



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023

SPRING -
SUMMER
2018

אביב וקיץ תשע"ח

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



The Bulletin

America's First Jewish Congregation



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ON THE COVER:

April 17-18 will mark the 200th anniversary of the consecration of the second Mill Street Synagogue, which took place on Shabbat Hagadol in 1818, recognized with an address by Mordecai Manuel Noah. The congregation met in this building until 1833.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

A TALE OF TWO TRAINS

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



The American Heritage Haggadah has an unusual photograph taken in 1919, featuring Jewish GIs in a Pullman car on a siding in the railroad yards of Detroit, Michigan, celebrating the first

night of Pesah. These soldiers, Geffen explains, were “returning from Europe were on their way to Camp Grant, near Chicago, to be discharged. When it became clear that they could not get to Illinois in time for the beginning of Pesach, the Jewish Welfare Board arranged a seder for them on the train route, and obtained a rabbi to officiate, in the dining car, for what may have been the first and last train seder in history.”

And as I pondered this picture I realized that a train car is actually the perfect place to celebrate Passover. After all, Pesah marked the first great Jewish journey and therefore the first great national act of faith. “I remember the loving loyalty of your youth,” God says in Jeremiah, “that you followed me into the desert, into an unsown land.”

I thought of the “train seder” when I read a moving reflection by Aaron Katz, who moved to Beit Shemesh from Chicago. Katz commutes daily to Tel Aviv by train, on which there is a

morning minyan; as a Kohen, he participates in a moving—in both senses of the word—priestly blessing for his fellow travelers. The words of the blessing, he reflects, have taken on a whole new meaning:

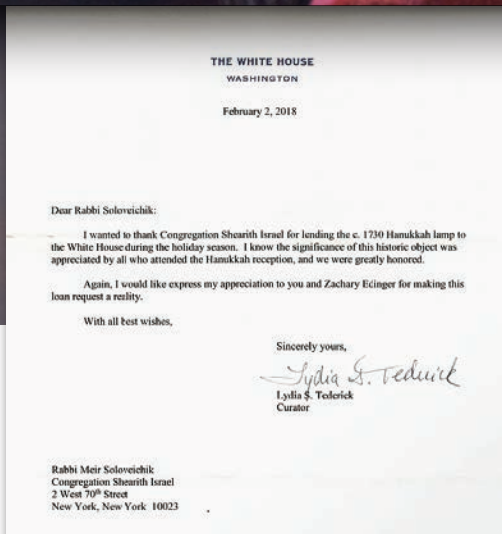
“On a train filled with the spectrum of Israeli society, I have a unique opportunity to provide the passengers, including the soldiers and police officers who risk their lives to defend the State of Israel, with a blessing of protection and peace.”

Katz marvels at the miracle of the life he lives; the Talmud, he notes, speaks of the priestly blessing radiating from the synagogue to those Jews working in the fields, and now he is reciting those blessings in a reborn Jewish state as it quite literally moves through the flourishing fields of the holy land.

The miracle that is the Jewish journey continues today. As we, on Pesah, prepare to remember when this journey began, may we be blessed with peace as the journey continues, and may there be many more miracles yet to come.

Meir Y. Soloveichik

ARCHIVAL ITEMS ON LOAN



Thank you letter from the White House in appreciation for the loan of the Hanukkiah



The vast archives of which Shearith Israel is the proud caretaker are arguably the most important and largest private collection of American Jewish historical materials. We receive frequent requests from prestigious institutions for permission to display these priceless Jewish artifacts, manuscripts, and ritual objects. It requires substantial resources for Shearith Israel to maintain their condition and historicity, to share them with institutions near and far, and, most importantly, to keep these ritual objects in active ritual use. As part of our *Year of Years* Celebration, we will be highlighting examples that demonstrate our commitment to sharing our history while perpetuating the observance of our ritual and tradition.

- Myer Myers Silver Rimmon c. 1765, currently at the N-Y Historical Society
- Revolutionary War Torah Scroll, currently at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington DC
- Sabbath Lamp and Candlestick c. 1730, currently at Beit Hatfutsot in Israel
- The Shearith Israel Constitution and Bill of Rights (1790), currently at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia
- Hanukkah Lamp c. 1730, recently at the White House for use at the official White House Hanukkah Celebration
- Portraits of Mordechai Manuel Noah (1834) and Rebecca Jackson Noah, recently at the Princeton University Art Museum
- Hanukkah Lamp and Sabbath Lamp c. 1730, recently at the Joods Historisch in Amsterdam

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS UPDATE ON OUR YEAR OF YEARS CAMPAIGN

Louis M. Solomon



Dear Congregants:

In the two most recent Bulletins (Summer 2017 and Fall/Winter 2017-18), I had the privilege, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, of announcing and updating the Congregation on our *Year of Years* Campaign – celebrating the first 365 years, a full “year of years”, that our Congregation has participated in the American experience. I am happy to report that we are progressing in our *Year of Years* Campaign, which will culminate in a major gala in 2019. The progress is along three different paths.

First, in terms of major gifts, as reported previously, we have commitments from four congregational families who will be among the twenty-three Sustaining Families for our next *Year of Years*. In addition, the entire Board of Trustees and other Congregational leaders have undertaken to use their own family resources to retire some expensive debt that was saddling our operations and to replace that debt with loans at dramatically lower interest rates. This dramatic act of Hesed will enable us to pay off the expensive debt and to repay the newer debt over a period of years without undue burden to the Congregation. It also improves our balance sheet in a way that the Board of Trustees feels puts us in an excellent position to attract other donors, major and minor, to the *Year of Years* Campaign. These acts of generosity by our Board and Congregational leaders resemble acts of our

past congregants, who gave so much to enable us to enjoy our glorious Synagogue and its physical and spiritual appurtenances to this day.

Second, in terms of full community participation, we have hired a fundraising consultant, and several of our members have volunteered, to begin actively soliciting congregants over the course of the next year. You will be hearing from them. Please respond generously.

Third, and most importantly, Rabbi Soloveichik has announced the first of the special programming is an integral part of our *Year of Years* Celebration. The major symposium, entitled Passover and the American Imagination, will take place on Sunday, March 18, 2018, and promises to be truly extraordinary. Participants will get to view rarely exhibited archival materials, such as Thomas Jefferson’s letter to Mordecai Manuel Noah; hear lectures and conversations with eminent scholars such as Rabbi Soloveichik and Lincoln historian, Harold Holtzer; and learn remarkable lessons of liberty form the American Jewish historical narrative, which, together with a custom created Passover Reader, will prepare and energize us for this year’s Passover Haggadah (or Seder). The Symposium will be followed by a festive luncheon, where we will pay tribute to our Hatanim for this year, Simon Salama-Caro, Hatan Torah, and Robert Kapito, Hatan Bereshit. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Louis M. Solomon



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Juliette Katherine Berg and her husband, Hunter Allen Watts, and on the birth of twin girls, Josephine Frances and Margaret Maude. Congratulations to the grandparents, trustee, Esme and Roger Berg.

