



ECHOD

16 SIVAN 5774 • PARSHAT SH'LACH
JUNE 13-14, 2014 • CANDLE LIGHTING: 8:11PM

Shaul Robinson
Rabbi
Sherwood Goffin
Senior Cantor
Yanky Lemmer
Cantor
Lloyd Epstein
President
Ben Keil
Executive Director

Friday Evening

6:45pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**.

6:55pm: Earliest Candle Lighting

8:11pm: Candle Lighting

8:15pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary

Shabbat Morning

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 led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**. Drasha by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**.

9:09am: Latest Shema

9:15am: Beginners Service led by **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in room LL201 (Lower Level)

9:30am: Youth Breakfast

9:45am: Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash. Drasha by **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld**.

Shabbat Afternoon

4:00pm: Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim meet in front of LSS. New volunteers are needed.

6:25pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash

6:55pm: Bible Class **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in room 211

6:55pm: Louis Lazar Memorial Pre-Mincha Shiur by **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld**: *False Messiahs, Charlatans, & Prophetic Pretenders: Halakha, History, & Hashkafa - Two-Part Summer Special*

7:55pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit

9:11pm: Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends

Join us this Shabbat for a special Youth "Shalosh Sushi"

June 14th, 7pm-8:15pm in room 206/207



There'll be sushi and speaker; open to 4-8th graders.

Welcome to the newest member of our LSS Community

Stephen S. Rabinowitz

Weekday Prayer Schedule Sunday, June 15 - Friday, June 20

Mincha/Ma'ariv: Sun-Thurs at 8:15pm

Sunday	Mon & Thurs	Tues, Wed, & Fri
Shacharit: 7:10am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am	Daf Yomi: 6:20am
Daf Yomi: 7:45am	Shacharit: 7:00am	Shacharit: 7:10am
Shacharit: 8:30am	Shacharit: 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:50am

Thank You To Our Kiddush Sponsors

Hashkama Kiddush

Sponsors Welcome

Main Kiddush

Sponsored anonymously in honor of a member couple's 62nd wedding anniversary.

Beginners Service Kiddush

Sponsored by the Beginners in honor of **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**; and by **Isabelle Sarah Kish** in honor of the 41st wedding anniversary of her parents, **Linda & Marty Kish**, and in honor of **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald**.

Seudah Shlishit

Sponsored by **Sydell Roth** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her beloved husband, **Joseph Roth, z"l**.

Mazal Tov To Our Members

- Mazal Tov to **Ilene and Lou Vynereb** on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, **Colette**, daughter of their children **Jennifer and David Vynereb**.
- Mazal Tov to grandparents **Sharon and Avram Blumenthal** on the birth of a baby boy, to their children **Chaim and Leora Blumenthal** in Israel. Mazal Tov to siblings **Elimelech, Esti, and Rivka**.
- Mazal Tov to grandparents **Gale and James Kaufman** on the birth of a baby boy, to their children **Joanna and Sam Kaufman**.
- Mazal Tov to **Rivka Abbe**, daughter of **Judy and Cyrus Abbe**, on being featured this week in the *Jewish Press* for her exceptional Israel Advocacy work for NSCY.
- Mazal Tov to Grandmother **Rita Lourie-Galena** on the birth of a baby boy, to her children **Seth and Hindy Galena**.

Mazal Tov Graduating Class of 2014!
See page 3 for the full list of graduates.



Please welcome our new members (100 in the last 12 months!) at our New Member Social (Next Shabbat)
Shabbat afternoon, June 21st • From 4-6pm

Join Rabbi Robinson and other clergy and officers as new and veteran members get better acquainted. Children are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Brain-Storming Session for Active Retirees at LSS

Sunday, June 15th, 11:30am - Beit Midrash

Attention Active Retirees: Discussion on how we can partner with LSS to develop programs and other activities to enhance our lives.

Join us for what we hope to be a fruitful discussion on future programs, volunteer opportunities, and activities for Active Retirees. If you can't come, but have some ideas, please email your thoughts to info@lss.org. Please include **Active Retirees** in the subject line. See flyer outside the main sanctuary for more details.

Pictures from the 2014 Golden Jubilee Annual Dinner can now be viewed on our website! If you would like to share your personal pictures from the evening, please email them to info@lss.org.

