



ECHOD

15 CHESHVAN 5775 • NOVEMBER 7-8, 2014
PARSHAT VAYERA • CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:28PM

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

Friday Evening

4:28pm: Candle Lighting
4:30pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary

Shabbat Morning

7:45am: Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by Kiddush and shiur with **Rabbi Moshe Sokolow**
8:30am: *The Siddur In Depth* with **Rabbi Ben Elton** in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
This Week's Topic: *The Location of Mashiv HaRuach*
9:00am: Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary.
Drasha by **Rabbi Shaul Robinson**
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**
9:05am: Latest Shema

Shabbat Afternoon

Now at Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society meets in front of LSS.
3:00pm: New volunteers are needed.
3:00pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Moshe Sheinwexler** in the Belfer Beit Midrash
3:30pm: Bible Class in room 211 with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald**
4:15pm: Mincha in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary followed by Seudah Shlishit
5:27pm: Ma'ariv/Shabbat Ends in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary

Security Notice

All bags are subject to search. Please enter and exit the shul only through the main entrance. Never exit through the front of the main women's section. If you see something - or someone - say something. Contact Ian Silver the LSS head of security to volunteer security@lss.org.

Weekday Prayer Schedule

Sunday, Nov 9nd - Friday, Nov 14th

Mincha/Ma'ariv: Sun - Thurs at 4:30pm

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

Mazal Tov to our Members

- Mazal Tov to **Debra and Adam Verstandig** on the birth of a baby boy, whose *brit milah* is scheduled for Shabbat afternoon.
- Mazal Tov to **Richard Zinaman** on the birth of a baby boy, **Judah**, to his children, **Andrew and Jessica Zinaman**.
- Mazal Tov to **Jonathan and Rachel Neumark Herlands** on the birth of a baby boy to their children, **Nannette Herlands and Wesley Ludwig**.
- Mazal Tov to New York Marathon finishers **Michael Doppelt** and **Ron Goldofsky**.
- Mazal Tov to **Cyrus Abbe** for producing and performing a thousand free musical programs in hospitals, shelters and nursing homes over 50 years since November, 1964.

Thank you to our Sponsors

Hashkama Kiddush

Sponsored by the Fund.

Beginners Service Kiddush

Sponsored by **David, Rivka, and MJ Gorin** in celebration of the birth of their new daughter, **Chana Bracha**, on October 30.

Main Kiddush

Sponsored by **Jane and Warren Weiss** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of their daughter, **Diane Weiss, a"h**.

Seudah Shlishit

Sponsored by **Debra and Adam Verstandig** in celebration of the birth and *brit milah* of their son.

Sponsored by **Mark Hus & Shirley Stark and Susan Stark** in memory of Shirley and Susan's mother, **Hanna Stark, a"h**.

Thank you to our volunteer greeters, and ushers this Shabbat.

SAVE THE DATE

Chanukah Dinner & Music Festival
Motza'ei Shabbat- December 20th, 2014



For more details and to sign up, visit lss.org/MusicFestival

מי ימלל גבורות ישראל

Weekly Learning Opportunities

MONDAY

- [The Jewish Living Workshop](#) • 7:30-8:30pm
See flyer for more details
- [Mini-mester](#) with **Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld** • 7pm
Will resume with, *20th Century Jewish Philosophy & Philosophers*: Nov. 17th, Nov. 24th, & Dec. 1st.

