

Seeking Women's Megillah Readers

Megillah Reading Purim Morning, Tuesday, March 10 | 8:00 am

Rehearsals on Sunday, Feb. 23 at 6 pm & Sunday, March 8 at 7 pm

(following evening services)

On the morning of Purim, the women and girls of the synagogue

conduct a parallel Women's Megillah reading in the Little

Synagogue. Contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at [lirohde.csi@gmail.com](mailto:lirohde.csi@gmail.com)

as soon as possible for an assignment if you'd like to participate.

UPCOMING SISTERHOOD PROGRAMMING

Give Mishloah Manot to a Member!

Ordering Deadline: February 17 at 11 PM

Want to send Mishloah Manot to your fellow congregants for

Purim this year? Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to

send mishloah manot to our Shearith Israel community. This

project will support the Sisterhood's many projects.

To select recipients, visit [shearithisrael.org/sisterhoodmanot](http://shearithisrael.org/sisterhoodmanot).

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please

contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde ([lirohde.csi@gmail.com](mailto:lirohde.csi@gmail.com)), Carla Schein

([scheinc6@gmail.com](mailto:scheinc6@gmail.com)), or Rivka Wiznia ([rlsvet@gmail.com](mailto:rlsvet@gmail.com)).

Stitch & Fix

Bi-Monthly on Sundays & Tuesdays | 10am-12pm

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Sunday, Feb. 23 | Tuesday, Feb. 25

For anyone handy with a needle and thread—teenagers welcome!

Join our Sewing Circle to repair and restore our beautiful Shearith

Israel vestments to their original glory! If you'd like to participate

or have questions, contact Rose Edinger ([rgedinger@gmail.com](mailto:rgedinger@gmail.com)).

Visit [shearithisrael.org/stitch-fix](http://shearithisrael.org/stitch-fix) for additional dates.

REGISTRATION EXTENDED: THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Sisterhood Tambourine Workshop

Sunday, March 1 | 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Women and teenage girls are invited to a multi-faceted and inspirational

tambourine workshop. Miriam Liebermann, MSW, author, community

activist, and inspirational speaker, will conduct the workshop and then

lead a song and dance.

Artistic talent is not necessary! Stencils will be provided.

Charge for Admission: \$25 for adults, \$20 for teens

Register at [shearithisrael.org/tambourine](http://shearithisrael.org/tambourine).

DEBAR TORAH

—YONI REUVEN, BET MIDRASH PROGRAM—

This week, we read about one of the greatest miracles to occur to Bnei Yisrael - the splitting

of the sea. The salvation of God was so clear and evident that the Torah says,

“וַיֹּאמְרוּ בְּרִי וּבְמִשְׁהָ עֲבָדָו” — they believed in God and His servant Moshe.” But upon

contemplating this verse, it seems a bit puzzling. Bnei Yisrael had just been taken out of Egypt

through ten miraculous plagues. Why is it that they didn't have faith in God after those

miracles?

To make matters worse, there's a lesser known Midrash about Bnei Yisrael while they were

in the middle of the sea. It states that while they were in the sea, Bnei Yisrael were worshipping

idols. How is this possible? How could they be worshipping other gods while they were

witnessing one of the greatest miracles from the One true God?

I believe the answer is rooted in the nature of faith. Faith is not only a passive awareness of

God's Presence but includes actively trying to bring His Presence into one's life. Surely,

miracles play a role in one's faith, but it is not sufficient to rely on miracles as the source of our

faith. Thus, even after the Exodus and while being in the middle of a miraculously split sea,

Bnei Yisrael were struggling with faith. If we wait for miracles to happen to us before we

believe, we may never believe. It is incumbent upon us to actively seek God and work towards

reaching a relationship with Him.

The Shirah Melody and Special Customs for Shabbat Shirah

On Shabbat, *Rosh Hodesh*, and holy-days, we chant "*Az Yashir*". The melody we sing for

the *Shira* has become an "anthem" of sorts for Western Sephardim. It is without doubt the most

well-known and widespread of all Spanish & Portuguese melodies. The *Shira* melody is also used

for *Barukh haBa* in the *Hallel* and other festive occasions and this is also the same melody used

for *Bendigamos*. This melody is very ancient, it has closely related variants in Turkey, Morocco,

and Italy. Macy Nulman has even theorized that the special Ashkenazic Torah chant for the

*Shirat haYam* is actually related to our melody deriving from a common source. This is

another indication that the *Shira* melody has very ancient origins. On *Shabbat Shirah* as well as on

the Seventh day of Passover, we read the *Shira* within the Torah portion of the day. In our com-

munity this section is read with a distinctive and special melody known as "*High Na'um*." This

melody is usually performed with great musical drama. It is reserved for first chapter of Genesis,

the 10 commandments, and several other particularly special or dramatic portions of the Torah.

