



LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

ECHAD אחד

Rabbi's Message

The Hebrew language conceals many hidden truths which Jews have always delighted in decoding. This includes the two diametrically opposed "buzzwords" of Pesach: **hametz** and **matzah**. Hardly anything could be more diametrically opposed than **hametz matzah**: eating the one is anathema, while swallowing the other is a mitzvah of sublime proportion. Yet, therein lies the paradox. For what precisely separates **hametz** from **matzah**? **Hametz** is a mixture of flour and water that has been allowed to ferment undisturbed for 18 minutes. **Matzah**, on the other hand, contains the identical ingredients, but mixed, shaped and baked before 18 minutes are over. At 17 minutes and 59 seconds it is **matzah**; a moment later it is **hametz**. Eat the one and your reward is inestimable - but ingest the other and the punishment is **karet**.

Consider how these two terms are written. They share the letters "mem" & "tzadi". Only the third is different. One has the letter "het", and the other, the letter hey". But even they are almost identical, the only difference being that the left hand vertical of the "hey" does not rise all the way to the top to make a "het"!

On this holiday of deep contrasts, we find that what separates good from evil, right from wrong, blessed from cursed, permitted from forbidden, is not always some grand epic vision. What might very well distinguish the one from the other, is the smallest of details.

How easy it is to denigrate the particulars, to trivialize the minutia! Yet, it is precisely in these details that eternity dwells. It is through these details that we are reminded of the subtle differences between good and evil. It is only through careful attention to all the technicalities that we will discern what is right for us and what is good.

Pesach is a demanding holiday. The details can be overwhelming. Our senses are too easily numbed by the numerous laws and their minutia. How simple it is to lose all sense of freedom in our involvement with measuring **matzot**, pieces of **marror**, and cups of wine that have to be different sizes for different parts of the **seder**. The lesson of all these laws is that freedom is not always found in broad and bold strokes. Freedom will be found in our ability to distinguish between the most subtle of details. The details force us to pay attention, to be aware of what we are doing and the significance of our actions. The truly free person is the one who discovers the gravity of each of his actions and words.

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We are generally too casual about details. We tend to toss them on the ashes of all those chumrot we are so desperate to avoid. Perhaps we are wrong. Perhaps we should spend more time considering the details, and in the process discover ourselves.

Rabbi Weinberg

Celebrate Lincoln Square Synagogue

30th Anniversary

Tuesday, May 31, 1994

6:30 PM

Honorees:

**Rabbi Simcha Weinberg,
Rabbi Herschel Cohen, Rabbi Sholmo Riskin,
& Rabbi Saul Berman
Mark your calendar!**

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LSS SERVICES

LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

200 Amsterdam Avenue

New York, NY 10023

Tel.: (212) 874-6100 Fax: (212) 877-4065

SHLOMO RISKIN	Founding Rabbi
SIMCHA WEINBERG	Rabbi
HERSCHEL COHEN	Associate Rabbi
SHERWOOD GOFFIN	Cantor
EPHRAIM BUCHWALD	Beginner Services
MICHAEL SPINGARN	Executive Director
TIKVA HALPERIN	Director of Nursery School
AVI LOPIN	Youth Director
BRENT SAYDMAN	Director of JSI
BARRY GELMAN	Administrator of Hebrew School

STEVEN SPIRA	President
JOSEPH BLANK	Vice President
PHYLLIS GETZLER	Vice President
ELLIOT GIBBER	Vice President
DAVID EISNER	Treasurer
NORMAN RUTTNER	Executive Secretary
RICHARD KESTENBAUM	Financial Secretary
KENNETH ECKSTEIN	Recording Secretary
MARK FREILICH	Corresponding Secretary

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FRED EHRMAN
STANLEY GETZLER
RICHARD JOSELYN
MORTON LANDOWNE
ARTHUR MORGENSTERN
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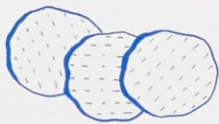
MARCEL LINDENBAUM	Honorary Vice President
JEROME STERN	Honorary Vice President

Shabbat Hagadol Pesach Discourse

You are cordially invited to join us on Shabbat afternoon, March 19th when Rabbi Weinberg will deliver his Shabbat Hagadol Pesach Discourse following Mincha at 5:10 PM

Shmurah Matzah

Hand Shmurah Matzah is now on sale in the Synagogue office from 10 AM to 5 PM Monday through Thursday. The price is \$12 per pound. (We also have a small amount of Whole Wheat Hand Shmurah.) Supplies are limited so act now.



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Tefillah for Children



Shabbat Morning Children services meet in the Annex and Main Building at 9:30 am and are divided by grade - 1st & 2nd grade group and 3rd-6th Grade Group.

Junior High & High Schoolers meet every other week at Manhattan Day School for Teen Minyan.

Childcare begins at 9:30, 1-3 year olds meet in the library, and 4-5 year olds meet in Classroom 1.

Daily Mincha & Maariv Services

Week of April 3rd	7:15 pm DST
Week of April 10th	7:20 pm
Week of April 17th	7:25 pm
Week of April 24th	7:35 pm



LSS Food Funnel Chametz Drive

On Sunday, March 20th, LSS will hold a Food Funnel Chametz Drive from 10 AM - 2 PM only. Please bring opened or closed nonperishable food. Please note no food will be collected after 2 PM. We will take vinegar, oil, ketchup, mustard but no mayonnaise or margarine. All foods go to non-Jews. Plan ahead, the drive is early (the Sunday before Pesach) and no food will be accepted after the collection date.

The LSS/West Side Tehillim Circle

Join the more than 70 people saying a psalm every day for people in need of Hashem's help.

It takes just a few minutes a day for you to make a difference!

* A psalm that fits your style and soul is waiting for you.

* Shiurim, as well as an annual celebration for Tehillim Circle members, are being planned.

To join, call Rabbi Penner or Chava Willig Levy, 874-6118.

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LSS PROGRAMMING

Turn Friday Night Into Shabbos

Of all the programs at Lincoln Square Synagogue that have touched the hearts and lives members and non-members alike, few have fired the imagination as has TURN FRIDAY NIGHT INTO SHABBOS. For thousands of Jews, TFNIS has been an introduction to Yiddishkeit. Synagogues all over the world have followed our lead in offering this Friday night dinner for people who want to know more about Judaism.