Talia Berman on becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her mother, Sara Berman, and her father, David Berman.

Laura Daar on her marriage to Eliezer Frye. Congratulations to her parents, trustee, Karen and Jack Daar.

Rose and Henry Edinger, on the recent marriage of their granddaughter, Chana Edinger, to Jonathan ("Jono") Fuchs of Teaneck, NJ.

Tova Goldstein on her marriage to Yishai Chamudot in Israel. Congratulations to her parents, trustee, Dr. Victoria Bengualid and Gabriel Goldstein, and to Tova's grandfather, honorary trustee, Henri Bengualid.

Daniella Roberts on becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Joy Saleh and Bruce Roberts.

Julie Walpert and Rabbi Charlie Savenor on their son Joseph Samuel Savenor becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Judy and Joel Schreiber on the birth of a great-grandson, born to their grandchildren, Tobi and Ben Weingarten.

Alexandra and Chalom Silber on the birth of a baby boy.

Marlene and Michael Sperling on the birth of a grandson to their children, Shoshana and Will Yagoda.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Hazakim U'berukhim:

Alex Levi, Samuel Neumark, and Amanda Schachter, for running in the NYC Marathon.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Avrom and Arlene Doft

Jacob and Suzanne Doft

Caryl and Israel Englander

Rachel and Robert Garson

Halana and Alan Greenberg

Nancy Hoffman

George Klein

Vida and Arthur Mantel

Randee and Kenneth Rubenstein

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of our members:

Hetty Te Korte

Manos Marcus

Francis Nathan

James Powell

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Dr. Joel Blass, on the loss of his mother, Rita Blass.

Isaac Corre, on the passing of his father, the late minister of Congregation Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia, Rev. Alan D. Corré.

Rabbi Albert Gabbai, our former Hazzan, on the passing of his brother, Moni Gabbai.

Jean and Serge Naggar, on the passing of their son, Alan Naggar. Condolences to his wife, Michelle, to his siblings, David Naggar and Jennifer Naggar Weitz, to his uncle Jeffrey Mosseri, and his cousin, Vivienne Bregman.

Bill Nathan, Fred Nathan, Jr., Jean Nathan, and the entire Nathan family on the passing of Francis Nathan.

Connie Lu Powell, on the passing of her husband, James Powell.

Dr. Lu Steinberg (Schulder), on the passing of her mother, Lillian Steinberg.

Ruth Yasky and John Vinci, on the passing of John's father, Salvatore Vinci.

Bequests

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. To learn how, or for more information, please speak with our executive director, Barbara Reiss.

IN APPRECIATION

Class Sponsors:

Jeff Berger, for sponsoring a Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of his father, Joseph Berger.

The Julis family, for sponsoring the 2017-2018 season of Friday Night Lights.

The Neumark family, for sponsoring a Shabbat morning seminar in commemoration of the first nahala of Debby Neumark.

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Fall semester of Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of Chana Razel bat Aaron v'Sarah.

Vivienne Roumani-Denn and Morton Denn for sponsoring two of Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon Classes, in memory of Vivienne's father, Joseph Roumani (Yosef b. Binyamin Roumani), and brother, Jacques Roumani (Yaakov Nissim b. Yosef Roumani).

Debbie and David Sable, for sponsoring a Friday Night Lights class, in memory of David's father, Rabbi Jack Sable.

Jane Shiff, for sponsoring a Tuesday Morning Women's Class and a Tuesday Evening Talmud Class, in memory of her father, Nathan Renick (Nissan Shalom bar Pinkhas Zelig and Shprintza).

Alan and Carole Schechter, for sponsoring the Fall semester of Rabbi Soloveichik's Tuesday Evening Talmud Class, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik.

Minyan Breakfast Sponsors:

Faith Fogelman, in memory of her father, Theodore Watkin.

Dr. Morris Shamah, in memory of his father-in-law, Isaac Dweck.

— continued —

Kiddush Fund Sponsors:

Esme and Roger Berg in honor of the recent birth of twin girls to their daughter Juliette, and in honor of their son Louis Alexandre's reading the haftarah on the occasion of his bar mitzvah anniversary.

Karen and Jack Daar, in honor of the engagement of Laura Daar and Eliezer Frye.

Rose and Henry Edinger in honor of their granddaughter, Michal Herman, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Suzanne Stern and Sjimon den Hollander, in honor of Orah Meisels becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Ronen Korin, in memory of his mother, Tziporah Korin.

The Neumark family, in commemoration of the first nahala of Debby Neumark.

Liliane Marks, in memory of her mother, Josephine Saada Dahan, and in honor of the marriage of Zachary and Malka Edinger.

Liliane Marks, in memory of her husband, Dr. Neville Marks.

Lydia and David Sarfati in memory of Lydia's father, Shelomo bar Moshe Van Moppes.

Scotch and Arak Sponsors:

Suzanne Morad, in memory of her father, Said Benjamin Morad.

Andrea and Reverend Phil Sherman

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Ellis Tavin



New Fidanque Youth Room:

Thank you to a group of congregants who through their initiative, efforts, and funding, enabled us to create our new Fidanque Youth Room. Thanks to their generosity and vision, our youngest children now have a beautiful and inviting space of their own, with many new toys to enjoy.

Charleston Shabbaton Sponsors:

Lewis Bateman

Gwen Francis

Rose Gerszberg

Ron Goldofsky

Dina and David Reis

Hedda Rudoff

Meralee and Sidney Schlusberg

Esther and Bill Schulder

William Senders

Daniel Sklarin

Balfour Centennial Lecture

Sponsor:

The Solomon Family

Donor:

Lynette and Jonathan Tulkoff

Contributors:

Warren R. Stern

Rachel and Dr. David Vorchheimer

Young Couples and Families Thanksgiving Shabbat Luncheon Sponsors:

Hanna and Stephen Solomon

Rivka and Marc Wiznia

Thanksgiving Day Festivities:

Sponsors:

Jane and Reuben Leibowitz

Contributors:

Roslyn Braun

Victoria S. Cook

S & P Garson Family of NY

Sabra and Simon Gerson

Thanksgiving Pack-A-Thon 2017 Donors:

Leah Albek

Anonymous

Michelle and Jonathan Aufzien

Dahlia Bellows

Elissa Bemporad

Andrea Bennett

Allen Blankenship

Karyn Bogart

Michael Bos

Roslyn Braun

Stephanie Cape

Douglas and Nancy Clark

Nicole Cohen

Karen and Jack Daar

Deborah Dayan

Brigitte Dayan

Karen Drechsler

Bill Ellison

David Feit

Sarah Finegold

Marilyn Flood

Alan Friedman

Zoya Raynes and Robert Friedman

Jeanne Fromer

Julie Gans

Robert Garson

Valerie Gerstein

Patty Goldman

Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman

Osna Haller

Alessandra Rovati and Lloyd Harmetz

Lori Jacobowitz

Ysoscher Katz

Marisa Kest

Luciana Pajacki Lederman

Reuben Leibowitz

Elisheva Levi

Beth Lincks

Miri Lipsky

Lisa Lundgren

Rachel Brody and Michael Lustig

Chris Lyons

Gina Malul

Beth Martin

St Paul Inside the Walls and McCusker, Anselmi, Rosen & Carvelli

Jerome Miller

Amanda Nussbaum

David Pfeiffermann

Daniela Piperno

Rande Price

Sarah Meira Rosenberg

Cynthia Rosenberg

Aviva Roumani

Fran Sabshon

Sabrina Rosen Salomon

Sharon and Rafe Sasson

Esther and Bill Schulder

Shulie Seidler-Feller

Hadar Shasho

Nina Sherman

Janine Sherr

Elana Sinensky

Marvin Small

Hanna Solomon

Marlene, Michael, Dahlia, and Eli Sperling

Brachie Sprung

Andrea Steinkamp

Nathan Stilwell

Daniel Suckewer

Adina, Phil, Sarah, and Daniel Wagman

Lisa Weitzman

Ronald White

Ann Wimpfheimer

Rivka and Marc Wiznia

Eric Woodall



Hamilton Luncheon with Dr. Andrew Porwancher:

Underwriters:

Dr. Natalie Hahn and Dr. Martin L. Fox

Sponsors:

Anonymous
Halana and Alan Greenberg
Ahron Herring
Jackie and Andrew Klaber
Jane Schiff and Alan Lubarr
The Brody-Lustig Family
Esther and Bill Schulder
Carol and Alan Schechter
Scott Shay
Aviva and Marvin Sussman
Anna and Dov Zigler

Contributors:

Joy Saleh and Bruce Roberts
Fran Sabshon

Our bulletin goes to print one month in advance of delivery. Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.

Tu B'Shebat Shiur:

Sponsors:

Esther and Bill Schulder

Contributors:

Joseph Blank
Linda and Dr. Morris Shamah, in memory of Marlene Cohen

Purim Breakfast Sponsors:

Liliane Marks, in honor of her first reading of the megillah.

Arthur Tenenholtz, in memory of his father, Benjamin Tenenholtz.

Joel Tenenholtz, in memory of his father, Benjamin Tenenholtz.

Contributors to the New Tallit Fund:

Norman Benzaquen
Steven Beispel
Jonathan de Sola Mendes
Steve Okin
Seligson Family
Arthur Tenenholtz

Do you have a life-cycle event, milestone, or major achievement to share with the community? Send it to Sarah Meira Rosenberg at srosenberg@shearithisrael.org so we can share the news in our handouts and bulletins.

PESAH

MATZAH BAKING

Thursday, March 22

CSI Youth are invited to join PTTS as we experience the popular Model Matzah Bakery, with Rabbi Yisroel Fried of Chabad of the West Side. For more information, see page 23.

SHABBAT HAGADOL DERASHA

Shabbat, March 24

Following morning services, Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver his annual Shabbat HaGadol *derasha*.

TEEN GIRLS' SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Eighth Day of Passover, Saturday, April 7

After musaf, the teen girls of our synagogue take part in our unique tradition as they read The Song of Songs for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary after services. For more information, see page 26.



HOLIDAYS

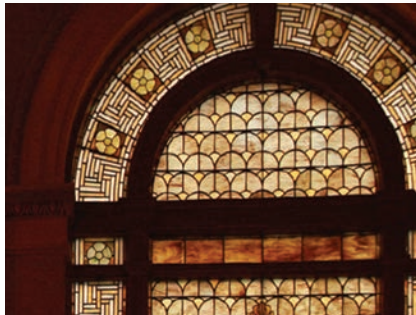


MAOT HITTIM

In the opening paragraph of the Haggadah, we read: "All who are hungry, let them come and eat." As part of experiencing freedom ourselves, we must also ensure that our fellow Jews have the means to celebrate freedom too. *Maot Hittim* is a special Passover fund, originally intended to provide the poor with matzah. Your online gift or check made out to the "Rabbi's Discretionary Fund" (indicate "*maot hittim*" in the memo) will be distributed by Rabbi Soloveichik right before Pesah. To donate, please visit shearithisrael.org/maothittim.

SELLING HAMETZ

Congregants are welcome to appoint Rabbi Soloveichik or Rabbi Rohde to sell their *hametz* in advance of Passover. A convenient online form will be available or members may handle this transaction in person at the synagogue by Thursday, March 29.



SHABU'OT

SHABU'OT PUBLIC LECTURE

Saturday Night, May 19 | 11:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver another intriguing lecture at what has become a prime Shabu'ot learning destination on the Upper West Side. After the talk, guests are encouraged to enjoy some cheesecake!

GIRLS' MEGILLAT RUTH READING

First Day of Shabu'ot
Sunday, May 20th | 11:30 am

Following morning services, the girls of our synagogue recite *Megillat Ruth* for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary. For more information, see page 26.

TISHA B'AB

TISHA B'AB LECTURE

Ereb Tisha B'Ab
Saturday Night, July 21

Following the 9:20 pm reading of *Eikhab*, Rabbi Soloveichik will give a public lecture. Read more about our deeply moving Tisha B'Ab Services on page 30.

PTTS HOLIDAY EVENTS

PTTS MODEL HAGGADAH (SEDER)

Sunday, March 25

After learning about Pesah and the stories, prayers, traditions, and practices surrounding the holiday, our entire Hebrew School conducts its very own Model Haggadah. In true PTTS fashion, the students will work together to create their own unique Pesah Haggadah experience, filled with songs and treats.

PTTS LAG LA'OMER PARK OUTING

Thursday, May 3

PTTS will journey to Central Park to enjoy the great outdoors in honor of Lag La'Omer. The students will learn the story of Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai while also enjoying outdoor activities traditionally enjoyed on Lag La'Omer.