Join our community. Go to lss.org/become-a-member.html

Weekly Learning Opportunities – lss.org/classes

TUESDAY

- **Parsha Class w/ Rabbi Shaul Robinson** • 10:30 am
- **Tuesday Beit Midrash Night** • 8:15-9:15pm
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

- **Nach B'lyun, Sefer Shmuel w/ Rabbi Angel** • 7:15pm-8:15pm
For more details and to sign up, visit lss.org/RabbiAngel. \$20 per class.
- **Wednesday Beit Midrash Night** • 8:15-9:15pm
8:15-9:15pm • *Chavurot led by LSS members*
 - ◇ Yiddish Writings of the Rav. (7pm)
Led by **Moshe Sheinwexler**.

THURSDAY

- **Jacob Adler Parsha Class w/ Rabbi Shaul Robinson** • 7:00pm

Youth Announcements – lss.org/youth

Math Circle will continue to meet on Monday nights from 6-8pm in room 208. Open to children in 4th grade and up. Contact hjstein@gmail.com

Youth Groups Shabbat Schedule

Youth Breakfast at 9:30

Pre-K: 10:00 am — Room 206

K and 1st grade: 10:00 am — Room 207

2nd- 4th Grade (girls): 10:00 am — Room 217

2nd- 4th Grade (boys): 10:00 am — Room 208

Tween Minyan: 10:00am— Ballroom

Beginners Announcements

- **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** will teach the 2nd of the 3 session **FREE Crash Course in Basic Judaism** at **East Hill Synagogue in Englewood, NJ at 255 Walnut Street** on Tuesday evening June 17, at **7:00PM**. To register, please visit www.njop.org/get-involved/events/crashcourse or call **646-871-4444**. This week's topics: **The Sabbath and Jewish Observance**.
- New sessions of the **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level I** will begin **Monday, June 23rd, 2014 at 6:30pm**. The 5 classes last 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at www.beginners.lss.org.

VOLUNTEER AND CHESED OPPORTUNITIES – LSS NEEDS YOU!

Volunteer for LSS! Volunteers are needed to assist with computer work in the shul office with updating our database and preparing mailings. We also need creative individuals to help with designing promotional flyers and emails. Please call the office at 212-874-6100 or email info@lss.org.

West Side Mikvah – 236 West 74th Street, 212-579-2011, www.westsidemikvah.com. If you have questions regarding *taharat hamishpacha* (Jewish family law), please contact Rabbi Robinson. Please consider making a donation to the Mikvah by making a check payable to LSS Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, with "UWS Mikvah" in the memo.

Sign Language Interpreters available upon request. Please email inclusion@lss.org if you are in need of such services at LSS. We thank UJA-Federation of NY for their support through their **NY Jewish Community Deaf Interpreter Fund** administered by **The Jewish Deaf Resource Center**.

Security volunteers are needed to help protect our LSS family on Shabbat and holidays. To sign up or request information, email security@lss.org or speak to any volunteer. Security and safety are the responsibility of all shulgoers. Be aware of suspicious objects as you approach the shul and as you enter any room. Make it a habit to check under and near your seats when you sit down. And consider joining our security volunteers. Contact Harvey Stein (hjstein@gmail.com) for details.

Tehillim Circle – Meets every Monday at 8:00 pm at the home of Karin Feldhamer. Tehillim are recited for the sick, for *shiduchim* and for the soldiers in Israel.

Hospitality - Be a part of a warm enriching enhancement to your Shabbat experience. Visit lss.org/hospitality to explore how easily you can make a difference to others.

Seating for parents and children:

We have reserved several seats in the men and women's sections for parents with children. These seats are marked with signs and teddy bears. Please help us give a warm welcome to parents and their little ones by leaving those seats open. Thank you!



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.

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.

LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS

Lloyd Epstein, *President* (president@lss.org)

Michael Doppelt, Alan Samuels, Shirley Stark, *Vice Presidents* Ian Silver, *Treasurer*

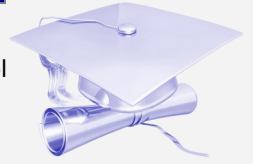
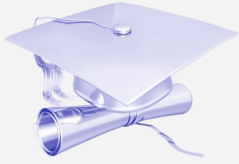
Josh Neuman, *Controller* Ari Klapholz, *Financial Secretary*