As you know, TFNIS is designed for unaffiliated Jews. There are, however, two very important ways in which you can participate.

First, everyone knows someone, who is curious about Jewish tradition. Perhaps you have been approached with questions by friends at work, relatives, or neighbors. Take this opportunity to introduce them to the beauty of the traditional Jewish way of life. Flyers will be mailed so you can pass them on.

Second, the fee paid by participants does not cover the entire cost of TFNIS. Many of you have already contributed generously during our campaigns, but in order to continue this program without endangering the operation budget of the synagogue, we invite all of you to join in funding it.

The categories for contributors are as follows:

Patron - \$360, Sponsor - \$200, Donor - \$100, Supporter - \$18.

By encouraging friends to come and by helping to provide the funds to reach out to others, you will participate in the mitzvah of *kiruv* and connect many with an important resource for learning about Judaism.

Steve Eisenberg, TFNIS Co-Chair
Steve and Sharona Spivack, TFNIS Co-Chairs

Evening of Solidarity for Jews of Judea, Samaria, Gaza, Golan

Members of Lincoln Square Synagogue played an integral role in a community-wide Evening of Solidarity for Jews in Israel. About 1,000 New Yorkers filled Congregation Ohab Zedek to capacity in January in a show of moral, humanitarian, and financial support for the Jewish communities of Judea, Samaria, Gaza, and the Golan Heights in Israel.

The "Chaz", our own Cantor Sherwood Goffin, thrilled the audience with his adaptation of the Woody Guthrie classic "This Land Is Your Land. This Land Is My Land." Cantor Goffin also joined the Chazzanim of Ohab Zedek and West Side Institutional Synagogue in a rousing musical presentation of Hebrew Songs by the well-known Israel songwriter Naomi Shemer and others.

Among the high-tech and "high-talk" highlights of the evening was a live telephone hookup between Orthodox Union President Sheldon Rudoff and our founding spiritual leader, Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, who spoke from Efrat, Israel in the middle of the night there. A video, co-produced by our own Ashley Lazarus and Gaby Gozland, provided a visual dimension to some of the key issues under discussion.

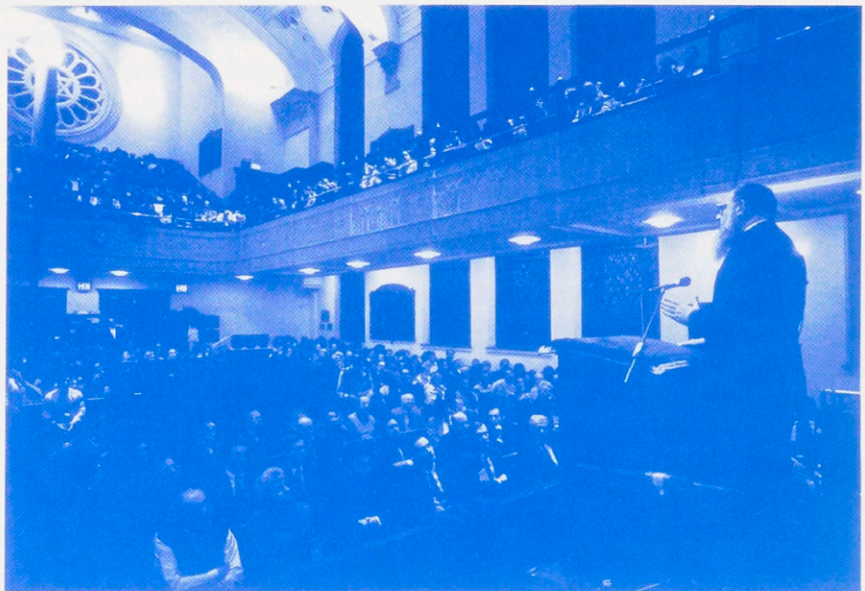
The evening culminated in an "adoption" ceremony of Jewish communities located in areas which the Declaration of Principles has designated for Palestinian autonomy. Lincoln Square adopted a string of 17 Jordan Valley Settlements, and 12 other neighborhood shuls twinned with settlements ranging from Keshet in the Golan to Moshav Katif in Gaza.

Rabbi Allen Schwartz of O.Z. did a wonderful job as emcee for the event. His introductory remarks seemed to express the feelings and intentions of most who participated

"We have become divided of late, and we respond tonight with a demonstration of *Achuds* unity. . . with the residents of Yehuda, Shomron, Golan and Aza," he said.

At the same time, he emphasized, "we are not forgetting the residents of the rest of Israel who also yearn for an alternative to the 45 years in a state of war." Rabbi Schwartz added that "although surely an event such as this has political undertones," it was important "to keep politics outside of this sanctuary. . . We want to give moral support to Jews who feel they are *b'Tzara v'Tzuka* [in distress]," he said.

The evening was cosponsored by 13 shuls on the Westside in conjunction with the Orthodox Union -- NY Branch, the National Council of Young Israel, and the Rabbinical Council of America.



SCHOOL NEWS

Lincoln Square Nursery

The children of our school have active and full days. Our educational programs allow the children to explore and grow. Our children learn about our Chagim through play, music, movement. An important goal of the LSS Nursery School is to instill a positive and strong feeling toward our synagogue and community.



A child's cognitive growth comes through repeated experiences and having the opportunity to explore their world freely through the our Nursery program. We provided a multitude of activities in preparation for Purim. The activities included: weaving, sewing puppets, lacing, decorating, cooking, music and dance. The Purim holiday was an ideal time for our children to experiment with sounds. The children learned that when they made their gragers ten beans made a louder sound then five. They also explored the different sounds made by larger or smaller beans.

An on going activity of our school is cooking. Our children saw how sugar melted when we made peanut brittle. The converted circles to triangles when we baked hamentaschen. The children also gained math skills when they "added a half a cup of sugar" or a teaspoon of salt to our famous Shabbat Challah. During cooking the children practice their socialization and math skills.

