

SHEARITH ISRAEL IS PROUD TO CO-SPONSOR TWO
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN TO LEARN
FROM OUR *YOETZET HALAKHA*, SHIFFY FRIEDMAN

Medicine, Halakha, and the Modern Woman

Wednesday, March 27 | 7:30 pm | Women Only

Held at: Congregation Ramath Orah, 550 W110 Street
Join a discussion about common issues relating to women's
health and *mikvah*, presented by Shiffy Friedman, and OB/
GYN Dr. Theresa Linsner.

Top 10 Myths and Misconceptions in Keeping *Taharat Hamishpaha*

Tuesday, April 2 | 7:30 pm | Women Only

Hosted in a private home on the UWS—address provided upon RSVP
Join Shiffy Friedman for a discussion of the Top 10 Myths and
Misconceptions in Keeping *Taharat Hamishpaha* (Jewish
Family Purity Law), including issues of mental health and
anxiety that can arise from keeping *Taharat Hamishpaha*, and
how the laws of *Taharat Hamishpaha* can remain relevant for
married women of all ages and stages.

To RSVP, visit tinyurl.com/misconceptions-rsvp.

CHOIR SELECTIONS THIS SHABBAT

Friday Night

V'Shameru (p. 166) | Samuel Naumbourg (#1)

Psalm 23 (p. 174) | Leon Kramer

Yigdal (p. 177) | "Mi Kamokha" melody traditional for
Shabbat Zachor

Shabbat Morning

Yehi Hasdekha (p. 215) | Leon Hyman

Tehilat (p. 216) | #3 (Arr. Siegfried Landau)

En Kelohenu (p. 229) | Traditional Purim melody (Italian)

Adon Olam (p. 232) | Salamone Rossi

ERASING AMALEK IN MODERN TIMES

— STEVEN GOTLIB AND ASHER SHANABROOK —

This Shabbat and *Keriat HaTorah* is a two for one, both *Paarshat Vayikra*,
the first *parasha* in *Sefer Vayikra*, but also *Parashat Zachor*.

At the beginning of the *parasha*, Rashi comments that the word
"Vayikra," "*and He called*," is a call of affection from G-d to Israel. Given
that Vayikra is a *sefer* full of *korbanot* and *halakhot*, it is difficult to see the
affection that G-d puts into the beginning of the *sefer*. Behind all of the
enigmatic rituals, we see that G-d gives us powerful ideas, meant as gifts
from a loving Father to his children.

One such example is in the second *aliyah*, we have the *pasuk* concerning
the *Korban Olah*, "[The kohen] shall remove its crop [of a dove] with its
contents, and cast it into the place of the ashes, at the east side of the al-
tar" (Vayikra 1:16). The Ramban comments that the word used for
"content" in the *pasuk* has the connotation of something disgusting. The
Gemara in *Zevachim 61* explains the procedure as cutting out the disgust-
ing contents of the *korban*, and then disposing of them on the easternmost
section altar, which the Ibn Ezra notes is the farthest away from the Sanctu-
ary. Surely the strong language and striking action described in the Torah is
not without significance. From one simple step of the *Korban Olah*, we see
the message that even the holiest of offerings contain fault, and it is our
imperative to remove that which contaminates the pure. This is true for us
as well, as though we may be good and holy people, we still can, and must
try to remove our negative qualities.

The same idea can be mirrored in a deeper understanding of Amalek. Rav
Hirsch writes that even in our time, the people of Amalek are no longer a
threat, but the *idea* in the Torah of Amalek, like everything in the Torah,
lasts forever. Today, we fight the idea of Amalek by keeping ourselves up-
right, removing that which is antithetical to the Torah, and staying true to
our ethics and values.

Purim was a time in which we exemplified this idea. Not only did we rid
the world of Haman, a descendant of Amalek, but the Jewish people
purged themselves of their errors committed in feasting with Ahashverosh
on the *kelim* of the Beit HaMikdash, and united under Esther and Morde-
cai, confirming their commitment to Hashem and His Torah.

B'zman hazeh, in our current times, we can take the lessons from the
Korban Olah and from the mitzvah of *Zekher Amalek*, and with Hashem's
help remove the bad, and elevate the good within each and every one of us.
Shabbat Shalom and Purim Allegre!

*Steven Gotlib and Asher Shanabrook are both university students in our
ongoing Open Bet Midrash program with Rabbi Yanetz, which meets on most
weeknights, from 5:15 until evening services. Every Thursday, one of our
students delivers a short debar Torah — come next week to learn more! If you
have any questions, please contact Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.*



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
Year of Years Celebration

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Vayikra-Zachor *March 15-16, 2019*

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 409; Haftarah p. 995
Zachor: p. 856
Kaplan Living Torah: p. 498; Haftarah p. 1274
Zachor: p. 988

CANDLE LIGHTING | 6:44 pm

EVENING SERVICES | 6:30 pm

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS | Rabbi Soloveichik | "Memory and Memento" | 2018
-2019 season sponsored by the Julis Family.

MORNING SERVICES | Main Sanctuary | 8:15 am

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

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

JUNIOR CONGREGATION WITH TORAH READING | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

LECTURE | Rabbi Soloveichik | "The Merchant of Venice and the Purim of Venice"
KIDDUSH LUNCHEON | Levy Auditorium | *Sponsored by Mary Ellen and James
Rudolph in memory of Sol and Bessie Feffer and Leon and Dina Sebag, and in
honor of their 50th wedding anniversary, and by Ina & Steve Beispe, in honor of
Paul Beispe's 90th birthday.*

SHABBAT AFTERNOON SHIUR | Rabbi Soloveichik | 5:40 PM | "Reading and
Singing the Megillah" | Levy Auditorium

EVENING SERVICES | 6:40 pm

HABDALA | 7:37 pm

Purim begins on Wednesday night. See inside for full Purim schedule.