Debra Verstandig, *Executive Secretary* Jay Ziffer, *Corresponding Secretary*

Morey Wildes, *Recording Secretary*

You may contact our officers by emailing Officers@lss.org

MAZAL TOV TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014



Elementary/Middle School Graduates

Gabrielle Broome, Daughter of **Bernard Broome and Donna Mirman** - Manhattan Day School
Max and Riva Cogan, Son and Daughter of **Naomi and Jesse Cogan** - Manhattan Day School
Sophia Feder, Daughter of **Valerie and Dan Feder** - Ramaz Middle School
Jacob Feit-Mann, Son of **Dr. Allison Feit and Jordan Mann** - Manhattan Day School
Julian and Sarina Kofman, Son and Daughter of **Chavie Kahn and Heshy Kofman** - Manhattan Day School
Ariella Robinson, Daughter of **Rabbi Shaul and Sarah Robinson** - Manhattan Day School
Sophie Samuels, Daughter of **Robyn and Alan Samuels** - Manhattan Day School
Debra Schwartzben, Daughter of **Jill and Dov Schwartzben** - Manhattan Day School
Lily Snyder, Daughter of **Dr. Stephen and Bluma Snyder** - Manhattan Day School
Zachary Wildes, Grandson of **Fran and Jonah Kupietzky**; Nephew of **Steven Kupietzky** - Westchester Day School

High School Graduates

Nosson Tzvi Adler, Grandson of **Ilene and Lou Vynerib** - Yeshiva Degel Hatorah
Anna and Jamie Cappell, Daughter and Son of **Marcie and Ken Cappell** - Ramaz Upper School
Mayer, Menachem, and Moshe Horwitz, Sons of **Janet and Samuel Horwitz**; Grandsons of **Helene Horwitz** - Yeshiva University High School for Boys
Becky Laufer, Daughter of **Miriam and Michael Laufer** - S.A.R. Academy
Esther Robinson, Daughter of **Rabbi Shaul and Sarah Robinson** - Maayanot Yeshiva High School
Tikva Sonnenberg, Granddaughter of **Shari and Joseph Sonnenberg** - Pninei Chen High School in Ramat Beit Shemesh

College and Graduate School Graduates

Yehudis Adler, Granddaughter of **Ilene and Lou Vynerib** - Seminary V'At Alis
David Aaron Cinamon, Son of **Francine and Jay Cinamon** - Brooklyn Law School
Daniel Ellowitz, Grandson of **Lenore and Jack Brown** - B.A., Clark University
Jonathan Ellowitz, Grandson of **Lenore and Jack Brown** - Masters in Engineering, MIT
Jake Ellowitz, Grandson of **Lenore and Jack Brown** - Ph.D. in Physics, University of Chicago
Sarah Sue Landau, Daughter of **Bobbie Sue Daitch and David Landau** - B.A., Brandeis University
Aaron Shapiro, Grandson of **Ruth Bernstein** - B.A., Babson College
Cody Simons, Son of **David Simons** - B.S., Loyola University
Batsheva Sonnenberg, Granddaughter of **Shari and Joseph Sonnenberg** - M.S.W, University of Maryland
Eva Zenilman, Granddaughter of **Dorothy Zenilman** - B.A., Emory University

Featured Upcoming Events– lss.org/events



Active Retirees Brain-Storming Meeting

Sunday, June 15th • 11:30am

Join us for what we hope to be a fruitful discussion on future programs, volunteer opportunities, and activities for Active Retirees.



Rabbi Hayyim Angel's Book Launch

Monday, June 16th • 7:30pm

Join us for the launch of Rabbi Hayyim Angel's new book: *Peshat Isn't So Simple: Essays on Developing a Religious Methodology to Bible Study*. Presentations by Rabbi Shaul Robinson and Rabbi Marc D. Angel, and shiur by Rabbi Hayyim Angel. Books will be available for purchase and signing.



Ma'aleh Film

Thursday, June 19th • 6:45pm • \$10

Join us for an evening of short films, with a talk about the Ma'aleh film school by a graduate who worked on the production teams of *Srugim* and *Shtisel*.



Rabbi Dr. Natan Ophir's Recollection of Reb Shlomo Carlebach's Visit to LSS

Shabbat, June 21st • 8:15pm

Join us at Seudah Shlishit where Rabbi Dr. Natan Ophir (Offenbacher) will discuss "**Reb Shlomo Carlebach's Visit To LSS 20 years ago**".



New Member Social

Shabbat, June 21st • 4:00pm

Meet the newest members of our LSS Community at our annual new member social. Children are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



Young Professionals Lunch

Shabbat, June 28th

More details to follow...

