SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Friday Evening
5:34pm: Candle Lighting
5:40pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer
5:40pm: Shir Hashirim followed by Sephardic Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash
6:45pm: Shabbat Across America in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary
8:45pm: Friday Night at the home of Rabbi and Shaul and Sarah Robinson. 451 West End Ave # 12E (ask doorman to direct you to the Shabbat elevator) Topic - "Between The Yeshiva World and Modern Orthodoxy - Rabbi Yechiel Yaakov Weinberg on his 50th Yahrtzeit"

Shabbat Morning
7:45am: Hashkamah Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by Kiddush and shiur with Rabbi Moshe Sokolow
8:30am: Parsha Shuir with Rabbinic Intern Jared Anstandig in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary
9:00am: Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Sanctuary led by Chazzan Yanky Lemmer and Rabbi Shaul Robinson. Post-musaf drasha by Prof. Marc B. Shapiro: Judaism and Islam: Halakhic and Historical Perspectives
9:14am: 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

Shabbat Afternoon
12:30pm: Beginners Shabbat Luncheon in rooms 206/207
3:00pm: Herb Weiss Bikur Cholim Society meets in shul lobby. New volunteers are urgently needed.
3:50pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with Moshe Sheinwexler in the Belfer Beit Midrash
4:35pm: Louis Lazar Memorial Shuir with Prof. Marc B. Shapiro: "Changing the Immutable": How Orthodox Judaism Re-writes Its History"
4:35pm: Bible Class and Book of Esther in room 211 with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald
5:20pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit

Seudah Shlishit talk by Prof. Marc B. Shapiro: Questions and Answers on the Various Presentations
6:35pm: Ma’ariv/Shabbat Ends

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
Hashkamah Kiddush
Sponsored by the Fund.
Beginner's Kiddush
Sponsored by Yelena and Adi in honor of Rabbi Buchwald.
Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan
Sponsored by Beth and David Badner.
Main Kiddush
Hot Kiddush in honor of our Scholar in Residence. Sponsors welcome.
Seudah Shlishit
Sponsors Welcome

YOUTH GROUPS

Youth Groups Start at 10am:
Pre-K: Room 208/210
2nd-tweens— Room 206/207

MAZAL TOV
• Mazal Tov to Moish Friedman on the birth of a great grandson to his grandparents Aliza. Mazal Tov also to the great aunt and uncle, Joyce and David Friedman.
• Mazal Tov to Audrey and Sarge Aborn on the birth of a baby girl to their children Elizabeth and Jason DiPice in Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel.
• Mazal Tov to Shlomo Yellin on the birth of a baby boy.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the date: LSS Purim Carnival Sunday March 20th 1-4pm. We will have 2 bounce castles, 2 ball pits, face painting, photo booth, football toss, magic show, petting zoo and so much more!

Youth Movie Night in PJ's: Saturday night March 12th (7:30-9:30) Featuring Disney Pixar's comedy Up. Join us in pajamas and bring flashlights and blankets. We'll have popcorn and pizza! Movie followed by discussion of the importance of helping elders in our community. $5/child

Welcome Professor Marc B. Shapiro to LSS as our Scholar in Residence

Marc B. Shapiro holds the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Chair in Judaic Studies at the University of Scranton and is the author of a number of popular and influential academic books and articles on Jewish history, philosophy, and theology. He received his BA at Brandeis University and his PhD at Harvard University, where he was the last PhD student of Professor Isadore Tversky. He received rabbinical ordination from Rabbi Ephraim Greenblatt.

The Scholar in Residence Shabbat is generously sponsored by JF. Lande, Laurie Siegel, & Family in honor of JF’s father Dr. David Lande and Laurie’s father Dr. Kenneth Siegel A"S.

MOLAD
The Molad for Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni will be on Tuesday evening, 212 minutes and 15 seconds after 9 PM. Rosh Chodesh Adar Sheni will be on Thursday and Friday.