Our school believes in giving the children the freedom to explore, grow and develop their own creative potentials. *When our children feel good about their work and themselves, we have achieved our goal.*

Hebrew School News

It may no seem that way by looking outside, but the year really is moving along. Purim has come and gone and we are headed straight for Pesach. Speaking of coming and going, the Hebrew High School did a bit of coming and going of their own over President's weekend. Early Sunday Morning, February 20th a huge blue van manned by Barry Gelman and Gabi Gelman pulled up to the Synagogue to begin our journey. At 7:00AM the Hebrew School was on their way to Washington DC for a special visit to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

We spent Sunday afternoon at the various parts of the Smithsonian Institute, feasted at the "Kosher Express" and toured the Washington and Lincoln Monuments as well as the Vietnam Memorial in the evening. Monday morning was spent at the Holocaust Museum. We were all deeply touched by the experience, and have a much better understanding of that sad period of Jewish history.

After a school wide break for President's week we returned wit a bang. On our very first day back, we celebrated Purim (yes a bit late) with a post Purim dress up day and crazy Olympics. A good time was had by all and some of our participants were even offered contracts with Disney.

We have much more ahead of us in the coming weeks. The highlight being our annual Pre-Pesach model seder. Parents and children will partake in the early festivities as a warm up for the real thing.

On behalf of the entire Hebrew School staff and student body, I wish you a Chag Kasher V'Samech

Barry Gelman, Administrator

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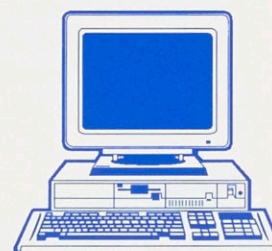
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March 31	- 9am-7pm
April 1	- 8am-3pm

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YOUTH NEWS

MRYC - Youth News

Well, How about that Purim party?!

In a long overdue effort, the Melanie Ross Youth Center organized an elaborate program on Purim night for kids and adults which was enjoyed by over 400 people. Taking place in P.S. 199, Ma'ariv began at 6:00 PM followed by our very own Megillah reading.

We then proceeded to the main festivities in the school's cafeteria.

Catered by Joseph's, we enjoyed a delicious dinner to break our fast which included pizza, mozzarella sticks, pastas, tuna, egg, white fish and fruit salads, pastries, and much, much more! After about 15 minutes, the live music began and the party commenced. Children and adults dressed in costumes joined in with the band and danced the night away. While the dancing was going on, children were overwhelmed and excited by their other choices. Some decided to



get their faces painted while others tested their skills at our home made carnival booths compliments of our very own 7th and 8th graders. If this wasn't enough, you could opt for a personal polaroid shot made into your choice of a key chain or pin. And who could forget the costume contest and parade? There was so much more but too little space to write. After the night was over, everyone walked away with many prizes and wide smiles on their faces.

At this time I would like to thank all those who helped to make this program a feasible task. But I would especially like to thank three people who were the masterminds behind this successful event: Ellie Grosinger, our Youth Committee Chairperson, and Hannah Freilich and Tamar Major, the Purim Program Chairs, THANK YOU and I can't wait until Simchat Torah!

As for Pesach, our 7th -12th graders will be going to Great Adventure and our younger kids will be going to the fun Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Please look out for your mailing.

Chag Kosher V'Sameach - Avi Lopin, MRYC Director



A Few Short Blocks from Lincoln Center

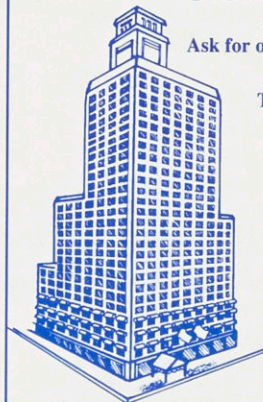
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LOOK WHAT'S NEW!

Important Dates

April 22-23

Scholar-In-Residence

Dr. Shaya Gofni

1. Lessons in Jewish Identity from late Antiquity

2. Israel, Diaspora & Jewish Identity; Problems, Patriotism, & Self-Definition

Sun. May 22

A Progressive Rabbinic View (Without Apologetics)

10:00 am - 7:30 pm

Rabbi Dr. Martin Gordon

Coordinator of Judaic Studies
Empire State College
SUNY
Israel Program

Senior Member Committee

In an effort to provide additional programs and services for our congregation we are in the process of creating a Senior Adult Committee. This committee will help plan and direct activities for the most senior members of our congregation.

In response from some of our members we are planning activities for the spring that will include a Shabbat Lunch and Dinner, Oneg Shabbat and a program at the Jewish Museum. In addition we are exploring other activities such as an Israel Day and Cafe, theater party and a retreat.

It is our goal that the programs will be inter-generational, and that all of our members will participate, and celebrate together. If you are interested in joining the committee, please call Michael Spingarn, Executive Director at the synagogue office.



Lincoln Square Synagogue

Presents

Marriage: The Agony and the Ecstasy

Designed for couples who are realists, as well as idealists; couples who know that those goals in life which are most worthwhile require effort, perseverance and patience. Couples who realize that marriage, like a garden, requires careful tending and attention to reach its fullest potential. This collaborative workshop is for those of us ready to explore and deepen our notions of "love", "relationship",

"communication", "intimacy", and "sexuality".

The 4 sessions will meet on Sundays for brunch, from 10 am. until 12 noon, April 10 and 24, May 1 and June 5. The workshop has been limited to 15 couples, and child care will be made available

for those with children. The fee for 4 weeks including brunch and child care is \$65, simply to cover expenses.

The workshop will be led by Fran Schwartz, Ph.D., C.S.W. and Joel Comet, Ph.D. Both are experienced marriage and family therapists who have led many workshops and especially enjoy working with couples.

For further information call
Rabbi Weinberg 874-6105.

Lincoln Square Synagogue Cookbook

will be available before Pesach

Delicious Recipes for Year Round Cooking

Co-Authored by the Members of LSS

Call Shirley Wald - 873-4956

KOSHER

LOOK WHAT'S NEW!

Lincoln Square Synagogue Users Card

Our synagogue is providing to our membership an LSS User's card which will be mailed to you shortly. This card is to be taken to our local vendors. When you make a purchase please ask the vendor to write in the name of the business and to date the purchase. When you have filled the back of the card please bring the card to the synagogue office to receive a token gift from the synagogue. We will then give you a new card. The synagogue will then send letters to our member's vendors asking them to advertise in both our Echad and our annual dinner journal. We have attempted to increase our income with the support of our local businesses. But we have had only limited success since our business do not know that their patrons are LSS members. With your help we will be able to provide our local business information on how our community supports them and in turn they will support us.