MINHAG MATTERS

BeKol Simḥa – A Forgotten Poem for Shabu'ot

Zachary Edinger, Ritual Director/Shamash



Well-known within our congregation is a special poem sung to honor the Ḥatanim on Simḥat Torah called *Tenu Shebaḥa*. It is a simple poem with a beautiful melody that has become a much loved highlight of the holiday. This piyyut (liturgical poem) is recited only in our congregation, as its melody and words were composed by the Hazzan Jacques Judah Lyons. Lyons served Shearith Israel from 1839 to 1877. He had a very long tenure and meticulously recorded our customs in great detail and was an influential figure in the perpetuation of our minhag. In the archives of the synagogue, I recently came across a letter written in 1841 by Rev. Lyons to the Board of Trustees detailing the order of the Shabu'ot service. Interestingly, the letter contains a special poem for the consecration anniversary of the Crosby Street synagogue, which was built in 1834. The poem was to be sung by the Hazzan at the conclusion of the evening service on the eve of the first day of Shabuot, after Yigdal. It is a short and simple rhyme and is very similar in form to Lyons's more lasting composition, *Tenu Shebaḥa*. Although minor in significance, this poem is another example of Hebrew poetry composed in early America.* I have yet to discover when or why it ceased to be a part of our Shabu'ot service or what melody it was sung to. Nevertheless, the text is presented here for the first time (with a very loose translation of my own):

<i>With sounds of joy and sounds of prayer – This day for God Almighty we will declare.</i>	בקול שמחה ובקול זמרה נקרא היום לאל נורא
<i>For this is the day the Lord did make – Let us rejoice in it and celebrate.</i>	כי יום זה עשה ה' נגילה בו ונשמחה
<i>Oh, please flower and cause to blossom this place so terribly awesome.</i>	אנא יפריח מקום נורא
<i>We pray for the sanctuary pure and clean. Please, oh Lord, Exalted, Supreme.</i>	נתפלל לדביר טהורה אנא השם גאה גאה
<i>Shine forth the pillar of light – and build the chosen Temple site!</i>	הופיעה עמוד אורה קיים בית הבחירה

* See Jonathan Sarna, *Hebrew Poetry in Early America*, *American Jewish History*, 69:3 (March, 1980).

SPECIAL EVENTS



Above and Below:
Liberty Bell Rimonim, 1961
Benjamin Franklin's proposed
seal for the United States



PASSOVER AND THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION

Sunday Morning, March 18
Symposium 9 am - 12:30 pm
Luncheon to follow

This major event is part of our *Year of Years* Celebrations which will culminate in 2019 when we mark 365 years of our congregation and Jewish life in America—and in tribute to Shearith Israel's 5778 *Hatanim*, **Simon Salama-Caro** and **Robert Kapito**.

Hosted by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, participants will enjoy exclusive experiences, including:

- Remarkable Passover stories and lessons of liberty from the American Jewish historical narrative
- Lectures and discussions with pre-eminent scholars such as Lincoln historian, Harold Holzer
- A take-home Haggadah Companion created by Rabbi Soloveichik, which participants can use to inspire their own Seder this year
- An exclusive viewing of rarely exhibited archival materials, such as Thomas Jefferson's Letter to Mordecai Manuel Noah of Shearith Israel
- For luncheon participants only: A bonus conversation with Harold Holzer and Rabbi Soloveichik on the making of *Lincoln*, Steven Spielberg's critically acclaimed film

Luncheon to follow the Symposium, with a special tribute to the *Hatanim*. Tickets start at only \$25. For more information, registration, and Haggadah Companion tribute folio listings, please visit: shearithisrael.org/gala2018.



FILM SCREENING: 1945

Wednesday, April 11 | 7:00 pm

In commemoration of Yom Hashoa, we will be holding a special screening of the critically acclaimed film, *1945*.

On a summer day in 1945, after the war has ended, an Orthodox man and his grown son arrive in a small village in Hungary while the villagers prepare for the wedding of the town clerk's son. The townspeople, in the aftermath of the war, react in various ways—with suspicion, remorse, fear, and cunning. Some expect the worst and behave accordingly. A superb ensemble cast, lustrous black and white cinematography, and historically detailed art direction contribute to this eloquent drama. To register, go to shearithisrael.org/1945.

ANNUAL READING OF NAMES FOR YOM HASHOA

Wednesday, April 11 | 10 pm
The Society for the Advancement of Judaism

Every year on Yom Hashoa, the Upper West Side community gathers to read the names of those among the 6 million murdered Jews. Each year the reading takes place throughout the night at one of the participating local synagogues with participation by representatives of Upper West Side congregations and other members of the community.

UPPER WEST SIDE CELEBRATES ISRAEL

Sunday, April 15
Symphony Space
(2537 Broadway at 95th Street)

Join Shearith Israel and the entire Upper West Side Jewish community in celebrating Israel's 70th Yom Ha'atzmaut! This massive festival will have both indoor and outdoor components, including:

- Street fair with bouncy castles, food tastings, bands, games, and more
- Concert from the Israeli hit group, Yemen Blues
- Cooking demonstration from Gil Hovav, Israel's leading TV chef
- Kosher wine tasting with Haim Amit of Vino Levantino
- Address from Ambassador Dennis Ross
- Screening of the new film, *The Israel Museum*
- Study sessions with Shaare Zedek, Hadar, and Drisha

With such a diverse medley of activities, this festival is sure to be a can't-miss event of the year, so mark your calendars.



Photo: www.facebook.com/UWSisrael

VISITING SCHOLAR: PROFESSOR LAURA ARNOLD LEIBMAN

We are delighted to welcome Professor Laura Arnold Leibman who will deliver two historical lectures.



Jews and Voting in Early America: The Fight for Civil Rights

**Shabbat, April 21
Following Morning Services**

In 1819, Isaac Lopez Brandon found himself at the unhappy center of a heated dispute about Jews and civil rights in Barbados. Although initially the debate was regarding a petition to the legislature to grant Jews civil rights, ultimately the controversy spiraled into a fight about race and Jews that led to Isaac being denied full rights in the synagogue. Isaac's struggle was not unique. Between 1776-1826, Jews across the Atlantic World found themselves in the center of debates about what qualified men for citizenship. Even within the United States, Jewish rights varied wildly by state. Although the founding documents of the United States granted Jews freedom of religion, the founders did not clearly give Jews political rights. As late as 1840, five states still subjected Jews to disabilities. Between 1776-1840, Jewish men in the fledgling United States and across the Atlantic World struggled to secure their right to vote and serve in government. In this talk she will highlight how the Jewish struggle for rights shed light on the larger history of race and rights in America.