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Weekly Prayer Schedule—For the Week of March 6-11

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Lincoln Square Synagogue • 180 Amsterdam Ave. at W 68th Street New York, NY 10023 • 212-874-6100 • lss.org
UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Club Meeting—Saturday night, Motza’ei Shabbat, March 5, 2016 at 8PM, at the LSS on the second floor in the Beit Midrash. The book to be discussed is "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande (Macarthur Fellow, surgeon and New Yorker staff writer). Rebbetzin Sarah Robinson, who is a clinical social worker with a special interest in end of life issues, will lead the discussion.

Israeli Art at the Armory Show
Sunday, March 6 at 2:30 PM, 12th Avenue and West 55th Street
Registration for this event is now closed. Those of you who have registered should have received an email with specifics as to where and when to meet on Sunday. If you have not received the email, please contact Nathan Vogel 212.724.7517 or nvogel212@gmail.com
Israel's 60th Birthday
Sunday, March 6 at 2:30 PM, 12th Avenue and West 55th Street
Israel's 60th Birthday will be celebrated with a special Israeli Art show at the Armory Show. The show features 60 artists from Israel. There will be an exhibit of the Armory Show's featured Israeli artists, as well as a show of guest artists from around the world. The show will also feature a special exhibition of Israeli art from the past decade. A reception will be held at the show.

UJA Federation of NY Invites you to Community of Character: A Conversation with David Brooks
Monday, March 7th at 7pm. At the Temple Emanu-El Skirball Center. 10 East 66th Street. $18/person
Can we build rich inner lives by looking beyond ourselves? New York Times op-ed columnist David Brooks believes that "most of the time, character is not an individual accomplishment. It emerges through joined hearts and souls, and in groups."
Join us for a communitywide conversation about the bonds that unite us in an increasingly divisive time. David Brooks will share reflections on character, gratitude, and how we can magnify the best in ourselves and in each other. Mr. Brooks will also engage in dialogue with UJA-Federation CEO Eric S. Goldstein about finding common ground and fostering collective purpose.

Purim Food and Clothing Drive—Sunday, March 20th at 10am-1pm.
Save the Date: Purim: March 23rd.
A Break Fast Dinner after Megillah Reading, Wednesday March 23rd in the Ballroom. Details to follow
Celebrating "The Chaz" - Please join us in celebrating Cantor Sherwood Goffin.
Sunday, March 27th. 2-4pm. $25 for general registration, $180 for Sponsorship
Fifty Years of Service as Shaliach Tzibbur, teacher, friend and colleague. With special guests Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Rabbi Shaul Berman, Cantor Bernard Beer, and Paul Shafer. Reception following program. RSVP at lss.org/event/tribute

SAVE THE DATE! New Members Brunch • Sunday, April 3 • 11:00 AM
Please join Rabbi Shaul and Sarah Robinson at their home for a New Members Brunch. It's a great way for new members to meet the Rabbi, Sarah, and some of our long-time members in a more intimate setting, and get formally welcomed into the LSS family.

BEGINNERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The Jewish Living Workshop starts Monday March 7 at 7:30pm. In this "hands on" experience, we learn by doing. Topic: Prayer. Want to join? Email JLworkshop@yahoo.com
• On Monday, March 7th, 2015, 8:15-9:30PM, there will be a Beginners Schmooze. No charge, complimentary refreshments. Please call 212-874-6100 to confirm.
• The next session for the Introduction to Bible: The 10 Commandments with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald will meet on Tuesday, March 8th, 2016, 6:30-8:00pm, and will continue for 4 more weeks. An in-depth study and analysis of the Decalogue (the Ten Commandments) as well as the Book of Esther. 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.lss.org/beginners. Cost: $90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.
• New class! Invitation to Tefillah with Rabbinic Interns Rabbi Jared Anstandig and Rabbi Mark Weingarten, Mondays, 7:30-8:15pm. Each week, we explore, uncover, and understand a new aspect of the daily prayers, with the ultimate goal of making Tefillah a more intimate and meaningful experience
• New sessions of the Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I and II, will begin Monday, March 21st at 6:30pm. The classes meet for 1 1/2 hours, and are free and open to all. Register at www.lss.org/beginners Co-Sponsored by NJOP
• Save the date! The annual Beginners Purim Bash, Wednesday March 23rd, Maariv and Megillah reading -7:30 PM. Purim Bash - 8:40 PM, featuring renowned musical artist and performer Psachya Septimus. Cost includes food, music and the Purim Shpiel: $25 in advance; $30 at the door. Register at www.lss.org/beginners
UNDERSTAND BDS, FIGHT BDS