We thank you in advance for your help.

Music for Toddlers

We are pleased to announce a new and innovative program of music for toddlers ages 20 months to 36 months. This program will meet on Wednesdays for seven weeks beginning on May 4, 1994 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM in classroom 1. The class will be conducted by Mr. Don Maseng who is currently the music specialist for our Nursery School.

Don comes to Lincoln Square Synagogue with a wealth of experience. He was educated both here and in Israel. He has received Maestro Diploma from the Anzaghi Musical Conservatory in Tel Aviv. His credential with young people include director of Theater programming, camp music director and cultural arts director for the Minneapolis JCC.

The Music for Toddlers program will include American, Israeli and Jewish music. There will be a participatory part of the program with musical instruments and movement. Parents or care givers are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the session.

The fee for this seven week introductory program is \$100 for LSS members and \$125 for non members. For more information please contact the LSS office at 874-6100.

Please fill out the registration form below and return it with your check no later than Friday, April 22, 1994. Please note that there are limited number of spaces for this program.

Music for Toddlers

Wednesdays May 4 - June 13, 1994

Child's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

LSS Member _____ Non-Member _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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Date _____

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Registration Deadline April 22, 1994

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March 1994

Adar/Nissan 5754

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
20 Chamatz Drive 10AM - 2PM	21 Rabbi Weinberg Annual Question & Answer Pesach Lecture 7:15 pm	22	23	24 Morning Scvs 6:45 & 7:45 am The first born are invited to complete a Talmudic Tractate after each service so that they may be able to eat on what would normally be a fast day for them.	25 Burn the Chametz before Noon  5:55 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm	26 TZAV - Shabbat Hagadol Sves 6:45 am Latest time to eat Chametz 9:34 am Latest time to destroy Chametz 10:48 am  Yom Tov not before 6:55 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Yom Tov 5:50 pm followed by the first Seder 6:45 pm
27 First Day of Pesach Morning Scvs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 5:10 pm Mincha 5:55 pm  Yom Tov Candles not before 6:55 pm	28 Morning Scvs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 5:10 pm Mincha 5:55 pm	29 Chol Hamoed Morning Scvs 7:00 & 7:40 am Mincha 6:05 pm	30 Chol Hamoed Morning Scvs 7:00 & 7:40 am Mincha 6:05 pm	31 Chol Hamoed Morning Scvs 7:00 & 7:40 am Mincha 6:05 pm	One service of LSS which we pray may be unnecessary is that of the Chevra Kadisha. To insure the provision of a proper burial service, we urge our members to contact immediately any of those listed below. Rabbi Weinberg 721-3393 Rachel Herlands 799-2176 Rabbi Cohen 877-1504 Samuel Horwitz 496-7101 Danny Besdin 595-0970 Andrea Penkower Rosen 873-9895	

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April 1994

Nissan/Iyar 5754

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please note that for the services times on April 2nd & 3rd the synagogue will observe EST. Please turn your clocks ahead one hour after Yom Tov on Sunday the 3rd.					1 Chol Hamoed Morning Svcs 7:00 & 7:40 am  Shabbat & Yom Tov 6:03 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 6:10 pm	2 Morning Svcs 8:00 & 8:45 pm Talmud & Bible Classes 5:15 pm Mincha 6:00 pm  Yom Tov Candles not before 7:03
3 Yom Tov Morning Svcs w/Yizkor 8:00 & 8:45 pm EST Daf Yomi 5:05 pm EST Mincha followed by Seudah Shlisheet Neilat Hachag 6:05 pm EST Turn clocks ahead 1 hour					8 Yom HaShoah 7:10 pm  Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 pm	9 Shemini Shabbat Mivarchim Morning Svcs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 5:40 pm Bible & Talmud Class 6:25 pm Mincha 7:10 pm
10	11 Rosh Chodesh Iyar Morning Svcs 7 & 7:40 am	12 Rosh Chodesh Iyar Morning Svcs 7 & 7:40 am	13	14 Yom HaAtzmaut Observed Morning svcs 7 & 7:40 am	15  7:17 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7:20 pm	16 Tazria-Metzora Morning Svcs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 5:45 pm Bible - 6:15 pm Talmud - 6:30 pm Mincha 7:20 pm
17 Clothing Drive 10:00 am - 1:00 pm	18	19	20	21	22  7:25 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 pm	23 Acharai Mot-Kedoshim Morning Svcs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 5:50 pm Bible - 6:20 pm Talmud - 6:30 pm Mincha 7:35 pm
24	25	26 Pesach Shaini	27	28	29  Lag B'Omer 7:32 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7:35 pm	30 Emor Morning Svcs 8:45 am Daf Yomi 6:00 pm Bible - 6:30 pm Talmud - 6:45 pm Mincha 7:30 pm

Bikur Cholim Society

The Bikur Cholim Society will visit any member of LSS who is in the hospital, recuperating at home, or homebound. If you would like to be visited, or know of someone who would, please contact the synagogue office.



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THE LAWS OF PESACH

When Seder Falls on Saturday Night

Erev Pesach, this year, falls out on the Sabbath. Since the most hectic day of the year -- for a householder as well as a Rabbi -- is the day before the *seder* is to begin, and since the Sabbath must be celebrated as a festival in its own right and dare not be used as a preparatory agent for Passover, there are a host of *halakchi* considerations which must be taken into account for this year.

The fast of the firstborn comes out on Thursday, since it is forbidden to fast either on the Sabbath (with the sole exception of Yom Kippur) or on Friday (with the exception of *Asarah Betevet*). The search for *chametz* takes place on Thursday evening, and the burning of the *chametz* should be done before noon Friday. The formula of nullification (*kol chamira*) is made on Sabbath morning before 10:48 AM.