Sephardic Country Houses

Monday, April 30 | 7:00 PM

In the 1730s, Sephardic luminary Moshe Chaim Luzzatto (the Ramchal) was vacationing at Doornburgh, the country house of his patron and pupil Jacob de Chaves. Doornburgh was in many ways the archetypal eighteenth-century Dutch country house, but with a Sephardic twist. To be sure, there were the decorations: scenes from the Hebrew Bible painted on the walls. More importantly, however, was the environment in which Doornburgh was set. While non-Jews were free to establish their country estates as an escape from society, Dutch Jews built their rural mansions in easy walking distance of Maarssen's Portuguese synagogue. Neighbors in town became neighbors in the pastoral beauty of the Vecht River. In this talk, Professor Leibman introduces people to the entrancing world of Jewish country houses with elegant examples of the beautiful Jewish country houses built along the Vecht. In the second half of the lecture, she turns westward and shows how early Sephardic immigrants to the Americas adapted the country house life to the desert island of Curaçao, where nearly ninety Jewish country houses remain today.



Laura Arnold Leibman

Laura Arnold Leibman is Professor of English and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Her work focuses on religion and the daily lives of women and children in early America, and uses everyday objects to help bring their stories back to life. She is the author of *Indian Converts* (U Mass Press, 2008) and *Messianism, Secrecy and Mysticism: A New Interpretation of Early American Jewish Life* (Vallentine Mitchell, 2012), which won a National Jewish Book Award, a Jordan Schnitzer Book Award from the Association for Jewish Studies, and was selected as one of Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles for 2013. Professor Leibman earned her PhD from UCLA, is currently at work on a book that uses material culture to trace the history of members of a multiracial family who began their lives as slaves in the Caribbean and became some of the wealthiest Jews in New York. She is currently the Leon Levy Foundation Professor of Jewish Material Culture at Bard Graduate Center.

HONORING OUR VETERANS OF THE REVOLUTION AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

**Monday, Memorial Day
May 28**

Head down to Chatham Square Cemetery in Chinatown to honor members of our congregation who participated in the Revolutionary War. Our historic ceremony and Color Guard is a special Shearith Israel tradition and is open to military veterans, clergy, and members of the community. Join us to place American flags at the graves of our twenty-two veteran congregants. The cemetery, active from 1682-1828, is located at 55 St. James Place, opposite Chatham Square.



SEPHARDIC VOICES PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

With Tamar Morad and Professor Henry Green

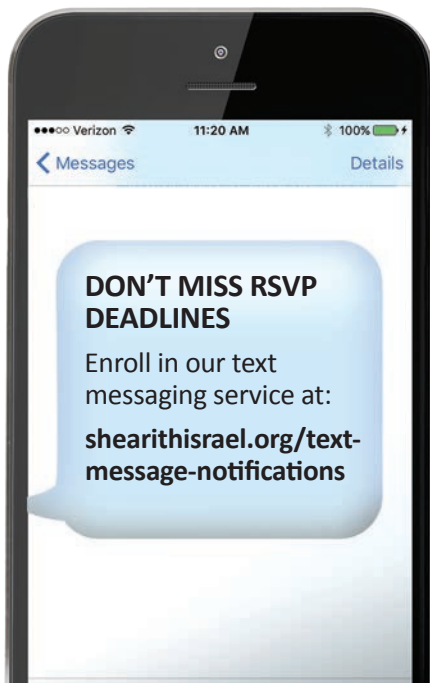
Tuesday, June 5

Join us for the pre-launch event for this landmark photography exhibition which opens at the Pomegranate Gallery in Soho on June 6, and then travels to Montreal, London, and Miami.

Journalist Tamar Morad and Sephardic Studies expert Dr. Henry Green will deliver a visual presentation of the exhibit, including a slideshow and footage of interviews with their subjects, followed by a Q&A from the audience.

Iraqi Jewish Voices tells the story of the last generation of Iraqi Jews through dramatic current and historical photography, film, and personal narrative. It is a project of Sephardi Voices, whose mission is to collect and archive the life stories of the Sephardi/Mizrahi to raise awareness of their loss of human rights.





YOUNG COUPLES AND FAMILIES SHABBAT PICNIC ON THE PORTICO

Shabbat, June 9 | Following Morning Services

Who wants to worry about the weather getting in the way of their picnic lunch? Not us! This year's end-of-year picnic will be held at the synagogue, where we can enjoy our protected, park-facing Portico as well as the Elias Room. Fun for the kids and a rabbi's lecture for the adults will keep everyone happy while we all enjoy a picnic inspired menu.

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Shabbat, June 16 | Following Morning Services

Help us showcase the success and accomplishments of all our graduates. We want to list the PhDs, the rabbinic ordinations, the B.A.s, as well as the pre-school, middle school and high school graduates. Let us know if you, your child, or other synagogue member is graduating this year so we can list them in our scroll of honor.

In addition, we are seeking \$36 co-sponsors for our graduation kiddush. Your \$36 contribution will earn you a customized mazal tob for your special graduate in the scroll of honor. For more information, visit shearithisrael.org/graduation.

MONTHLY SYNAGOGUE TOURS

Tours of Shearith Israel provide a unique opportunity for visitors and tourists to learn more about America's first Jewish Congregation—Shearith Israel—and view ritual objects dating back to the Colonial period. We are pleased to lead guests through our beautiful space with enlightening facts about our proud history and unique traditions. Individuals and groups are welcome to attend a free guided tour once a month led by a member of our clergy or a trained docent. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person, although any amount is appreciated. Tours generally last 45 minutes. Go to shearithisrael.org/tours for more information.



AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL



ABOVE:

Shearith Israel was visited by Portuguese delegation with representatives from the Portuguese foreign ministry and Jewish community.

Representing the Shearith Israel congregation were Rabbi Soloveichik, Executive Director Barbara and Guy Reiss, and Madelene and trustee, Stan Towne.

The Portuguese delegation included: Manuela Bairos, Consul General of Portugal to NY, Gabriel Steinhardt, President of Lisbon's Jewish Community, Rabbi Natan Peres, new rabbi of Comunidade Israelita de Lisboa in Lisbon, and Ana Manuel Mendes, Portugal's Secretary of State (Tourism).

A. Sexton, Zachary Edinger, leading one of our free monthly synagogue tours

B. Students of the PTTS Hebrew School praying in the Small Synagogue

C. Rabbi Soloveichik and Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon led a tour of the synagogue for spouses of UN Ambassadors

D. Rabbi Soloveichik overseeing the lighting of our historic Hanukkah at the White House Hanukkah Celebration



Lucienne Carasso Bulow

Lucienne, a past President of the Shearith Israel League, first came to Shearith Israel in September 1962 when she and her parents arrived in New York from Egypt by way of Italy. She met her husband, George, in the living room of Rabbi Marc Angel and his wife, Gilda. Lucienne and George have been members of the congregation since 1975.