The Torah begins in Parashat Bereshit with a narrative describing the creation of the world – culminating in the *Shabbat* – the day of rest. Towards the end of Shlach we learn of the Israelite who violates *Shabbat* and is punished. This passage is one of two narratives in the Torah describing an individual whose transgression is adjudicated and a punishment executed.

וַיְהִי בְּנִי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמִדְבָּר וַיִּמְצְאוּ אִישׁ מִקִּשְׁשׁ עֵצִים בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת: וַיִּקְרְבוּ אוֹתוֹ הַמִּצְאִים אוֹתוֹ מִקִּשְׁשׁ עֵצִים אֶל מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל כָּל הָעֵדָה: וַיִּנַּחוּ אוֹתוֹ בְּמִשְׁמֶר כִּי לֹא פָרַשׁ מִהַ עֲשֵׂה לוֹ: וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל מֹשֶׁה מוֹת יוֹמָת הָאִישׁ כִּגּוֹם אוֹתוֹ בְּאֲבָנִים כָּל הָעֵדָה מִחוּץ לַמַּחֲנֶה: וַיֵּצִיאוּ אוֹתוֹ כָּל הָעֵדָה אֶל מִחוּץ לַמַּחֲנֶה וַיִּרְגְּמוּ אוֹתוֹ בְּאֲבָנִים וַיָּמָת כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה ה' אֶת מֹשֶׁה:

While the Israelites were in the desert, they discovered a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath. The ones who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses, Aaron, and the entire community. Since it was not specified what must be done to him, they placed him under guard. Hashem said to Moses, "That man must die. Let the entire community pelt him with stones outside the camp." The entire community took him outside the camp and pelted him to death with stones. It was done as Hashem had commanded. (Shemot 15)

The other instance occurs in the book of Leviticus in Parashat Emor where a man who blasphemed Hashem's name was ultimately stoned to death. The punishments for Sabbath violations grate on modern sensibilities. Even many Charedim do not demand the death penalty for Sabbath violators, though they express confidence that such punishments will be established with the arrival of the final redemption. What has changed since the time the Torah was given? In the book of Jeremiah, before the destruction of the first Temple, another response to the violation of Shabbat is described.

כֹּה אָמַר ה' הַשְׁמְרוּ בְּנִפְשׁוֹתֵיכֶם וְאֵל תִּשְׁאוּ מִשָּׂא בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וְהַבְּאִתֶּם בְּשַׁעְרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם: וְלֹא תוֹצִיאוּ מִשָּׂא מִבֵּיתְכֶם בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וְכָל מְלָאכָה לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ וְקִדְשְׁתֶּם אֶת יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי אֶת אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם: וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ וְלֹא הָטוּ אֶת אָזְנָם וַיִּקְשׂוּ אֶת עַרְפֹּם לְבַלְתִּי [שְׁמוֹעַ] וּלְבַלְתִּי קַחַת מוֹסֵר: וְהָיָה אִם שָׁמַעַתְּמוּ אֵלַי נָא אֶת ה' לְבַלְתִּי הִבִּי מִשָּׂא בְשַׁעְרֵי הָעִיר הַזֹּאת בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וְלִקְדֹשׁ אֶת יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְבַלְתִּי עֲשׂוֹת [בּוֹ] כָּל מְלָאכָה: וּבָאוּ בְשַׁעְרֵי הָעִיר הַזֹּאת מְלָכִים וְשָׂרִים יֹשְׁבִים עַל כִּסֵּא דָוִד רִכְבִּים בָּרֶכֶב וּבִסּוּסִים הֵמָּה וְשָׂרֵיהֶם אִישׁ יְהוּדָה וַיִּשְׁבִּי יְרוּשָׁלַם וַיִּשְׁכַּח הָעִיר הַזֹּאת לְעוֹלָם: וְאִם לֹא תִשְׁמְעוּ אֵלַי לִקְדֹשׁ אֶת יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וּלְבַלְתִּי שְׂאֵת מִשָּׂא וּבָא בְשַׁעְרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וְהַצַּתִּי אֵשׁ בְּשַׁעְרֶיהָ וְאָכְלָה אֶרְמִנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם וְלֹא תִכְבֶּה:

So said the Lord: Beware for your souls and carry no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring [burden] into the gates of Jerusalem. Neither shall you take a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day nor perform any labor, and you shall hallow the Sabbath day as I commanded your forefathers. But they did not listen, neither did they pay attention, and they hardened their necks to not listen and to not receive instruction. And it shall be if you listen to Me, says the Lord, not to bring any burden into the gates of this city on the Sabbath day and to sanctify the Sabbath day and not to perform any labor, Then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on David's throne, riding in chariots and with horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city shall be inhabited forever..... And if you will not listen to Me to sanctify the Sabbath day and not to carry burdens and to come into the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath, I will kindle a fire in her gates, and it will consume the palaces of Jerusalem, and the fires will not be quenched. (Jeremiah 17).