The greatest problem, however, is how and when to rid the home of *chametz*. It is forbidden to eat *matzah* on the day preceding Passover (and according to some customs from two to four weeks before Passover) in order that we eat the *matzah* on seder night with relish. It is likewise forbidden to eat *chametz* after 9:34 AM Saturday morning. At the same time it is mandatory to have two loaves of *challah* in honor of the Sabbath Friday evening and Shabbat lunch. In addition, the house must be ready for Passover before the Sabbath, since no Pesach cleaning or preparation is permitted on the Sabbath day itself. Hence the confusion and apprehensions concerning proper procedure this year.

The Talmud suggests that entire home be prepared for Passover by Friday afternoon with the exception of the food for the two Sabbath meals, which should be eaten on *chametz* utensils with *lechem mishnah* (at least two rolls per meal).

It is understood that the Sabbath morning meal must be eaten and concluded by 9:34 AM. A practical variation on this theme would be making the home "Pesachdig" - including the Sabbath food and utensils - by late Friday afternoon. You should merely put aside four small rolls in wax paper in a special corner of the house. Friday night after kiddush, the head of the family should relocate the family to this corner for the purpose of making *hamotzi* over top of the rolls, and should distribute a small piece of roll to each family member. The family should then continue their meal on *Pesachdig* utensils at the regular *Pesachdig* dining area. The process should be repeated Saturday morning.

In order to ease the complication and to react to the uniqueness of the situation as a community, LSS is making the following provision: Our congregants should make their homes completely ready for Passover by Friday afternoon. The complete Sabbath meals should be prepared on PESACHDIG utensils with only KOSHER FOR PASSOVER products. The meals should be eaten at home without CHALLAH or MATZAH. After services on Friday evening, we will all go down to the social hall, make KIDDUSH, wash and eat LECHEM MISHNAH (two rolls). We shall then go home to continue our meal and recite BIRKAT HAMAZON over a PESACHDIG dinner. On Sabbath morning, we shall begin services at 6:45 AM and complete services by 8:30 AM, after which we will go to the ballroom, make kiddush, wash, have LECHEM MISHNAH and continue our meal at home, and recite BIRKAT HAMAZON over PESACHDIG lunch.

Search for Chametz

The house should be thoroughly cleansed of *Chametz* during the week before Pesach. All closets, cabinets, cupboards, and all other places where one suspects the existence of *Chametz* should be thoroughly examined. Even the pockets of clothing should be searched.

The final or formal search call B'dikat *Chametz* is conducted this year on Thursday evening, March 24. This must be a real search for *Chametz* and not a perfunctory act. Since in most cases the house has already been thoroughly cleansed, crumbs of bread are placed in each room by a member of the household so that the benediction pronounced over the search is not said in vain. The benediction may be found at the beginning of any Haggadah.

The master of the house proceeds from room to room brushing and collecting any *Chametz* onto a wooden container with a feather and a wooden spoon, his way lighted by a candle carried by a member of the household. The candle should have but one wick. Any *Chametz* found is gathered and together with the wood, feather and candle, tied up in a cloth and bound with a string. This *Chametz* is to be burned the following morning (this year the morning of Friday, March 25).

After B'dikat *Chametz*, it is necessary to formally renounce ownership of, or desire to benefit from, any undiscovered *Chametz* in one's possession. This formula of renunciation begins with the words "Kol Chamira" and is found at the beginning of the Haggadah. It may be recited in any language one understands.

What is Chametz?

Throughout the eight days of the festival, we abstain from eating any *Chametz* or leaven, i.e. edibles which contain grains and have been subjected to even the slightest amount of moisture. Foods about which there is even a suspicion of *Chametz* must not be eaten, for the minutest amount (*ma-shehu*) renders an entire product unsuitable for Passover use.

Wheat, rye, barley, oats and generally speaking all grains and grain products, as well as foods and liquids made from them, are subject to the laws of *Chametz*. Grain products such as grain vinegar (used frequently in pickles and horseradish, etc.) and grain extracts are *Chametz*.

All baked articles such as Matzot, cakes, macaroons, etc., require reliable endorsement by a "Rav" - a Traditionally ordained spiritual leader who is reputable, observant, sincere and learned. The use of ordinary flour during Passover is prohibited. For home baking, only endorsed matzoh meal or potatoe starch may be used.

Endorsement is also required for candy, soft drinks, wines, liquors, milk, canned foods, and dried fruits. With the exception of peas and beans, green vegetables may be use.

Packed food products should be purchased only when the Kosher L'Pesach identification is accredited by a reputable rabbinical authority and is obviously a part of the brand label printed on the container by the manufacturer. In any questionable case, consult the Rabbi. He will be happy to advise you.

Children should not be fed *Chametz* during Passover unless a physician has so advised and after the Rabbi has been consulted as to procedure.

THE LAWS OF PESACH

Dishes and Utensils

Since we are not permitted to have even a trace of leaven in our food during Passover, special attention must be given to the use of pots, pans, dishes and utensils. One should use special dishes and utensils set aside exclusively for Passover. Under certain conditions, however, some of the utensils used throughout the year may also be used on Passover. They must be Kashered, i.e., prepared in a special manner for Passover use.

The laws of Kashering are many and varied. If any utensils are to be Kashered, the Rabbi should be consulted.

Selling the Chametz

The Bible prohibits the possession of Chametz as well as its consumption during Passover. Furthermore, any Chametz owned by a Jew during Passover is unconditionally forbidden for use at any time from that date on. If, therefore, one cannot dispose of all Chametz before the approach of the Passover holiday, one must arrange for a formal Mechirah Chametz or sale of that Chametz to a non-Jew. The transaction is usually arranged by the Rabbi, who acts as agent for his congregants. Neighborhood Jewish grocers and bakers should be asked by their customers whether Chametz products were properly sold.

Chametz such as bread and cereal should be disposed of. All Chametz dishes and utensils, after having been thoroughly scoured and cleansed, should be placed in a special closet or room until after Passover. This should be done no later than the time limit specified by the Rabbi. If the closet or room has no lock, the door should be fastened with tape as a reminder. After all Chametz is assembled, the Rabbi should be formally authorized to draw up a bill of sale and negotiate transfer to a non-Jew.