TUESDAY

- [Parsha Class](#) w/ **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** • 10:30am
- [Intro to Bible](#) w/ **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** • 6:30-8pm
- [Tuesday Beit Midrash Night](#) • 7:30-9:15pm
- Tanach Survey: The Books of Samuel and Kings
Facilitated by Marcy Zwecker and Robyn Mitchnick
- Politics and Kingship: The Book of Samuel
(Currently following Ma'ariv) Facilitated by Ron Platzer
- [Faith and Prayer Class](#) w/ **Rabbi Ben Elton** • 8:15pm
Consider the central texts of our liturgy and discuss openly what they mean to us and how we respond to them.
Next Class Topic: The Blessings of the Shema

WEDNESDAY

- [Wednesday Beit Midrash Night](#) • 8:15-9:15pm
- The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai
Facilitated by Sara Brzowsky
- [Talmudic Logic](#) w/ **Rabbi Dennis Weiss** • 7:30pm
An in-depth look at a single Talmudic subject matter, starting from the relevant biblical texts and delving into the logic system of the Gemara. This year's topic will be "**Misappropriation & Trespass**"
- [Nach B'lyun: The Second Book of Shmuel](#) • 7:15pm
w/ **Rabbi Hayyim Angel**
The Fall Semester will meet for 6 more sessions. The cost is \$125 for the entire 8-session series or \$20 per class. Co-sponsored by The Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals (JewishIdeas.org).
Sign up at lss.org/RabbiAngel

THURSDAY

- [Parsha Class](#) with **Rabbi Shaul Robinson** • 7:00pm

For full class descriptions, visit lss.org/classes

ISRAEL CORNER • פינת ישראל

STAND WITH ISRAEL, IN ISRAEL

In last week's Israel Corner we pointed out the incongruity that while American Jews flock to Israel to demonstrate their solidarity when the rockets fly and the red alerts sound, they seem less willing to do so once a cease fire takes hold. As a result, Israel's tourism economy has taken a huge hit and, equally important, its people feel isolated.

Well, the quiet did not last long. The killing of three-month old Chaya Zissel Braun, the almost daily riots in East Jerusalem, the shooting of an Israeli activist for the "crime" of praying on the Har HaBayt, and this week's killing of a Border Patrol Captain, the tragic list goes on and on.

Two weeks from this Motza'ei Shabbat (11/22), Rabbi Robinson and a group of LSS members will board an El Al flight to Israel. The original itinerary, already a very special one focusing on the communities in the South of Israel and on the IDF, have been updated to include spending time in Jerusalem - essentially, voting for its legitimacy with our feet - and receiving special briefings regarding the situation. You may also want to extend your visit and spend that Shabbat in Jerusalem, rather than flying back Thursday night. Former LSS members who have made aliyah will gladly host you for meals.

The Solidarity Mission is our way of showing that we will not be intimidated by the terrorists and that Jerusalem is and will always be our undivided capital. Please join us! And please help us spread the word: the mission is very much open to all; members of all shuls anywhere in the country are welcome and encouraged to participate.

For information about the Solidarity Mission, please visit www.lss.org/israel For questions and to make reservations, please call Marcia Katz at (800) 213-8260 Sunday through Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM EST, Friday 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM EST or email esther@keshet.co.il In shul, please speak with either Ann Crane or Nathan Vogel.

Beginners Announcements

- You may still register for Rabbi Buchwald's **Introduction to Bible (Began Tuesday, October 21st, 6:30-8:00pm)**. This course, which meets for another **5 weeks** 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. **Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members.**
- New sessions of the **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level I** will meet on **Monday, November 10th, 2014 at 6:30pm**, and continue for **3 more weeks**. The classes meet for 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at www.lss.org/beginners.
- New sessions of the **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level II** will begin **THIS Monday, November 10th, 2014 at 6:30pm**. The 5 classes last 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at www.lss.org/beginners.
- The next session of the **Jewish Living Workshop** led by Dassa and Bill Greenbaum will meet **THIS Monday, November 10th, 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 or www.lss.org. **Topic: Jewish life cycles—What to expect at a wedding, Sheva Brachot.**

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.

This Week's Shabbat Echod is sponsored by:

Penrose Galleries Judaica

Founded by Longtime LSS Members Andrea Penkower Rosen and David A. Rosen



For details on sponsoring an Echod, email info@lss.org.