After the destruction of the first Temple and construction of the second Temple, Nehemiah reports another instance of Sabbath desecration:

בַּיָּמִים הָהֵמָּה נֹאֲתִי בִיהוּדָה דְּרָכִים גָּתוֹת בְּשַׁבָּת וּמִבֵּיאוֹת הָעֲרָמוֹת וְעַמָּסִים עַל הַחֲמָרִים וְאִף יַיִן עֲנָבִים וְתַאֲנִים וְכָל מִשָּׂא וּמִבֵּיאוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וְאֶעֱדִי בְּיוֹם מִכְרָם צִיד: וְהַצִּירִים יֹשְׁבוּ בָּהּ מִבֵּיאוֹת דָּאָג וְכָל מִכָּר וּמוֹכְרִים בְּשַׁבָּת לְבִנֵּי יְהוּדָה וּבִירוּשָׁלַם: וְאֶרְיָבָה אֶת חֲרִי יְהוּדָה וְאֶמְרָה לָהֶם מָה הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹשִׂים וּמַחֲלִילִים אֶת יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת: הֲלוֹא כֹה עָשׂוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם וַיָּבֵאוּ אֶלְקִינוּ עָלֵינוּ אֶת כָּל הַרְעָה הַזֹּאת וְעַל הָעִיר הַזֹּאת וְאַתֶּם מוֹסִיפִים חֲרוֹן עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל לַחֲלֹל אֶת הַשַּׁבָּת: וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר צִלְּלוּ שַׁעְרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם לִפְנֵי הַשַּׁבָּת וְאֶמְרָה וַיִּסְגְּרוּ הַדְּלָתוֹת וְאֶמְרָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִפְתְּחוּם עַד אַחֵר הַשַּׁבָּת וּמִנְעָרֵי הָעֲמֻדָּתִי עַל הַשַּׁעְרִים לֹא יָבוֹאוּ מִשָּׂא בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת: וַיִּלְנוּ הָרֹכְלִים וּמְכָרֵי כָל מִמְכָּר מִחוּץ לְיְרוּשָׁלַם פָּעַם וּשְׂתִים: וְאֶעֱדָה בָּהֶם וְאֶמְרָה אֲלֵיהֶם מִדּוּעַ אַתֶּם לֹנִים נֶגֶד הַחוּמָה אִם תִּשְׁנוּ יָד אֲשַׁלַּח בָּכֶם מִן הָעֵת הַזֶּה לֹא בָּאוּ בְּשַׁבָּת:

In those days I saw in Judah men treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading them on asses; and also wine, grapes, and figs, and all kinds of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day; and I warned them on the day when they sold food. Men of Tyre, who lived there, brought fish, and all kinds of ware, and sold on the Sabbath to the people of Judah, and in Jerusalem. Then I confronted the nobles of Judah, and said to them, "What evil thing is this that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day?" Did not your fathers act this way, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? Yet you bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath. And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and gave orders that they should not be opened till after the Sabbath; and I set some of my servants at the gates, that no burden should be brought in on the Sabbath day. And the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice. And I warned them, and said to them, "Why do you lodge before the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you". From that time on they did not come more on the Sabbath. (Nehemiah 13).

A subtle change had occurred. Jeremiah and Nehemiah did not demand that those who violate the Shabbat go through a judicial process that would sentence them to be stoned to death. They describe a society where religious observance is not coerced, but is preached by religious leaders to the people and restricted by civil law. The benefits of observing the law are emphasized, while the punishments mentioned are the long-term consequences of sin. This method of encouraging religious observance is familiar to us. The Rabbis long ago noted the impracticality of coercion and instead established legal principles that kept the original drastic penalties in place but did not actually carry out the punishments.

May we take advantage of the precedents of history and observe the Shabbat as required by our tradition even if we are not subject to coercive sanctions.

שבת שלום