SPANISH CITIZENSHIP RECLAMATION FOR SEPHARDIM

Five hundred twenty-five years after the formal expulsion of my ancestors from Spain, I have become a Spanish citizen. It had been a long, arduous journey for my ancestors, and it has proven to be a complicated and demanding process to apply under Law 12/2015 that the Spanish government promulgated to grant such citizenship to Sephardic Jews or *conversos* who could prove that their ancestors were expelled from Spain. The Law, promulgated on the 24th of June 2015, went into effect on October 1, 2015. It is valid for only three years (i.e. until October 1, 2018) unless it is extended.

If you are thinking of applying under this Law, you must initiate the process by no later than October 1, 2018. You should register by then at the website of the Spanish Ministry of Justice: www.justicia.sefardies.notariado.org which has been specially created for Sephardim to utilize in applying for citizenship. After you have provided your

information, they will send you an ID number (Identificación del Expediente) which you will need to enter whenever you log in. Your log-in name is your current passport number.

There are lawyers who specialize in helping candidates apply for citizenship. I chose to do it all by myself and will delineate the process, as I experienced it.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO QUALIFY?

You need to prove that you are of Sephardic descent and that you have a special relationship to Spain.

I. Certificate from the FCJE

The first step is to prove your Sephardic status and obtain a Certificate from the Federación de las Comunidades Judías de España (FCJE). Their website is www.fcje.org. You will need to provide them with all the documents which support your claim that you are a descendant of Jews who were forced to leave Spain because of the 1492 expulsion edict.

Your documents need to be uploaded on to the FCJE Platform (Plataforma de solicitud de certificados de la condición de sefardí).

They will look at whether:

- 1) The last names in your family are found in lists of Sephardic names of Spanish origin which have been published. In my case, all four sides of my family had surnames that are recognized as Sephardic, such as Carasso, de Botton, Barzilai, and Arditi.
- 2) You will need to furnish your passport, your birth certificate, brit milah certificate, or Jewish marriage certificate ("ketubah").

- 3) You should provide a statement from the President or Executive Director of the Congregation and/or from the rabbi asserting that you belong to Shearith Israel or another Sephardic congregation and/or that you have maintained some connection to Sephardic religious life or customs.
- 4) If you speak Ladino or Haketia or if they were spoken by members of your family, that could be helpful.

II. Procedure to Apply to the Ministry of Justice

Once you have obtained the FCJE Certificate, you should upload it to the www.justicia.sefardies.notariado.org website and fill out the application, which is an online process.

You will need to prove that you have some proficiency of Spanish, unless you are over 70 years of age. The law was amended in February 2017 to spare those older than 70 from having to take the two required tests.

If you are older than 18 and younger than 70, you will have to obtain a **DELE A2 Certificate**. This exam is designed to demonstrate that you have a basic knowledge of Spanish. It includes reading and oral comprehension, the writing of a short essay and submitting to a short interview in Spanish.

You will also need to acquire a **CCSE Certificate**. The CCSE test gauges your knowledge of the Spanish Constitution and of Spain's social and cultural norms. You can study for the test on the Instituto Cervantes website.

You must also prove that you are not a criminal. You must submit recent certificates from local and nationwide enforcement agencies. The certificates

must be less than six months old. I obtained Criminal Record Certificates from the New York City Police Department, the New York State Police and from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

You are also asked to prove a special connection to Spain. In my case, I submitted critical reviews and articles, published in Spanish, about my book in which I discussed my Sephardic family's close relationship with Spain. Any other circumstance you can cite to the authorities which demonstrates a special connection to Spain can help.

I also had the distinction that my paternal grandparents had been granted Spanish citizenship in Salonika in the early Twentieth Century, but such a proof is unusual and not necessary to qualify for naturalization under the Law.

All required documents must be translated by an approved translator and, when applicable, legalized (apostilled).

III. Notarial Act

After you have uploaded all your information, the application will be transmitted electronically to the General Directorate for Registers and Notaries (DGRN) in Madrid. If found satisfactory, you will be invited to make an appointment with a Notary and to bring your original documentation before the Notary. This must take place in Spain.

At the meeting, the Notary will prepare a Notarial Act and send your documents to the DGRN.

IV. Civil Registration

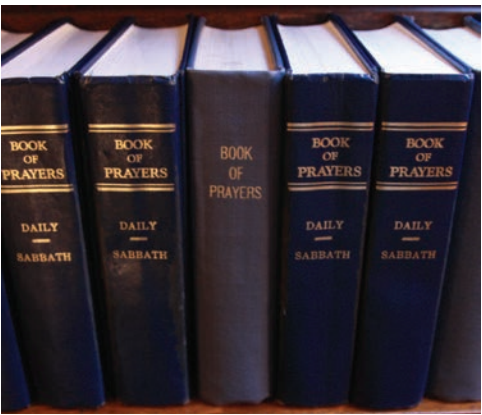
Ten months after my meeting with the Notary, my Application was approved. I was invited to promise allegiance to the King of Spain and to the Spanish Constitution and laws, before the Spanish Consul in New York City.

My birth certificate must then be sent to the Spanish Consulate of Alexandria, Egypt where I was born. That Consulate will issue me a Spanish Birth Certificate, and I will be given a Spanish passport. In true Spanish tradition, my name will be Lucienne Carasso de Botton!

CONCLUSION

Many people ask me why I bothered to go through this arduous process to become a dual U.S. and Spanish citizen. Initially, I thought that I could transmit the Spanish nationality to my grandchildren but discovered that I cannot do so directly. Adult children must apply on their own behalf. They can then pass such citizenship onto their offspring, provided they are still minors. I am not sorry that I have gone to all this trouble to obtain the citizenship. While researching family papers, I discovered that in the 1930s, my father had desperately tried to claim the Spanish citizenship of his parents, but that he had been refused because his father had failed to register him with the Spanish Consulate of Alexandria at the time of his birth. My father eventually became an Egyptian citizen, a nationality of which we were stripped in 1961, when we left Egypt. We then became stateless refugees. I feel that my obtaining the Spanish nationality is a vindication of my father's love for Spain.

I understand that the process of applying for Portuguese citizenship is much less demanding once you can prove that your ancestors had to leave Portugal. You don't have to take language tests.



To find out when your favorite class is held, canceled, or for special topics, go to shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists.

JUDAIC EDUCATION

SAADIAH GAON'S BOOK OF BELIEFS AND OPINIONS

Sundays | 8:45 am
Sjimon den Hollander

The Book of Beliefs and Opinions (completed 933 CE) was the first systematic presentation and philosophic foundation of the dogmas of Judaism.

Sjimon den Hollander was born in the Netherlands. He received his Master's degree in Arabic and Islamology from the University of Leiden. After subsequently earning a Bachelor's degree in education, he taught Comparative Religion at Ichthus Teachers' College in Rotterdam. Sjimon is enrolled in the rabbinical program at Yeshiva University. He teaches Jewish literature at Hunter College and does research on Islam's perception of Judaism within the literature of Quran commentaries.