The transaction of selling Chametz is a completely legal one, giving the non-Jew all rights of ownership over the Chametz that has been sold to him. After the conclusion of the festival, your agent, the Rabbi, may repurchase the Chametz from the non-Jew. However, none of this Chametz sold to the Gentile may be touched until it has been repurchased. It is, therefore, necessary to wait an hour or two after Passover before using this Chametz, in order to give the Rabbi time for repurchase.

Burning the Chametz

All Chametz in one's possession (including that which was gathered the evening before through B'dikat Chametz) that has neither been sold nor destroyed should be burned on the morning of Friday, March 25, before the deadline announced by the Rabbi. The Hebrew term for this burning of the Chametz is Biur Chametz. The second Kol Chamira formula of renunciation of ownership is not recited at this time, but on Saturday morning, March 26. The entire house should by now be clean of all chametz and ready for Passover.

Fast of the First Born

Because the first born of the Israelites were spared when the Egyptians were smitten in the tenth plague, all first-born Jewish

males fast on Erev Pesach until the Seder. This is called Taanit B'chorim. If, however, one attends a Seudat Mitzvah (a feast that accompanies the performance of a religious duty), one is not required to fast. It is, therefore, customary in all synagogues that a Siyum or conclusion of a Talmudic tractate follows the Morning Service on this day. The conclusion of a Talmudic book is an occasion of rejoicing and warrants a feast or Seudat Mitzvah. All first born males should attend morning services this year on Thursday, March 24 and stay for the Siyum.

Seder Symbols and Customs

The Seder refers to the festive evening meal on the first and second nights of Passover. The entire family assembles around the table to relive the bondage as well as to re-experience the initial thanksgiving for freedom. It is obligatory on these two evenings to tell the story of the deliverance from bondage; "And thou shalt tell thy son on that day saying: It is because of that which the Lord did for me when I came forth out of Egypt." The word seder means order, for there is a prescribed ritual order which precedes and follows the traditionally sumptuous repast.

The Reclining Posture - was one customarily assumed in olden times by free men at a festive table. It is a symbol further emphasizing Passover as a festival of freedom.

The Three Matzot - are set on the table to symbolize the three classes of Israel: Kohanim, Levites and Israelites.

Moror - the bitter herbs, serve as a remembrance of the bitter life of our forefathers when they were slaves in Egypt. Moror in Hebrew means bitter.

Charoset - a mixture of apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine - represents the mortar and clay which the Israelites used in the making of bricks for Pharaoh. The dipping of the bitter herbs in the sweet mixture of Charoset is a reminder of that bondage.

Karpas - the parsley, potato or carrot which is dipped in the salt water is a characteristic relish used at festive meals in olden times - Eating it as the Seder is meant to arouse the children's curiosity and to remind them of the meager diet of our ancestors in Egypt and of the tears they shed.

Washing of the Hands (with a cup) - is symbolic of the purity with which one begins his meal, washing his hands before touching food.

Z'roa - a roasted meat bone, serves as a remembrance of the paschal lamb eaten by our forefathers when the Holy Temple was standing in Jerusalem.

Afikomen - is the bigger half of the middle Matzah put away by the head of the family at the beginning of the meal and eaten by all at its end. In the days of the Temple, it was forbidden to eat anything after partaking of the paschal lamb. Today too, no food is served after the Afikomen is eaten.

Four cups of wine - required for the Seder, symbolize the Almighty's four expressions of divine redemption. I shall bring them forth...I shall deliver them....I shall redeem, them...and I shall take them to me as a nation...Exodus 6:6.

PESACH

Form for the Sale of Chometz

I, _____
do hereby authorize Rabbi Simcha Weinberg, LSS 200 Amsterdam Ave., City, State and County of New York, to sell, transfer and assign all **CHOMETZ** of whatever kind and nature, which I own or possess, or in which I may have an interest, wheresoever situated, in my residence:

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

phone # _____
or in my place of business,

Address _____ Suite# _____
or in any other place, without reservation and limitation.

The approximate value of such real chometz is: _____

Value of Liquor is: _____

Please return to the synagogue office before Friday, March 18th.

If you do not receive confirmation by phone of our receipt of this form by Monday, March 21st, please call the synagogue office.

It is customary to give a donation to the Chesed Fund to be disbursed to the poor for Pesach (Maot Chitim). Please make checks payable to the LSS Chesed Fund.

If you are going to be away for Pesach:

I specifically authorize Rabbi Weinberg to sell all Chometz located anywhere in my home at the above address, and to lease my entire home. The keys to my home can found with:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # Day _____ Eve _____

If you are going to be in a different time zone, please specify.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand this

_____ day of _____.

Signature _____

Dear Member,

As Purim passes, our Jewish awareness begins to focus on Pesach, which is not far off. The duty to rid ourselves of chometz will occupy much of our thoughts and energies in the month to come. Cleaning our homes, kashering utensils, bringing some left over chometz to the shul's food drive for distribution to non-Jewish poor, searching for chometz, and the burning and bittul (abandonment-nullification) of chometz, will all be part of our preparation for the Holiday.

One further action designed to avoid our having ownership or possession of Chometz on Pesach is the sale of chometz. By authorizing Rabbi Cohen or me to act as your agent in selling your chometz to a non-Jew, you avoid the financial loss of total disposal of valuable goods and further assure your non-ownership of any chometz which may have missed in the earlier disposal procedures.

The legal act of designation of the Rabbi as agent for the sale of chometz, is best performed in a personal meeting with one of us and engaging in the act of Kinyan Suddar - a contractual form in Jewish law in which the transfer of a garment (e.g. a handkerchief) from the Rabbi to yourself is a visible manifestation of contractual intent and in which the garment serves as consideration for the contract. (Incidentally, you may return the garment to the Rabbi).

However, there may be members of the community who will not find it possible to meet personally with the Rabbis. It is for such persons that the form to the right, a written contract designating me as agent for the sale of chometz, is provided. If you make use of this form, please fill it in completely and mail it to the synagogue office before the noted deadline. Within a few days, you should receive a call from the office confirming our receipt of the form. If you do not receive such confirmation by Monday, March 21st, it is urgent that you call the office to assure that your form was received.

