

בצאתי ממצרים — OUT OF EGYPT: Celebrating Egyptian Jewish Heritage at Shearith Israel

Wednesday, May 8 | 7:00 pm

Deadline to submit to the commemorative booklet: April 8

Please join us for an evening celebrating Egyptian Jewish Heritage at Shearith Israel. This very special event will take place on the eve of Yom HaAtzmaut — itself a seminal moment that changed the lives of the Jews of Egypt.

Moderated by **Rabbi Soloveichik**, the program will feature presentations by noted author, **Andre Aciman**, personal reminiscences from **Emy Cohen** and her family, a panel discussion and more. The evening will also include light traditional refreshments and an exhibit about Jewish life in Egypt, curated by our partner, the **American Sephardi Federation**, featuring photographs and artifacts loaned for the occasion by members of Shearith Israel. A special commemorative booklet highlighting family histories and photographs of Jewish life in Egypt will be distributed to all attendees.

Register for only \$5 at shearithisrael.org/egypt-heritage.

We are currently collecting submissions for our commemorative booklet—if you would like to share your family's story and photographs from their time in Egypt, please submit them for consideration to zedinger@shearithisrael.org by April 8.



This program is one of our many Year of Years, 365th Anniversary events, showcasing the extraordinary diversity of our congregation and community.

CHOIR SELECTIONS THIS SHABBAT Friday Night

V'Shameru “#1” (p. 166) | Samuel Naumbourg
Psalm 23 (p. 174) | Rev. H.P. Mendes

Shabbat Morning

Yehi Hasdekha “#1” (p. 215) | Traditional
Tehilat (p. 216) | Leon Hyman
U'benuho Yomar (p. 218) | Samuel Naumbourg
En Kelohenu (p. 229) | Samuel de Sola

DEBAR TORAH — STEVEN GOTLIB —

In the first *aliyah* of Parashat Tazria, we read that if a person develops a scaly affliction called a *nega*, they are to get themselves examined by one of the priests (Lev. 13:2). The Mishnah in Negaim teaches us many things about the examination process as follows:

- An affliction can only be inspected at very specific times of day (Negaim 2:2).
- A priest who is blind in either eye or who has diminished vision cannot examine an affliction (Negaim 2:3).
- One can inspect any affliction, provided it is not their own. Rabbi Meir says that a close relative's would also not be allowed (Negaim 2:5).

So, what do these *mishnayot* teach us about the nature of inspecting this mysterious divine affliction? That we care about getting it right. We care about issuing as accurate of a judgement as possible and ensuring that no one is treated incorrectly.

Any of the situations above may lead to inspection issues that complicate an otherwise straightforward judgment. Negaim cannot be inspected if it is too bright or too dark outside, lest the coloring of the affliction be judged inaccurately. Likewise, the priest's vision has to be as good as possible, or the coloring could do be misidentified as well.

Finally, a priest cannot inspect their own affliction and maybe not even the afflictions of their close relatives. Why? Because they are too close to the case. Their perspective will be laden with conscious and unconscious biases. Human beings can always be too self-critical or self-confident, and we know our feelings towards family always gets in the way of viewing them objectively. This last Mishnah therefore teaches us the value if realizing our limitations and knowing when to get a second opinion or to ask for advice.

As people we may not always be perfect, but we can certainly create systems to check our balances.

Steven Gotlib is a rabbinical student at Yeshiva University, and a student in our ongoing Bet Midrash program with Rabbi Yanetz, which meets at Shearith Israel on most weeknights.



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Tazria-Rosh Hodesh-HaHodesh *April 5-6, 2019*

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 460; Haftarah p. 1002
Rosh Hodesh: p. 695 | HaHodesh: p. 253
Kaplan Living Torah: p. 556; Haftarah p. 1284
Rosh Hodesh: p. 814 | HaHodesh: p. 308

CANDLE LIGHTING | 7:07 pm

EVENING SERVICES | 6:30 pm

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: HAGGADAH EDITION | Rabbi Soloveichik | “Beresheet, Exodus, and the Moon Landing” | 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 | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

LECTURE | Rabbi Soloveichik | “Hare Today: The Haggadah's Rabbit Revisited”

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium

SHABBAT AFTERNOON PRE-PESAH SHIUR | Rabbi Soloveichik | 6:00 PM | “Rabbi Akiba's Extraordinary Addition to the Haggadah” | Levy Auditorium

EVENING SERVICES | 7:00 pm

HABDALA | 8:02 pm

Weekday Service Times

Mornings:

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

Evenings:

Sunday-Thursday (Minha & Arbit): 6:30 pm

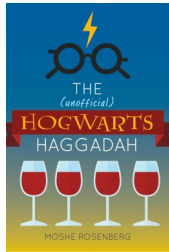
PREPARE FOR PESAH

Shabbat HaGadol Derasha
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

NEXT Shabbat, April 13 | Following Morning Services

“Jews, Gentiles, and the Secrets of the
Sarajevo Haggadah”

*Sponsored by Debbie and David Sable in memory of Debbie's father,
Ambassador Yehuda Avner, on the occasion of his nahala.*



THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Potter & Pesah

*With the author of The Hogwarts Haggadah,
Rabbi Moshe Rosenberg*

who will be introduced by his daughter,
Shearith Israel's Communications and
Programs Associate, Sarah Meira Rosenberg
5:30 pm | For ages 7-107

What does the most famous boy wizard in the world have in common with the Exodus story? More than you think! Learn how to bring some magic to your *seder* with Rabbi Rosenberg's bestselling haggadah.

Rabbi Moshe Rosenberg is the spiritual leader of Congregation Etz Chaim in Kew Gardens Hills, and the author of many works on Harry Potter and Torah.

Online registration is closed, but walk-ins are welcome!

Selling Hametz & Maot Hittim

Rabbi Soloveichik will be selling our community's *hametz* before Pesah. You can authorize him sell your hametz on your behalf using our convenient online form.

Visit shearithisrael.org/pesah5779 for more details.

While you're there, take the time to think of those less fortunate and fulfill the mitzvah of Maot Hittim by submitting a gift to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. You can submit online or by check made out exactly to "Congregation Shearith Israel Rabbis Discretionary Fund" (indicate "maot hittim" in the memo).

To donate, please go to shearithisrael.org/pesah5779.

PREPARE FOR PESAH

DOUBLE HEADER!

**Mitzvot Workshop with Shamash, Z. Edinger
&
Matzah Baking**

For Children Aged 5-12 | NEXT Sunday, April 14 | 10:00 am
In this last workshop of the year, Z. will prepare our children for the special Shearith Israel Pesah traditions.

Following this Pesah Workshop, we will have our annual hands-on matzah baking workshop! **Make sure to sign up so we can have the appropriate amount of supplies.**

Sign up for both (it's FREE!) at
shearithisrael.org/mitzvot-workshop.

WE NEED 20 MORE VOLUNTEERS!

Pre-Pesah Pack-A-Thon

THIS Tuesday, April 9 | 7:00 pm

For all ages

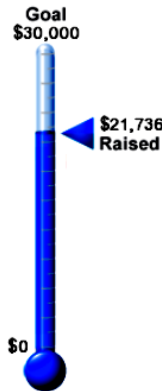
Register at shearithisrael.org/pesah-packathon
Another way to fulfill the mitzvah of Maot Hittim this Pesah!

Together with Chamah, Shearith Israel will provide ample food to Jewish families who otherwise could not afford to have proper holiday meals on Pesah.

Our volunteers will be packing several hundred hearty, substantial food packages including enough meat and fish for families to enjoy throughout Pesah (and perhaps beyond). The packages will not distributed through food pantries; rather, Chamah volunteers deliver the meals directly to the homes in a discreet, anonymous fashion.

To volunteer and/or donate to this important cause, visit shearithisrael.org/pesah-packathon.

Thank you to trustee and Chamah board member Oliver Stanton, who helped facilitate this meaningful partnership.



The Site of Shearith Israel's First Synagogue To Be Named:

“Mill Street Synagogue/Seixas Way”

Ceremony at the SE Corner of S. William & Broad Streets

THIS Monday, April 8 | 12:30 PM

Thanks to the efforts of the Lower Manhattan Historical Association, the site of Shearith Israel's first synagogue building will be co-named “Mill Street Synagogue/Seixas Way.” All are invited to the ceremony that will unveil the new street sign. The ceremony will include presentations by city officials and dignitaries, including our own Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, the 10th Minister of Shearith Israel since the Revolution and a great fan of our first minister, the “patriot rabbi” Reverend Gershom Mendes Seixas.

RSVP to james.kaplan@lmha-nyc.org is requested, and required to attend the reception to follow at the Fraunces Tavern Museum.

For more information, visit lmha-nyc.org/mill-street-synagogue.

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 12, 11:30 AM

Presented by The Sisterhood

Kindertransport:

Rescuing Children on the Brink of War

A private tour and luncheon with remarks from Holocaust survivor, Anne Kelemen

The Center For Jewish History | 15 W 16th Street

Registration coming soon. Children 6th grade and up are welcome.

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO:

Alexander Seligson on the passing of his mother,
Anita Seligson.

Our sister congregation, Lincoln Square Synagogue, upon the loss of "The Chaz," Sherwood Goffin, their beloved cantor of many years.

Public Tours

Our next public tour is
this 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.