Youth Announcements - lss.org/youth

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

Family Shabbaton- November 14-15

Come together with Lincoln Square Synagogue for a unique Family Shabbat Experience, November 14-15

Friday, November 14

5:00 pm: Family Kabbalat Shabbat

6:00 pm: Family Shabbat Dinner - great food, great people, and a magician for the kids. \$125 per family of 4. Register to attend at lss.org/youth

Shabbat November 15

9:30 am: Youth breakfast and Shabbat Groups

4:00 pm: Youth Groups, special afternoon edition

4:30 pm: Shalosh Seudos

5:30 pm: Family Havdalah service

Youth Groups Schedule

Pre-k: Room 206 at 10:00am

k-1: Room 207 at 10:00am

2-4 grade girls: Room 208- 10 am

2-4 grade boys: Room 210- 10 am

Youth Breakfast @ 9:30am in room 206



Upcoming Events - lss.org/events

• **Film Screening • Motza'ei Shabbat, November 8th • 8pm**

The new LSS film season is beginning! Join us for a showing of two unique Israeli films.

Ponevezh Time: What is it really like to be a full-time yeshiva student at the renowned Ponevezh Yeshiva?

The Dreamers: Ruchama and Tikva, two charedi women, embark on a journey to fulfill their dream of making movies. Rabbi Robinson will facilitate a discussion following the movies. The cost \$10 in advance/\$15 at the door. Sign up at lss.org/film

• **Fall Clothing Drive • Sunday, November 9th • In the LSS Lobby • 10-1pm**

We will be collecting gently-used clothing in clean and whole condition (no baby clothing please) that will be distributed for elderly, sheltered homeless. Volunteers are needed.

• **Rabbanit Dr. Michal Tikochinsky • Shabbat, November 15th • Pre-Mincha and Seudah Sh'lishit**

Rabbanit Tikochinsky is a leading Talmud scholar and educator, with advanced degrees in Law and Talmud from Bar Ilan University. She is the Director of the Moshe Green Beit Midrash for Women's Leadership and the Women's *Halakha* Program at Beit Morasha. She will speak before Mincha at 3:20 on "Women converts, women attendants: the halakhic basis for keeping women's mikve immersions private" and during Seudah Sh'lishit on, "A modern perspective on Parashat Chaye Sarah."

• **Greek Synagogue Tour • Sunday, November 16th • Congregation Kehila Kedosha Janina, 280 Broome St.**

Join us for a lecture, tour, and lunch. The cost is \$25 for members/\$30 for non-members. RSVP by Monday, November 3rd.

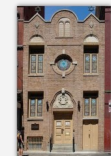
• **Book Club Meeting: "Love and Treasure" by Ayelet Waldman • Monday, December 1st • 7:30pm**

Jack Wolkenfeld will be leading the discussion which will take place at the home of Gale and Jim Kaufman, 316 West 79th St.

• **Chanukah Dinner and Music Festival • Motza'ei Shabbat, December 20th**

Chanukah dinner at 7pm; Concert Followed by Dessert reception at 8:30pm

Featuring singer and songwriter **Eitan Katz**, LSS chazzan **Yanky Lemmer**, with guest appearance by LSS senior chazzan **Sherwood Goffin**. Dinner, Concert & Dessert: \$75; Dinner Only: \$38; Concert & Dessert Only: \$56; Children's Party with movie and magician: \$10, family \$25; Sponsorship packages available. *Sponsored by the UJA Federation of New York*



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.

