

A SHEARITH ISRAEL DOUBLE HEADER

Hatanim Luncheon Saturday, October 10

Join us in honoring our Hatanim and their families with a luncheon following Morning Services:

Seth Haberman, Hatan Torah

Ari Sherizen, Hatan Bereshit

Register by September 30 at shearithisrael.org/hatanim2015

Shearith Israel Annual Gala Wednesday, October 21

The gala is just one month away!

Make sure to reserve your spot and pay tribute to our longtime synagogue members and PTTS family, Lloyd Zuckerberg and Charlotte Triefus and Rabbi Shalom Morris.

Register by October 7 at shearithisrael.org/gala.

City Harvest Kosher Food Drive

This Fall we are launching Hesed initiatives focused on alleviating hunger in New York City. For the month of September, the Shearith Israel League's Social Action Committee is sponsoring a City Harvest Kosher Food Drive. A food collection bin will be placed outside of Levy Auditorium near the water fountain. Alternatively, a Shearith Israel Teen Team will pick up donations for the food drive anywhere from W. 57th Street to W.

96th Street (some East side locations may be considered.) Contact Teen Team Chair Sara B. Goldstein at Goldsteinbsara@gmail.com or leave a message for League Social Action Chair Rita Rodin at 917-734-1932. Please go to shearithisrael.org/food-drive for important kashrut rules and other specifications.

Register now for PTTS Hebrew School

Polonies Talmud Torah School, provides children and teens, ages 3-16, with a substantive Jewish education in a positive and engaging environment. Register at shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool

"Listen Up, Heavens:" The Tough Love & Discipline Song (a.k.a. 'No Pain, No Gain') Rabbi Ira Rohde, Hazan

The Hebrew idiom in which the Haazinu lyric is phrased is poetic, but also terse and direct. While not crass, it's quite a ragging. Sounds closer to the tongue-lashing you might hear in some Southern churches:

"Listen up, Heavens, as I rail!

Let the whole earth hear my mouth's talking-to!

My scolding will rain down like a shower, my lecture shall drizzle as dew,

Like storm-gusts on the meadow, like droplets on the grass!

When I call upon the Name of the Lord, y'all give glory to God!

Our Rock, all His actions are perfect, for all His ways are just.

A faithful God, without blame, righteous and honest is He.

But His children! How degenerate they've been to Him, how faulty!

Stubborn and wayward generation,

This is how you recompense the Lord?

Stupid people without wisdom!

Is He not your Father, your Founder,

Did He not make and establish you?"

With these words, as well as in the sections which follow as well as precede, Moses really laces into the people, chiding and berating them from every angle: denouncing their miserable decadence, laying on a guilt trip, bawling them out for being ungrateful wretches, warning them of the horrific punishments which await ("fire and brimstone" was itself just mentioned a few chapters back in Deut. 29:23), telling them that they stand to be wiped out - that's the fate they deserve. And that if they do survive it will only be because of God's mercy and to preserve God's reputation, as well as not to let their enemies think that they're any better. But he also tells them that after all this failure they eventually will succeed in turning things around and getting it right. They're still the favorite; there's nobody out there better than their God and than them. The dressing-down is tough. But it's also a message of love. It's a vision which foresees much pain ahead, but "like unto the pain shall be the gain (Abot 5:23)." Our tradition prescribes the readings of the Torah's most severe castigations just prior to the seasons of its greatest revelations. Even more: The entire Torah, the Ultimate Revelation of God Himself is likened to the Song of Haazinu (Deut. 31:19). God descended upon Mount Sinai to "lay down the Law," to reveal Himself in a restrictive discipline and reprimand.

"He whom the Lord loves, the Lord rebukes (Proverbs 3:12)," is true about people, as well: We only bother to correct those about whom we really care. Our nagging is often overblown criticism which may not be valid from every angle or in every context, and it certainly can be very difficult to accept. But the message here is "clear as the sky above:" True love = tough love.



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Haazinu September 25-26, 2015

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 896; Haftarah p. 904
Kaplan Living Torah: p. 1024; Haftarah p. 1250

CANDLE LIGHTING | 6:30 pm

MINHAH | 6:30 pm

ZEMIROT | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

SHAHARIT (NISHMAT) | 9:00 am | Rabbi Hidary delivers a seminar entitled "Ha'azinu: Poetic Artistry and the Origins of Ancient Israel"

TOT SHABBAT | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Levy Auditorium

YOUTH GROUPS | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Children's Library

JR. CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium

TOPICS IN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY | Rabbi Hidary | 5:20 pm | For high school students | Held at the Hidarys' home, 1 W 85th St Apartment 6A

SEUDAH SHELISHIT & AFTERNOON SHIUR

Rabbi Soloveichik gives a class on "The Original Water-Gate Controversy: A Special Succot Shiur" | 5:20 pm

MINHAH/ARBIT | 6:20 pm

KETER SHEM TOB | Rabbi Hidary | Main Sanctuary

HABDALAH | 7:21 pm

SUCCOT

Help Build and Decorate BOTH Shearith Israel Succot!
Sunday Morning, September 27

We are pleased to report that we WILL have a second succah this year. This means we can accommodate plenty of members and guests who wish to enjoy self-catered meals. See below for important reservation and payment instructions.