I hope that this convenience will help achieve a fuller and more proper experience of the Pesach Holiday. With best wishes for a Chag Kasher V'Sameach.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Weinberg

Rabbi Weinberg & Rabbi Cohen *will be available for*

The Sale of Chometz

beginning, Sunday, March 13th as follows:

Day: Mon. - Thurs. from Noon to 1:00 pm
Friday from 10 am to Noon
Sun. from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Evenings: Mon. & Tues. 6 - 7:30 pm
Wed. & Thurs. 5:45 - 6:30 pm

In addition to the above times, between the 1st and 2nd minyan, each day beginning at 7:30 am.

COMMUNITY NEWS

More than 250 Gather in Lincoln Square Synagogue to Learn about "Twin" Communities in Israel's Jordan Valley

More than 255 LSS members and friends gathered in Lincoln Square Synagogue on Sunday morning, February 27, to hear a personal account of life in Israel's Jordan Valley, by a spokeswoman, Shaun Efrima, and to be updated by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin on the situation in Israel in the wake of last week's tragic events in the city of Hebron.

Calling the event in Hebron "a moment of great sadness and horror for the Jewish people and for all people who live in Israel, over the loss of innocent life and the fact that people were attacked at a moment of prayer," Rabbi Weinberg began the event with "an expression of hope and prayer that there will be peace in the land, that tempers will cool and that we will gain a clear perspective and all remember not only our political opinions but more important our moral obligations and the proper way to go about achieving peace in the land."

Commenting on the synagogue's "adoption" project, Rabbi Simcha Weinberg explained that, "commitment to these [Jordan Valley] settlements is not as a statement against the government. It is rather in support of public statements made by the Prime Minister that he is committed to the Jordan Valley settlements."

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Chief Rabbi of Efrat, said the settlement movement continues to be "the glory of the State of Israel." He said, "Tel Aviv began as a settlement. That's what the history of modern Zionism is all about." Rabbi Riskin cited a recent article in *The Jerusalem Post* which revealed that a group of Jordan Valley settlers had approached Prime Minister Rabin to inform him of their readiness to leave their homes, an offer which Rabbi reportedly refused, saying the settlements are important within the context of current negotiations. Commenting on this situation, Rabbi Riskin said "for you to begin to understand what this means psychologically to us settlers is probably an impossibility." He also suggested that this is also "part of what is happening in Hebron and Kiryat Arba."

Fred Ehrman, honorary President of LSS, who is chairing the Jordan Valley "Adoption Committee," noted that the choice of the Jordan Valley Communities as adoptees was based on humanitarian considerations and concerns for Israel's security. He added that "many are supposedly against the peace process as a religious-secular battle, and that is patently untrue. We therefore focused on an area that is primarily secular to make this point. Of the 17 communities that are in the Jordan Valley, only two are religiously observant. The other 15 are secular."

Fred said the synagogue hopes to raise \$30,000 for the Jordan Valley "to bring their elementary school up to the 21st cen-

tury" by funding the purchase of computers for their elementary school. Ehrman added "We will also have other areas of commonality, and we will get into those as the weeks go by."

Shaun Efrima, an LA native, who with her Israeli-born husband, Oded and their two teenaged children, has made her home in the Jordan Valley moshav of Netiv Hagedot, presented, through slides and maps, a picture of life in the region and the anticipated impact of changes that are now proposed in the Oslo Accord. As Jericho's "suburbs," The Jordan Valley communities will bear the immediate brunt of the planned assumption of autonomy by the PLO in the area. Today there are 17 settlements, a total of 800 families living on moshavim, kibbutzim and the community of Maale Ephraim in the Jordan Valley.



Ms. Efrima called her "neighborhood" a "flourishing farming community located in the heart of Israel." Though, to some, she said, it might seem "isolated," she explained "we're quite centrally located, only an hour from Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Beit Shean and of course, the Jordanian Capital of Amman," which she added, "we hope to be able to visit in the near future!"

Among the concerns she raised, however, was the distribution of water, safe access on roads and the size and nature of the prospective Palestinian police force. For example, she noted that under the Declaration of Principles, there will be a 5,000-man armed Palestinian Police force patrolling a small 55 km. area which until now has been patrolled by only 150 Israeli policeman.

She also noted several points of uncertainty, including the fact that the settlements within the perimeters of their fences will be declared security zones, to be under Israeli jurisdiction only, but outside the settlement fences will no longer be Israeli land. "How this will affect our fields, has yet to be explained," Ms. Efrima said.

Still, ending on an upbeat note, she reflected, that "looks can be deceiving, what looks like a sunset, may actually be a sunrise."

COMMUNITY NEWS

Hospitality and LSS:

We Can't Do it without Your Help

Our shul has a reputation for hospitality. People call from all over the United States and even overseas when they know that they will be in New York and they need a place to eat for Shabbos or Yom Tov. We also get calls from Beginners, sometimes just for Shabbos lunch, but often, as they become more observant, they need sleeping accommodations and Friday night dinners as well. Singles from the tri-state area are among others who call the shul in the hope that a Shabbos spent at LSS may lead them to meet that special someone. Sometimes they come because of a particular program being offered or because they live in an area where there is not a lot of Yiddishkeit and Shabbos or Yom Tov is just much more meaningful on the West Side. For Baalei Tshuva, they may not have family to spend Yom Tov with.

The Hospitality Committee currently consists of three volunteers who come in Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings to make calls to members or people in the community who have indicated a willingness to house or offer meals to guests.

Unfortunately, over the past year, the Hospitality Committee has had to severely limit the number of people whom we are able to place. We often have to perform a sort of "triage" in determining whose need to be on the West Side for Shabbos is greatest, and some weeks are able to place only two or three people.

We desperately need to augment our rolls of members who are able and willing to offer a place to sleep Friday night or a Shabbos meal to these visitors to our community. Hospitality is a Mitzvah that can be performed by both singles and families. For singles it may be a good way to meet new people. If you are able to help, please complete the form below and mail to the synagogue office to the attention of the Hospitality Committee. We need your help to maintain our shul's reputation as a bastion of hospitality. With Pesach just around the corner, now is a good time to start this special Mitzvah. Thank you for your help.

Miriam L. Axelrod, Chairman, Hospitality Committee

Psychotherapy and the Orthodox Patient

There has been a growing trend among the Orthodox Jewish population to make increased use of psychotherapy. There appears to be a greater awareness of the benefits of therapy in dealing with emotional difficulties. Significantly, the Orthodox community's new-found respect for the psychotherapeutic process has been accompanied by an influx of Orthodox therapists into the mental health community.