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D'var Echod B'lev Echod

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

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PARSHAT VAYERA

By: Ari Klapholz

Parashat Vayera—The Gateway Hypothesis

The signature message of parshat Vayera appears to be that *gemilut chesed*, translated as acts of kindness or affection and devotion (as in *Yirmiyahu* 2:2 "*chesed neurayich*"—devotion or affection of your youth) between man and man or between man and God, creates a **footprint**. On the human plane, it begins with Avraham's gesture of *hachanosat orchim* and crescendos with his ultimate act of *chesed*, giving up one's cherished son as an act of supreme devotion to God. It is also apparent and novel that acts of *chesed* generate a positive memory on the spiritual plane, an anthropomorphic feature attributed to God so that he behaves mercifully. One need not look further than the *birchat hayom* in *Musaf* of *Rosh Hashana* where we conclude the portion of *Zichronot*: "For it is you who eternally remembers all forgotten things and there is no forgetfulness before your throne of glory and may you mercifully remember today the Akeidah of Isaac for the sake of his offspring.....". Inherent in this plea, and daresay argument, is that if one remote memorable human action has the power to transform God from a deity of *midat ha'din*, God of justice, to one of *midat ha'rachamim*, God of mercy, millennia into the future, how much more so can repetitive and multiple acts of *chesed* in our own day transform not only ourselves, but also G-d to function only through *midat ha'rachamim*. What is the fundamental mechanism about *gemilut chesed* that it should generate subsequent favor and frequently undeserved reward? Why should acts of *chesed* have such a prolonged effect and impact on the historicity of the Jew? We never say in our tefilot how our ancestors were *shomrey mitzvot* or *talmidei chachomim*, observant and knowledgeable Jews, and therefore God should remember us kindly. Why "*zocher chasdei avot*" above all else? The answer lies in how we understand the story line of Parshat Vayera itself.

There is a major *machloket* what determines habitual behavior. One opinion is that behavior evolves in stages and in sequences. There is a formula to behavioral development. Behavior A today serves as the **gateway** for behavior B tomorrow. A primes B and enhances the reward of B. B will not do the same for A. The alternative thought is that multiple types of behavior or action reflects a common personality type predisposed to admirable actions or destructive ones. One's general vulnerabilities or strengths plays itself out in the way we generally act. Therefore one could say according to this last approach, all the acts of *chesed* by Avraham are repetitive examples of someone, with an intrinsic personality naturally predisposed to doing good, and it is for us, the readers of his narrative, to emulate the behavior of someone so consistently kind. On the other hand, according to the first approach, and in my opinion, the correct approach, the acts of *chesed* by Avraham occurred in a particular order to facilitate his own character development. He could never ever have been capable of offering up his son as a sacrifice had he not had his previous experiences of giving of himself, first for strangers, then for kindred family for Lot, then for his own *shalom bayit* by banishing Hagar and Yishmael for the sake of Sara, and finally to God himself by obeying a painful and conflicting command to sacrifice his son. These preliminary acts of *chesed* which Avraham reasoned to be necessary for the operational foundation of the Jewish people propelled him into an orbit of performing the Akeida where there is no reasoning. And this would serve as the everlasting argument that God should emulate Avraham: Bestow upon them *chesed* even if it not deserved and without reason. Shabbat shalom.

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VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR LSS FOOD FUNNEL

The LSS Food Funnel originated from a chance conversation that Wendy Baker had several decades ago with the late Mrs. Orwasher of Orwasher's Bakery, an artisanal bakery on the Upper East-Side, about what happened to the bread that was left over at the end of each day. Since that time, the LSS Food Funnel, using an incredibly simple and elegant model, has made it possible, year in and year out, for *hundreds of pounds per week* of fresh, first-class bread and rolls to be given out to individuals and families in need. Every Monday and Thursday evening, a Food Funnel team picks up 100% of Orwasher's unsold bread and delivers it to local food pantries. Currently, the schedule is staffed by 15 volunteer teams (a driver and a helper). Each team covers 6 or 7 pick-ups a year, and each pick-up/delivery takes about an hour. Right now, the Food Funnel needs one or more new volunteers (non-drivers welcome) to step in for a Food Funneler who had to drop out, and would also welcome additional volunteers who might be able to substitute on occasion. If you can help, please contact the Shul office or Phil Gassel:

[212-362-5878; philip.gassel@gmail.com].