.**

Beginners Announcements

- **Hebrew Reading Crash Courses Level I and Level II** began on **Monday, January 13th at 6:30 pm**. The classes meet for 1½ hours, for **4 more weeks**, and are free and open to all. Register at www.beginners.lss.org.
- Save the date! Register now for **Introduction to Bible: The 10 Commandments** with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald (**Begins Tuesday, January 28th, 2014 6:30-8:00pm**). An in-depth study and analysis of the Decalogue (the Ten Commandments) and other basic biblical texts. The religious significance of the Bible, scriptural exegesis and the relationship of the written and oral law will be discussed and analyzed. To register, please call **212-874-6100** or register online at www.beginners.lss.org. Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. **No one will be turned away for lack of funds.**
- Save the date! The next **Beginners Luncheon** will be **Shabbat, February 1st, 2014**. The cost is still only \$20. Please make your reservations by **Thursday, January 30th**. You can register online at www.beginners.lss.org or call **212-874-6100**.

The Lea Segre Tomchei Shabbos Fund discreetly distributes thousands of dollars to our own community members to defray the costs of Shabbat and Yom Tov meals and clothing. Help yourself and your neighbors by sending your contributions, earmarked for LSTSF to the LSS office. If you are aware of any LSS community member (including yourself) who could benefit from a Shabbat meal, please let us know by contacting the LSS office or by confidential email to rabbi@lss.org.

Featured Upcoming Events

CLE Class with Rabbi Professor Daniel Sinclair

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 28, and Feb. 4 • 6:30-8:00pm

CLE class that will examine Jewish Law and its application to a variety of contemporary issues. The presenter will be Rabbi Professor Daniel Sinclair, a master teacher who is a highly respected authority on biomedical, Jewish law, the jurisprudence of Jewish law, and more. The cost is **\$72 for 1 lecture**, **\$118 for 2 lectures**, or **\$154 for 3 lectures**. To see the topics of each lecture and to register visit lss.org/cle. **Next Week's Topic: Agunah**



Matters of Faith

January 21, January 28, and February 4 • 7:15pm

A series co-led by the UJA-Federation of NY Tov B'Yachad** This three-weeks series offers an open space to share and discuss some of the big questions of Jewish belief from both Jewish and personal perspectives. **Registration is now closed.**

Museum Tour of "The Jewish Renaissance in Italy and England" exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Sunday, January 19 • 10:30am

Guided tour by **Dr. Rachael Goldman**, experienced tour guide and award-winning lecturer. Pre-registration is required.

The cost is \$30 • Limited to the first 30 registrants.



BLISS Relationship Seminar

The seven-week series begins on Monday January 27th • 6:30-8:00pm

An incredible entertaining way to a winning relationship taught by Rabbi Steven Baars. *Only \$49 per person for all seven weeks.*

Nach B'Iyun: Sefer Shmuel 1 with Rabbi Hayyim Angel

Wednesdays, January 29-April 2 • 7:15pm

Co-sponsored by the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals. The cost is \$20 per class in advance \$25 at the door, or \$150 for the complete 10-week series. Pre-register at lss.org/rabbiangel



"The Challenge of Dinosaurs," a unique presentation by Rabbi Natan Slifkin, "Zoo Rabbi"

Sunday, January 26, 2014 • 10:00am

A unique presentation of Judaism, Dinosaurs, and the Age of the Universe. For adults, teens, and preteens. Made possible by the generous sponsorship of our members **Hertzie and Lolly Bak**.



Young Professionals "First Friday" Dinner and Oneg

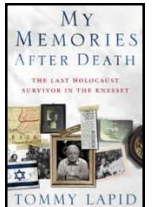
Friday, January 31 • 6:15pm. Followed by Oneg

Inaugural "First Fridays" event will feature a dinner with a Q and A with Rabbi Shaul Robinson and Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld. The dinner will be followed by an Oneg featuring Chazzan Yanky Lemmer. The cost is \$40 per person, \$136 to sponsor the Oneg.

Book Club Meeting- "Memories After My Death: The Story of Joseph 'Tommy' Lapid" by Yair Lapid.

Sunday, February 9 • 7:30pm

We'll discuss "Memories After My Death: The Story of Joseph 'Tommy' Lapid", by Yair Lapid, his son, and the current Israeli Minister of Finance and the Chairman of the Yesh Atid Party. Professor Jerome Chanes will lead the discussion at the home of Joyce and David Friedman.