HABRUTA (PAIRED LEARNING)

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
5:15-7:15 pm

Men and women, adults and youth, are invited to enjoy individualized attention from Rabbi Yosef Chaim Yanetz and rabbinical students from Yeshiva University in the Elias Room for *habruta* (paired learning) and minyan. Take advantage of this unique opportunity.

TUESDAY MORNING MINYAN BREAKFAST AND SHIUR

Tuesdays | Following Morning Services

The loyal members of our morning minyan know the pleasure of camaraderie and learning that is especially enjoyed every Tuesday morning. All worshippers are welcome to enjoy breakfast and a short shiur by Rabbi Soloveichik or another member of our ministerial team. *Sponsored by Chaim Katzap.*

FEASTS AND FASTS: THE FESTIVALS IN JEWISH THOUGHT

A Class for Women

Tuesdays | 9:00 am
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Women meet on Tuesday mornings to examine anew the rituals of the Jewish holiday or fast that is approaching, challenge our assumptions, and emerge with a deeper understanding of the rituals that we have been performing our entire lives. Breakfast is served. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

TALMUD CLASS: YOMA AND THE MEANING OF THE MIKDASH

Tuesdays | 7:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

These shiurim will examine the Talmudic discussions of the *mikdash*, including: a new approach to what the Temple, and Jerusalem, represent, and how the service of the High Priest in the Holy of Holies actually teaches us about the very essence of the Jewish religion. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Learn more at shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT

Fridays | Following Evening Services
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Through May 11

During the chillier months, when shabbat starts early and the evenings loom long, congregants are invited to stay around for a bit after Friday evening services for an inspiring shiur delivered by Rabbi Soloveichik. There is no better way to transition from the workweek to the aura of Shabbat than experiencing our magnificent Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by Friday Night Lights. The 2017-2018 season is sponsored by the Julis family. To sponsor an individual session, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT

Shabbat Afternoon, Year-Round
One Hour Before Minhah
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and frequently cited maxim in Pirkei Abot actually hints at the extraordinary, and unique, life story and worldview of its rabbinic source. What's more, the chapters of Abot are joined in a structure that tells the story of the transmission of the Oral Law. We will see how studying the history of the rabbinic figures cited lends an entirely new understanding to these statements, and how Abot represents the diverse response of the rabbis to an age of crisis and transition that was, in many ways, not unlike our own. Accompanied by seudah shelishit. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.



MATZAH BAKING

Thursday, March 22

Offered during 2 sessions:
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm or
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm

CSI Youth are invited to join PTTS as we experience the popular Model Matzah Bakery, with Rabbi Yisroel Fried of Chabad of the West Side. Matzah baking is a hands-on educational experience that gives each child the chance to make his or her own Matzah, as our ancestors did over 3,300 years ago and have continued to do every year since. If your child is not a PTTS student but is interested in attending, please email Yona Glass at yglass@shearithisrael.org.

YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL



Don't forget to sign up for our weekly youth email updates! Scan this code for details.



PTTS PROGRAMMING

HEBREW SCHOOL: POLONIES TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

All ages meet on Sundays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Elementary school-aged children also meet on Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

For students 3 – 16 years of age

Our Hebrew School provides students with a substantive Jewish education in a positive and engaging environment. Students develop Hebrew language skills (reading, writing, and comprehension), learn the major portions of the *Tanakh*, Jewish holiday rituals, Jewish history, and how Jewish ideas inform our values in modern times. To learn more and enroll your child today, go to shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool.

PTTS BRUNCH & LEARN WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

For 5th – 8th Graders and Their Parents

Final session for this school year
Sunday, April 22 | 10:00 am-12:00 pm

PTTS middle school students and ALL PTTS parents enjoy special time with the rabbi. On several Sundays over the course of the year, 5th-8th grade students and all PTTS parents start the day together with morning services after which they will proceed to a topical “Brunch and Learn” with Rabbi Soloveichik. These sessions are held on Sunday mornings during regularly scheduled PTTS time. Don't miss the final session of this school year.



PTTS MODEL HAGGADAH (SEDER)

Sunday, March 25

After learning about Pesah and the stories, prayers, traditions, and practices surrounding the holiday, our entire Hebrew School conducts its very own Model Haggadah. In true PTTS fashion, the students will work together to create their own unique Pesah Haggadah experience, filled with songs and treats.

PTTS LAG LA'OMER PARK OUTING

Thursday, May 3

PTTS will journey to Central Park to enjoy the great outdoors in honor of Lag La'Omer. The students will learn the story of Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai while also enjoying outdoor activities traditionally enjoyed on Lag La'Omer.

PTTS END OF YEAR CEREMONY

Sunday, May 13

After a long year of spirituality, prayer, and tradition, it is time to officially bring the year to a close. Join us and take pride in your child's achievements on Sunday, May 13, as they complete their year of Hebrew School and receive their Certificate of Completion.



TODDLER PROGRAMMING

REGISTER FOR OUR TODDLER SUMMER CAMP

June 19 – August 16

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 9:30 – 11:30 am

For children ages 16 – 34 months. Parent or caregiver attendance required.

Introducing this summer: 50 minute mini-sessions from 9:30 – 10:20 am or 10:40 – 11:30 am

Registration deadline: May 31, 2018

Toddlers run and jump while enjoying the company of other children on a regular basis. Our beautiful new Fidanque Youth Room is equipped with all new furniture, gear, and toys, and when the temperatures rise, our toddlers enjoy small outdoor wading pools on our “beach.” There is time for play, craft projects, exercises, saying berakhot (blessings), snack, stories, music and more.

While the full two hours are optimal for many young ones to settle in and enjoy a full range of activities, for some toddlers, a 50-minute mini-session does the trick—parents are encouraged to choose whichever options they feel are best for their child or children. Either way, your child will enjoy wading pool time (weather permitting). Indoors, our toddlers can enjoy the new Fidanque Room. Go to shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp to register

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 am – 11:30 am

For children ages 16 – 34 months.

Parent or caregiver attendance required.

Shearith Israel's popular Toddler Program is held twice a week for children aged 16 – 34 months with an adult caregiver. The program focuses on learning colors and shapes, creating arts and crafts, singing songs, exploring Jewish holidays, music and more. For more information, go to shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram.

YOUTH ON SHABBAT

TOT SHABBAT

10:00 am – 12:30 pm | ages 0 – 4

Our little ones enjoy Tot Shabbat all year round, led by our beloved teachers, Liz and Shanade. Independent play, snacks, and circle-time with songs will entertain the toddlers while parents are in services. Thanks to the efforts of our young families and their supporters, our tots can now enjoy our brand new Fidanque Youth Room, with new furniture and equipment and more toys than ever.