A unique Spanish & Portuguese custom is that during the morning *zemirot* of Shabbat Shira

we do not conclude the "*Az Yashir*" at verse 18 as we normally would on page 50, rather we con-

tinue chanting straight into verse 19, including Miriam's song, and on until the end of the Torah

portion at verse 26 (see page 367). We also utilize the special *High Na'um* Torah reading melody

even during the *Zemirot* prayers in the morning — and do not chant the normal Shira melody.

So paradoxically, on *Shabbat Shirah* we never read *Az Yashir* with this most famous melody!

While we do not actually chant the *Az Yashir* to the *Shira* melody — this melody is the musical

theme of the day. It is sung during *Kaddish* and *Yigdal* in the evening, and for *Kaddish*, *Kedu-*

*shab*, *En Kelohenu* and *Adon Olam* on Shabbat morning.

CHOIR SELECTIONS

Friday Evening:

Veshameru #1 (p.166) | Samuel Naumbourg

Psalm 23 (p.174) | Rev. H. P. Mendes

Yigdal (p.177) | Traditional (Shirat Hayam)

Shabbat Morning:

Misheberakh (p. 208) | Leon Kramer

Ubnuho Yomar (p. 218) | Leon Hyman

En Kelohenu (p. 229) | Traditional (Shirat Hayam)

Adon Olam (p. 232) | Traditional (Shirat Hayam)

CONGREGATION

5414

1654

SHEARITH ISRAEL

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL

The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Beshallah-Shira

February 7-8, 2020

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 265; Haftarah p. 283

Kaplan Living Torah: p. 320; Haftarah p. 1108

CANDLE LIGHTING | 5:02 pm

EVENING SERVICES (MINHA & ARBIT) | 5:00 pm | Main Sanctuary

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | “Masada's Sabbath

Secret” | 2019-2020 season sponsored by the Julis family.

SHABBAT DINNER WITH PROFESSOR YAACOB DWECK | Levy Auditorium

| for pre-registered guests

ZEMIROT | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

SHAHRIT | 9:15 am

TOT SHABBAT | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

YOUTH GROUPS | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room

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

SHIUR | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | “The Most Misunderstood Tale In Tanakh:

A New Approach to Deborah's War”

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium | Sponsored by Liliane Marks, in memory of

Neville Marks. Kiddush contributors: Esme & Roger Berg in honor of the

anniversary of Louis-Alexandre becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and Daniel &

Katherine Vieyra, in memory of Isidore Vieyra and Bernard Vieyra.

SHABBAT AFTERNOON CLASS | 4:00 pm | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

“The Tree of Life and the Life of a Tree” | Levy Auditorium

EVENING SERVICES (MINHA & ARBIT) | 5:00 pm

HABDALA | 5:51 pm

PARENT-CHILD LEARNING & PIZZA | LED THIS WEEK BY ISABELLE LEVY |

7:00 pm | Elias Room | for elementary school aged children

Tu B'Shebat is on Monday.

Weekday Service Times

Mornings: Sunday: 8:00 AM | Monday-Friday: 7:15 AM

Evenings: Sunday (Minha & Arbit): 5:00 PM

Monday-Thursday (Arbit only): 6:30 PM

Public Tours

Our next public tour is

Wednesday, February

12, at 11:00 AM

Parnas Office Hours

Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet

with you. Please schedule a visit at

[parnas@shearithisrael.org](mailto:parnas@shearithisrael.org).

Central Park West at 70th Street, New York City • [www.shearithisrael.org](http://www.shearithisrael.org)

## A Shabbat Dinner with Hazzan Jonathan Garcia

Friday Night, February 21 | Following 5:30 pm evening services

Enjoy an intimate Shabbat dinner, featuring guest Hazzan, **Jonathan Garcia**, who will be joining us from London, along with his new bride, **Micol Bedarida Garcia**. Our newlywed guests both have deep roots and lineage in S&P *Hazzanut* traditions, going back generations. Together with our clergy, Hazzan Garcia, who regularly leads services at Lauderdale Road Synagogue and occasionally at Bevis Marks, will create a beautiful, music-filled atmosphere for this relaxed dinner, sharing melodies and stories from the London S&P tradition.

*Hazzan Garcia will return to lead Musaf on Shabbat morning.*

To register or sponsor the dinner, visit  
[shearithisrael.org/garcia-dinner](https://shearithisrael.org/garcia-dinner).