Weekday Service Times

Mornings:

Sunday: 8:00 am | Monday-Friday: 7:15 am

Evenings:

Sunday-Tuesday, & Thursday (Minha & Arvit): 6:30

PURIM AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

CSI Youth Presents: Megillat Esther Puppet Show

Wednesday, March 20 | Arrive at 7:00 pm for 7:15 showtime

We welcome back The Talking Hands Theatre puppet show during the reading of the *Megillah* this year! All children are invited for an interactive Purim puppet show featuring big, colorful, Carnivale-inspired puppets. The audience is invited to sing, dance, learn a Middle Eastern rhythm, play "Haman Says," and get to know the characters of the Purim story. Children under 2 must be accompanied by their own caregiver.

If you would like to sponsor our Purim youth festivities, visit shearithisrael.org/purim-youth.

Annual Women's Megillah Reading

Thursday, March 21 | 8:00 am

(Following 7:15 am Morning Services)

All women are invited to join in this beautiful annual tradition. Come listen and be inspired!

Annual Purim Breakfast

Thursday, March 21 | Following *megillah* readings

Every year we treat our congregation to a festive Purim Breakfast, following the 8:00 am readings of the *megillah* on Purim morning. To help ensure that we have plenty of hamentashen to go around, visit shearithisrael.org/purim-breakfast.

Don't Forget to Give *Matanot La'Ebyonim*

It is one of the *mitzvot* of Purim to give charity to the poor. You can easily fulfill this mitzvah through the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. Donate online, or send a check made out exactly to "Cong. Shearith Israel Rabbis Discretionary Fund" (in the memo, write: "Purim").

Your gifts will be distributed by Rabbi Soloveichik on Purim to those in need.

Go to shearithisrael.org/matanot to donate.

Shabbat Zakhor/Mi Khamokha

This week, the Shabbat preceding Purim, we add Deut. 25:17-19, which begins with the word "Zakhor" - "Remember [Amalek]." Haman, because of his wicked designs to exterminate the Jewish people, was thought to be a spiritual descendant of Amalek, the first presumed "annihilators" of the Israelites. Sephardic congregations everywhere mark the occasion with the reading of Yehuda Halevy's poem, "Mi Khamokha" as we do at 9:00 am as a prelude to *Shabrit*.

PURIM SCHEDULE

Fast of Esther, Wednesday, March 20

Dawn (Fast Begins)..... 5:38 am

Morning Service..... 7:15 am

Eve of Purim, Wednesday Evening, March 20

Minha (men wear tefillin)..... 6:30 pm

Arbit Service..... 7:00 pm

Reading of Megillah..... 7:15 pm

End of Fast..... 7:30 pm

Following Megillah: Purim Dinner for Registered Guests

Late Reading of Megillah..... 9:00 pm

Purim Day, Thursday, March 21st

Morning Service..... 7:15 am

Morning Reading of Megillah..... 8:00 am

Women's Megillah Reading..... 8:00 am

Following Megillah: Purim Breakfast for All

Late Morning Reading of Megillah... 11:00 am

Purim Day Minha & Arbit Services.... 6:30 pm

End of Day..... 7:31 pm

Purim Shushan, Friday, March 22

Morning Service..... 7:15 am

Sisterhood *Mishloah Manot* Pickup

Wednesday Evening, March 20 &

Thursday Morning, March 21 | Outside Levy Auditorium

If you selected the pickup option online for your *mishloah manot*, you can pick up your package at the Synagogue on Purim outside Levy Auditorium. Otherwise, you will receive a card with well-wishes. *Purim Allegre!*

2019 New York Sephardic Jewish Film Festival

March 6-20

The Center for Jewish History, 15 W 16th Street

Shearith Israel is a proud co-sponsor of the 2019 New York Sephardic Jewish Film Festival. Shearith Israel members can get discounted tickets (see below). The festival showcases films about Jewish communities in Morocco, France, Spain, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Syria, and Iraq. Many films will be followed by a Q&A session with the directors as well as other guests.

Visit nysephardicfilmfestival.org to select the film(s) you'd like to see and use discount code SHEARITH.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Toddler Summer Camp

June 18-August 15 | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 am

For ages 16-34 months | *Caregiver attendance required*

During our summer session, weather permitting, we enjoy outdoor time with small wading pools outside on our Portico "beach," in addition to the beautiful Fidanque Youth Room. There is time for play, craft projects, exercises, saying *berakhot* (blessings), snack, stories, music and more.

To learn more and enroll, visit shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp.

Are You a Part of Our Morning Minyan?

Morning minyan participants are treated to a breakfast of champions (cereal and milk). Jumpstart your day by nourishing your body and soul and help make this minyan strengthening initiative a success. To sponsor, go to shearithisrael.org/cereal.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazal Tob to Joshua Rozenberg, who is being inducted into the Ben Zakkai Honor Society at the 2nd Annual NCSY Gala Dinner on Sunday, March 17 at Marina Del Rey.

To register and/or contribute, visit ncsy.org/gala.

Condolences to Margaret Guenoun, on the passing of her mother, Bridget Martin.

Public Tours

Our next public tour is
Wednesday, April 10,
at 11:00 AM

Parnas Office Hours

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