But we need your help! Kids and adults are invited to come by on Sunday, September 27 to build and decorate the new succah! Our day starts with morning services at 8:00 am. Immediately after which, we will put up the schach on our new succah. At 10:00 am, all congregants, including our youngest members are welcome to help decorate our new succah. Bring your own decorations or help put up decorations prepared by our toddler program and others!

Sisterhood Elias Room Succah Decorating Events

Thursday, September 24 | 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday, September 25 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday, September 27 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Teens and adults, women and men, are invited to help decorate the Elias Room Succah. To participate, contact

lrohde-csi@yahoo.com or art1show@verizon.net

or sign up at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5776. To make a contribution to the Sisterhood Succah Fund, please either send a donation to The Sisterhood Succah Fund at the synagogue office, make a gift online or contact ryasky@shearithisrael.org.

Meals in the Succah

Shearith Israel members and their guests are welcome to enjoy self-catered meals in one of two Shearith Israel community Succot. Registration and a cover charge of \$12 per seat per meal (including children) or \$50 “all access” per person for unlimited use of the succah throughout the holiday are required. We supply beverages, table cloths and disposables and you bring the food (strictly kosher, of course). To register contact mcaputo@shearithisrael.org or call 212-873-0300 ext. 230 ASAP. Please let her know if you prefer the Elias or the new succah.

“Wildman” Steve Brill Central Park Succot Outing
Wednesday, September 30 | 4:00pm

Back by popular demand, Wildman will lead children and adults through a unique foraging expedition and edible tour through a new route in Central Park. Culminating in a pizza dinner in the succah. Don’t miss out! Register at shearithisrael.org/wildman. Deadline September 24.

Succah Greens Composting
Due Tuesday, October 13

After Succot, rather than throwing out your lulabim, take advantage of this special eco-friendly opportunity and leave your lulabim with us! The NYC Dept of Sanitation (DSNY) will collect our Succot organics for composting. Leave your lulabim with Z. Edinger before Tuesday, October 13 and we’ll do the rest.

Hoshan’ana Rabba Mishmarah-Tikkun
Saturday Night, October 3 | 9:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Join us as we bid farewell to Succot and prepare for Simhat Torah with celebratory food and study in our Succah, featuring a shiur by Rabbi Soloveichik centering on the reading of the last and first verses of the Torah.

SIMHAT TORAH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

Women’s Parallel Hakafot

Monday, October 5 | 7:00 pm | Small Synagogue

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a joyous parallel Hakafot ceremony for women is held in the Small Synagogue.

Simhat Torah Dinner and Ice Cream Extravaganza
Monday Night, October 5

Following Simhat Torah hakafot we will host a light dinner. Pre-registration is mandatory. Register at shearithisrael.org/dinner-and-ice-cream by September 30.

Our annual ice cream party for children will follow. As usual, volunteer teen scoopers are needed. Contact slandau@shearithisrael.org to help out- strong arms required, lactose tolerance preferred.

Sponsored again by the Haberman and Lustig families.

WEEKDAY JUDAIC EDUCATION

Our Fall Semester of Judaic Education kicks off the week after Simhat Torah on October 11. Come join us for a new semester of classes with your favorite Rabbis and educators.

To see the schedule, go to shearithisrael.org/content/judaic-education-and-major-lectures

Sunday

- ◇ **The Book of Kings** | Rabbi Hidary | 8:40 am
- ◇ **Saadia Gaon's Emunot ve'Deot on Revelation and Commandments** | Sjimon den Hollander | 9:30 am

Monday

- ◇ **Second Temple Jewish History** | Rabbi Hidary | 7:00 pm
- ◇ **Bet Midrash** | 8:00 pm

Tuesday

- ◇ **Rambam’s Mishneh Torah** | Rabbi Hidary | 7:45 am
- ◇ **Feasts and Fasts: The Festivals in Jewish Thought- A Class for Women** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 9:00 am
- ◇ **Talmud Class: Tractate Rosh Hashana and the Philosophy of Jewish Time** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 8:00 pm

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazal Tob to Yehudit Robinson and Sam Daitch on the birth of a baby girl.

Parnas Office Hours

Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet with you. Please schedule a visit at parnas@shearithisrael.org.

Our next public tour is:
Tuesday, October 13 at 11:00 am