## Purim Celebration

Monday Evening, March 9 | Megillah at 7:15

Children's Programming meets at 7:00 pm

The reading of *Megillat Esther* begins promptly at 7:15 pm in the Main Sanctuary. Children are invited to the Elias room for their own special "infotainment" program while the *megillah* is being read. After *megillah*, join us for our annual Purim Dinner!

Stay tuned for programming and dinner details.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome new member **Allan Cohen** to our growing Shearith Israel family.

We welcome **Congregation Rodeph Sholom of Tampa, FL**.

**Judy & Joel Schreiber** are pleased to announce the engagement of their grandson, Yoseph Fein, son of Tobi and Avromie Fein, to Danielle Bodoff, daughter of Bonnie and Jeff Bodoff.

Condolences to **Arthur Goldberg**, on the passing of his brother, Dr. Maurice Golbey.

## Special Lincoln's Birthday Lecture

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

THIS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10 | 7:00 PM

*The Rabbi Who Loved Lincoln (and Was Tormented By His Congregants):*

*The Incredible Civil War Story of Sabato Morais*

## Meldadura for Reverend A. L. Cardozo

Monday, February 17 | Following 6:30 pm Evening Services

An open invitation is extended to anyone who wishes to attend the Meldadura marking the 14th nahala of Rev. A. Lopes Cardozo. As always, the Meldadura will be followed by sushi and fresh pastries. To RSVP, email Debby Cordozo Smith ([debbysmith9730@gmail.com](mailto:debbysmith9730@gmail.com)).

## Brunch & Learn with Rabbi Soloveichik

*For Elementary School Children, PTTS Students, and Parents*

Select Sundays, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

THIS Sunday, February 9 & March 29

Elementary school children, PTTS students, and their parents are invited to enjoy a special time with the rabbi.

To register for this session, visit [shearithisrael.org/brunch-learn](https://shearithisrael.org/brunch-learn).

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 24

## The Art of the Jewish Family

*An interactive crafting workshop with Professor Laura Leibman  
For adults & children over 10 years old*

In the 19th Century, before Facebook or Instagram, commonplace books were a place to record memorable quotes, images, and ideas. By writing in each other's collections, women built friendships and shared the emotional peaks and valleys that made up their world. In this very special and innovative event, each participant will be given the identity of one early American Jewish woman (many of whom were members of Shearith Israel). The craft-box we will use contains materials for each participant to make and decorate their own commonplace book, as well as copies of historical artifacts such as poems, stories, sketches, recipes, portraits, and newspaper clippings that shed light on their persona and that they can share in other participants' books.

Space is limited to 24 people; mandatory registration coming soon at [shearithisrael.org/leibman-workshop](https://shearithisrael.org/leibman-workshop).

## Parent-Child Learning & Pizza

Saturday Nights bi-weekly | One hour after Habdala

*Next session is THIS Saturday night, led by Isabelle Levy*

*For Elementary School Age Children & Their Parents or Grandparents*

This educational initiative gives parents (or grandparents) the opportunity to study Torah with their children in a fun interactive setting led by Shearith Israel's clergy and talented volunteers.

The program is free, but please register for each session at [shearithisrael.org/pclearning](https://shearithisrael.org/pclearning) so we can know how many to expect!

*Parent-Child Learning is sponsored by the Shearith Israel League.*

## RABBI SOLOVEHICK'S UPCOMING MAJOR LECTURES

*Mark Your Calendars and Watch Your Emails*

Following Evening Services

- ◆ This Monday, February 10: *"The Rabbi Who Loved Lincoln (and Was Tormented By His Congregants): The Incredible Civil War Story of Sabato Morais"*
- ◆ Tuesday, March 3: Major Pre-Purim Shiur

## MORE JEWISH EDUCATION 5780

- ⇒ **Friday Night Lights | Rabbi Soloveichik**  
Friday Nights | Following Evening Services
- ⇒ **Shabbat Afternoon Class | Rabbi Soloveichik**  
Shabbat Afternoons | One hour before Minha
- ⇒ **The Guide to the Duties of the Heart | Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander**  
Sunday Mornings | 8:45 am | *Resumes February 16*
- ⇒ **The Idea of Kingship | Rabbi David Silber**  
Sunday Mornings | 10:00 am | *\$250 cost, but FREE for Shearith Israel members* | Registration details at [shearithisrael.org/idea-kingship](https://shearithisrael.org/idea-kingship)
- ⇒ **Tuesday Morning Women's Class | Rabbi Soloveichik**  
Tuesdays | 9:00 am | *Sign up for weekly reminders at [shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists](https://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists)*
- ⇒ **Bet Midrash | led by Steven Gotlib**  
Monday-Thursday | One hour before evening services