On a basic level Orthodox Jews encounter the same human emotional problems found in other populations -- stress, depression, family and marital conflicts, with an increase in incidents of alcoholism, drugs and child and wife abuse. Other common problems are loss of a significant relationship or employment. These problems frequently interfere with a genuine participation in religious life.

A group that often benefits from psychotherapy are the newly observant; those "coming back" to Torah Judaism. In most cases, these are individuals who grew up in homes devoid of Jewish culture and tradition or where there was the type of observance that left a person feeling empty; -- failing to reach him or her on a spiritual level. As an individual makes changes to a more authentic Jewish experience he or

she undergoes the process of letting go and reaching for something new. This transition is usually marked by family and social tensions and a sense of separateness, particularly when the person is not yet fully integrated into an Orthodox community.

In earlier decades, psychoanalysis and psychoanalytically informed psychotherapy, beginning with Freud, were generally considered to be antagonistic toward religion. Those committed to an observant way of life felt threatened and were fearful to have their religious beliefs confronted and viewed as a form of pathology. And even if their religious beliefs were to be respected, there was a widespread belief that a non-Orthodox therapist would not understand and appreciate the subtleties of the mores and ethics of observant Jews. A therapist unfamiliar with religious life might fail to grasp the particularity of the social pressures within the community as well as how they interface with the community at large.

A skilled Orthodox therapist can relate to these problems and validate an Orthodox patient's spiritual search for meaning in life, without being judgmental and without hiding the therapist's religious commitment. It is an awareness of this aspect of treatment that is becoming an increasingly important consideration in choosing a therapist.

Yes, I can help. Please contact me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: (Day) _____

(Evening) _____

I can offer _____ sleeping accommodations
(specify male or female)

_____ Meals: _____ Dinner _____ Lunch _____ Either

Mail to: Lincoln Square Synagogue, 200 Amsterdam Ave.,
NY, NY 10023 Attn.: Hospitality Committee

COMMUNITY NEWS

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazal Tov to

Elly Goffin on his engagement to Chavie Sussman. Mazal Tov also to parents Cantor Sherwood and Batya Goffin and grand parents Hermann and Judith Goffin.

Eddie Susman on his engagement to Barbara Fellner.

Bernie Zweig on his engagement to Naomi Rosen.

MARRIAGES

Mazal Tov to

Adina and Myron Greenfield on the wedding of their daughter Gila to Steven Stone.

Felice and Hillel Gross on the marriage of their son Pesach Shmuel to Rachelle Halberstam.

Paul Gugenheim on his marriage to Nancy Nathan.

Ruth Jacobson on the marriage of her grandson.

Bonnie Keehn on her marriage to Ed Weintraub.

Heshy Kofman on his marriage to Chavy Kahn.

Jim and Lucy Schmeidler on the marriage of their son Avraham to Rachel Altholtz.

BIRTHS

Mazal Tov to

Chavi and Chaim Hagler [former MRYC Director] on the birth of a son.

Debbie and Steve Fruchter on the birth of a daughter.

Laura and Murray Huberfeld on the birth of a daughter.

Robin and Dr. Mark Jacobson on the birth of son.

Helene and Andy Linder on the birth of a son.

Aviva and Marvin Sussman on the birth of a granddaughter.

Mazal Tov also to great-grandparents Els and Charles Bendheim.

BAR AND BAT MITZVAH

Mazal Tov to

Joel Bassan and Ronny Bassan on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Tzvi.

Norman and Phyllis Chanes on the Bar Mitzvah of their son James.

Paul Gugenheim and Karen Asher on the Bar Mitzvah of their son D.J.

Deborah and Fred Lieber on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Penina Chava.

Susan Weiland on the Bar Mitzvah of her son Moshe.

HONORS

Mazal Tov to

Dina and Jerry Cahn on their Wedding Anniversary.

Esther Eisenmann on having passed the CPA examinations.

Gert and Mel Greenland on their 44th Wedding Anniversary.

Dorothy Lewis on having passed the CPA examinations.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to

Sarah Golub on the passing of her husband Jay Golub.

Fannie Gordis on the passing of her sister Sylvia Cohen.

Ran Kohn on the passing of his father William Kohn.

NEW MEMBERS

Lincoln Square Synagogue is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Dana Hudes

Michael & Sheryl Katz

Renee Ricca

Moshe Scholnick

Sara and Sheldon Stein

Rhonda & Richard Weinberg

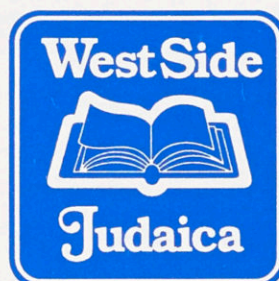
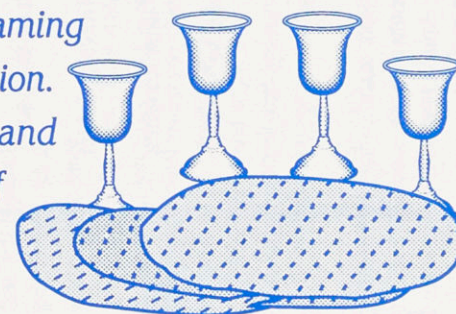
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NEW YORK, NY 10023

WEST SIDE JUDAICA'S VALUE & SELECTION ARE JUST TOO GOOD TO PASS-OVER

This Passover you can do all your traditional and religious gift shopping at the new, breathtakingly beautiful and expanded West Side Judaica. You'll cherish your Seder's golden moments with gleaming silver and brilliantly colored ceramic Kiddush cups from the West Side Judaica collection. Your seder will also be considerably enlivened by the rich selection of traditional and contemporary haggadahs. In fact, West Side Judaica features the largest selection of Haggadahs, seder Plates, Kiddush cups and Anglo-jewish literature in the area.



Book Store & Gift Shop

A Full Line Of Religious Articles

2412 Broadway, (Bet 88 & 89 St.) (212) 362-7846

Serving the West Side community for over 50 years. 10% off for all Lincoln Square Members