****Tov B'Yachad communicates the shared values of UJA-Federation and the Orthodox community.**

**Visit our website at lss.org for more information or to register for the featured events above,
and to find out about all of the other exciting upcoming events**

STAND WITH ISRAEL

LSS is offering 2 exciting opportunities to stand with Israel and advocate on her behalf to the people that make a difference- The U.S. Congress. Help to solidify America's commitment to its greatest ally in the Middle East. At a time when Israel is under attack from the BDS movement, academic groups and anti-Israel lobbying groups your voice needs to be heard!!

AIPAC: Join with us for the AIPAC Policy Conference on March 2-4.

NORPAC: Join with over 1000 participants on the NORPAC one day mission to Washington on April 30th. The bus will leave from in front of LSS. Three Kosher meals will be provided. Early Bird Discount expires 2/17/14. Register at www.NORPAC.net.

Contact Dan Feder dfeder02@aol.com for more info.

In case of a bereavement, please call
646-543-7485 (day or night)

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

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Sitting in Judgment

At the beginning of this week's Parashah, we find a fascinating discussion between Yitro and his son-in-law, Moshe, regarding Moshe's interaction with *B'nei Yisrael*. This was Yitro's first real observation of the Jewish people, and he noticed something that deeply troubled him.

What is it that really troubled Yitro about what he saw?

וַיֵּרָא חִתֵּן מֹשֶׁה, אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-הוּא עֹשֶׂה לָעָם; וַיֹּאמֶר, מֶה-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה עֹשֶׂה לָעָם--מִדּוּעַ אַתָּה יּוֹשֵׁב לְבַדְּךָ, וְכָל-הָעָם נֹצֵב עֲלֶיךָ מִן-בֹּקֶר עַד-עָרֶב.

And when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did to the people, he said: 'What is this thing that you do to the people? Why sit yourself, alone, and all the people stand about you from morning unto evening?' (Exodus, 18:14).

The classical explanation of what is going on in this episode is that Yitro is telling Moshe that he must delegate and create a judicial system, lest he become too overwhelmed, tire, and the current *modus operandi* fall apart.

However, there Rashi makes a striking comment that may lead us to a more nuanced understanding of Yitro's critique: "He [Moshe] would sit like a king and they [the nation] would all stand. This troubled Yitro: that he [Moshe] would degrade the honor of Israel, and he reproached him for that..." The issue, explains Rashi, is not that Moshe would fatigue, but that he thought of himself as a "king," in all its honor and glory. Other commentators, however, attempt to defuse Rashi's harsh critique.

Indeed, Yitro says, "What is this that that you're doing to the people?" implying that Moshe was doing something negative. Further, after explaining to Yitro why Moshe does what he does, Yitro responds: "לֹא-טוֹב, הַדָּבָר, אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה עֹשֶׂה." "The thing that you do is not good (Exodus 18:17)." This is not to say that Moshe intended any harm, but rather that he was likely unaware of the lofty status of his relationship with the people.

But what *really* is the problem with Moshe doing this? So what if he views himself as a 'king' and as the sole spiritual leader and connection to God?

Later on in *Sefer Shemot*, we encounter the Sin of the Golden Calf. A compelling explanation for why *B'nei Yisrael* sinned is because they believed that they had lost Moshe, whom they viewed as a sort of demigod, and as their sole way of connecting to Hashem, and thus felt the need to find – or to create -- a replacement.

This unfortunate faltering of *B'nei Yisrael*, as well as the power that Moshe had over the people, may be precisely what Yitro is so worried about. Yitro tells Moshe to delegate not only so that he does not become worn out, but also because of the dangers of what might happen if he does not. Yitro says, "וְכָל-הָעָם יִבְאָה בְּשָׁלוֹם." The Rashbam interprets "ונבלי תבלי" mean confusion -- namely, that Moshe and the people will become confused. They will become confused as to how they should relate to Hashem and how they view their leader, Moshe. Moshe, at that time, was their central cohesive force, *sine qua non*. Therefore, Yitro suggests that Moshe appoint others, in order to show others how to lead, so that there would not be excessive concentration of power.

Thus, Yitro ends by stating: "אם תעשה, וצוך א-להים, ויכלית עמד; וגם כל-העם הזה, על-מקמו יבא בשלום." "If you shall do this thing, and God command you so, then you shall be able to stand, and all this people also shall go to their place in peace." Yitro says, if you listen to me and "stand" -- i.e., not sit like a king in front of your people, but see them eye to eye -- then you will succeed, and the people will "go to their place in peace" -- they will arrive at their destination, *Eretz Yisrael*, their spiritual journey, successfully.