A crowd of nearly 200 people turned out on a blustery Wednesday evening to hear a discussion of the strategy and tactics employed by the BDS movement. The evening opened with a sobering montage of video clips showing recent BDS activities around the world. Click here for a sample. Though most of us find these kinds of videos offensive, we cannot ignore them. They are well produced and, to a naïve audience, very convincing.

Gidi Grinstin and his team from the Reut Institute in Israel described the techniques used by the BDS advocates to delegitimize, demonize and hold Israel to a double standard. One point that was made over and over again is that "it takes a network to fight a network". They pointed out that the BDS movement is a flat, loosely connected network of individuals without a formal leader. In fact, many of the individuals protesting against Israel on college campuses or in labor organizations do not want to bring about the collapse of the Jewish state. Instead, they join simply to fight what they perceive to be a specific grievance (e.g., the settlements).

Gidi talked about the very recent joining of forces between Reut and the ADL. In the joint press release, Jonathan A. Greenblatt, ADL’s CEO, said: “The forces behind the delegitimization of Israel mean to isolate the Jewish state and have broadened their strategy in recent years to attack Israel in many different formats”. Too often, these efforts are vectors for the worst anti-Semitic ideas and imagery, and have the effect of normalizing such poisonous discourse. It is an attack on Israel and the Jewish people”.

Gidi added: "We realize there is no silver bullet against the BDS movement; success can be achieved through many local wins requiring a great network of individuals without a formal leader. In fact, many of the individuals protesting against Israel on college campuses or in labor organizations do not want to bring about the collapse of the Jewish state. Instead, they join simply to fight what they perceive to be a specific grievance (e.g., the settlements)."

Many people in the audience expressed an interest in learning more about the issues at stake so that, in turn, they could speak with more conviction when confronted by BDS-supporting individuals. To that end, we will start publishing sources that we can all turn to for answers. Some of the information will appear in the Israel Corner, other will be on a dedicated page of the LSS web page. The program on Wednesday night was the first of what will be a long battle that we all need to join. It is a battle that we cannot afford to lose.

NORPAC EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT EXPIRATION: If it takes a network to find a network, one of the biggest and most effective pro-Israel networks in the world is AIPAC. Join Rabbi Robinson and dozens of LSS members who have already registered to attend. To register, please visit http://www.aipac.org/ or contact anncrane2750@gmail.com

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY
Coffee & Responsa w/ Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld • After Second Minyan (9:15am)
- Journey through the fascinating and compelling world of rabbinic responsa literature, navigating the historical, sociological, and psychological nuances of the Halakhic process through study of a seminal responsum each week - all accompanied by a strong cup of delicious coffee or tea.
Sunday Morning Responsa #14: Portrait of a Posek - R. Moshe Shternbuch, Ra’avad of the Edah Chareidis

MONDAY
Invitation to Tefillah w/ Rabbinic Interns Rabbi Jared Anstandig & Rabbi Mark Weingarten • 7:30-8:15pm
- Each week, we explore, uncover, and understand a new aspect of the daily prayers, with the ultimate goal of making Tefillah a more intimate and meaningful experience.
Gemara B’Shana with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7:15pm

TUESDAY
Parsha Shiur with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 10:30am
Intro to Bible w/ Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald • 6:30-8pm
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.
- Tanach Survey: The Books of Samuel and Kings • 7.00 pm - Facilitated by Marcy Zwecker and Robin Mitchnick (Meets in a private residence, please call office for details)

Parsha Class with Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7:30pm
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

Wed, Mar 8, 8:45pm
Cholent Chabura with Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld
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.

Rabbi Robinson now gives two Lunch and Learn Classes - on Monday in Midtown (5th and 52nd St) and on Wednesday near Wall Street - please speak to him for more details.
In today’s Torah and haftarah readings, we’ve taken a break from the great Biblical characters. We’re also mostly on hiatus from the over-arching mitzvot. We turn instead to the nameless men and women who are the multitudes of the people of Israel.

In Parshat Vayakhel, we meet both the donors to the Mishkan and its artisans. In our additional Torah section, Parshat Shekalim – a description of the national census -- every man passes by us, handing in his half-shekel, no one more, no one less. And in the haftarah, we see how anonymous donors ensure the upkeep of the Beit Hamikdash. There are no “naming gifts” here: no plaques, no guests of honor. Here are the committed and generous souls who form the backbone of the Jewish character.

“When you take the sum of the children of Israel, according to their numbers, let each one give to the Lord an atonement for his soul…This they shall give, everyone who goes through the counting: half a shekel….The rich shall give no more and the poor shall give no less. (Exodus 30:12-15)”

Chizkuni explains simply: an equal half-shekel for all so that all are equal in atonement. The Midrash Lekach Tov adds that the rich shall not feel superior to the poor. These shekalim were made into the sockets that locked together the Mishkan’s beams and held up the curtain, the parochet between the Holy from the Holy of Holies. The shekalim were transformed into the Mishkan’s very infrastructure.

Put another way, the mandatory shekalim were the minimum contribution for the Mishkan. Moshe then calls for a different kind of contribution – voluntary offerings of materiel and expert craft. He asks, “Take from yourselves an offering for the Lord; every generous hearted person (nediv lev) shall bring it, the Lord’s offering: gold, silver and copper” (Exodus 35:5).

The response is overwhelming and the text wants to make sure that we notice. In this section, the verb “bring” appears 14 times. The word “offering” (terumah) appears seven times. (Seven is an archetypal number pointing to particular significance.) Three times, the text describes our donors as generous hearted – nediv lev – an expression that is unique in the Torah.

As we read these verses, we feel the rush to give. The words tumble over one another, mirroring the enormous enthusiasm that came with these gifts:

“Every man whose heart uplifted him came and everyone whose spirit inspired him to generosity brought the offering of the Lord…The men came with the women; every generous hearted person brought bracelets and earrings and rings and buckles...And every wise hearted woman spun with her hands and they brought spun material...And all the women whose hearts uplifted them with wisdom spun the goat hair. And the princes brought the shoham stones...” (Exodus 35: 21-28).

For all their political importance, the princes are listed equally with the others, simply another class of donors.

If the Torah readings teach us who is to give, the haftarah explains how we are to give. Yehoash, the grandson and sole survivor of Queen Athaliah’s crazed family massacre, sees that the Beit HaMikdash is in disarray. After his initial capital campaign fails, Yehoash hits on another plan. He takes a chest and bores a hole in its top. The king puts the chest next to the altar; donors have only to put their contributions in the chest. When the chest is full, two people – the high priest and the king’s scribe – count out the funds, bag them up and use the proceeds to pay the workers. The Beit HaMikdash is repaired.

In our three texts, we have our instructions for giving. To be counted among the Jews, one must give; each of us must give the minimum. Those who are generous of heart will give of their assets and those whose hearts are wise will also give of themselves. Princes must give just as everyone else does. And when the cause is compelling, we can trust the Jewish people to do the right thing. In our own time – when crises have hit the State of Israel, for example -- the “generous-hearted” have continued to give without reserve and without recognition.