Parents: please note that children under the age of 2 must be accompanied by an adult. Furthermore, children will only be released to their parent or other pre-authorized adult. Please cooperate with these important policies for the safety of your children and everyone else.

YOUTH GROUPS AND JR. CONGREGATION

September – June

10:00 am until the end of services

Children ages 5 – 12 gather with our capable and nurturing leader, Rachel Schaulewicz, for fun activities connected to the *parasha* of the week and other Jewish themes. Then at 10:30 am, the children come together for Junior Congregation, a lively, participatory service in the Little Synagogue. For a list of parts your child may lead in Jr. Congregation, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

TEEN GIRLS' SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Eighth Day of Passover, Saturday, April 7

After *musaf*, the teen girls of our synagogue take part in our unique tradition as they read The Song of Songs for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary after services. Full preparation and training provided. Newcomers welcome! For information and to participate, please contact Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde at irohde@shearithisrael.org. To sponsor the *kiddush* in the girls' honor, go to shearithisrael.org/teen-girls-shir-hashirim-2018.

GIRLS' MEGILLAT RUTH READING

First Day of Shabu'ot, Sunday, May 20th

Following morning services, the girls of our synagogue recite *Megillat Ruth* for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary. If your daughter would like to participate, and we would be delighted if she would, please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

WOMEN'S SHABBAT SERVICES

On select Shabbatot

By and for women, these services are an opportunity for women to lead prayer, read from the Torah and perform the rituals associated with the day's services. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate momentous occasions—such as a girl becoming a Bat Mitzvah or a bride before her wedding—in the context of our service. To participate and for more information, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com. For dates of meetings, sign up for our email list on our website.

YOETZET HALAKHA

Shearith Israel is a co-sponsor of the Manhattan *Yoetzet Halakha* Initiative. If you have any questions regarding *Taharat Hamishpaha* (Family Purity), laws of *Niddah*, please contact our *Yoetzet Halakha*, Shiffy Friedman, in confidence at nycyoetzet@gmail.com. Also, be on the lookout for Shiffy's Q&A column, which appears in our Shabbat handout around once a month.

Shiffy Friedman graduated from Nishmat's Miriam Glaubach Center's U.S. Yoatzot Halakha Fellows Program in 2015. She has been counseling women in the area of women's health and halakha, both through her role as *Yoetzet Halakha* in Westchester County and through teaching brides and couples before marriage. Shiffy has taught at SAR Academy and currently teaches at Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School. She received her B.A. in Judaic Studies from Stern College and a dual M.A. in Education and Jewish Studies from New York University. Prior to that, she spent a year studying in Israel at the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz. She and her husband, Rabbi Noam Friedman, live with their two children, Avital and Adir, in Morningside Heights, where they serve as the OU-JLIC couple at Columbia/Barnard Hillel. They look forward to getting to know members of the broader Manhattan community.

ONE-ON-ONE TOUR OF THE UWS MIKVAH

If you are interested in learning more about *Taharat Hamishpaha*, the Laws of Family Purity, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at layaliza@gmail.com for a private tour of the facilities at the local UWS *Mikvah*. To maximize confidentiality, these one-on-one tours will take place at times when the *Mikvah* is closed to the public. Tours of other local mikvaot are also possible. Women only.



Layaliza Soloveichik

CARING CONNECTION

Caring Connection, our Congregation's *hesed* network, trains community members as sensitive volunteers, enabling them to proactively help others through times of need, one of Judaism's greatest *mitzvot*. This vital assistance greatly aids the individual, and also strengthens and unifies our community, enhancing our sense of responsibility for one another. This group of volunteers responds to a variety of situations, both in times of difficulty, such as illness or mourning, and times of joy, such as the exciting and often overwhelming challenges accompanying the arrival of a new baby.

Our volunteers coordinate meals to those in need; arrange visits and phone calls to the elderly, homebound, and recuperating; and even provide transport or wheelchair assistance to those who wish to attend synagogue services or events.

If you know someone who might need assistance in any form, or would like to get involved as a volunteer yourself, please email caringconnection@shearithisrael.org.

If Caring Connection lacks the expertise or resources to provide appropriate assistance, we will do our best to direct people to other congregational and communal organizations.

HESED



MEALS FOR MOURNERS AND NEW PARENTS

Shearith Israel's Caring Connection provides meals for members and their families after the birth of a child or in times of mourning. Similarly, the Hebra Hased Va'Amet provides mourners and their family with their first meal upon returning home from the burial as they commence *shiba*.

If you would like to sponsor a meal, we offer several options and easy ways for you to do so. Simply go to shearithisrael.org/caring-connection-meals and select the meal type you would like to sponsor. The family will be notified of your generous gesture. Please be assured that our Caring Connection and Hebra volunteers are in touch with the affected families and will ensure that their specific needs (quantities, dietary restrictions, etc.) will be considered. Any surplus sponsorships will be used to ensure that all of our members are provided meals in their times of need.

If you would prefer to cook and deliver your own home-cooked meals, or place food orders on your own rather than participate in this fund, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at layaliza@gmail.com beforehand. Layaliza is our congregation's mourners/new parents meal volunteer coordinator and she makes every effort to ensure that the family's preferences and requests are accommodated and that duplication of efforts are avoided.

THANKSGIVING PACK-A-THON RETROSPECTIVE

THE GENUINE THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

Brad Pelo, Lay Leader in the LDS Church



I had heard what happens on a November morning along Central Park West, my new neighborhood in Manhattan. This would be our first Thanksgiving Day in the city. It was a cold morning, but that was expected. But not everything I was about to experience was expected.

Children and parents were lined up shoulder to shoulder. You could sense the anticipation, even nervous energy. My ten-year-old daughter asked if it was time yet. I didn't know what to expect or how to answer. I simply pointed her in a northerly direction and told her to watch.

Then it happened. The parade began. I watched as a steady stream of participants made their way my direction. I stood at the ready and before I knew it they were upon me. Smiling faces and rapidly moving legs and arms full of goodies.

The marching band sounds coming through the synagogue window overhead provided the perfect cadence for our basement parade of neighbors and friends who gathered up food items from long tables and carefully placed them into bags before dropping them into the boxes at my feet. I wasn't prepared for the sense of celebration, the Thanksgiving spirit amid

the controlled chaos. I heard some people that day call it a "Pack-A-Thon," but to me it was the genuine Thanksgiving Day Parade.

My own faith community, commonly referred to as Mormons but more formally as The Church of Latter-day Saints, were united with the congregations of Shearith Israel and West End Collegiate Church, working side by side to assemble food bags for the needy. None of us were distinguished by our faith that day, while our labor together united us in friendship. We were the happy parade and the warmer one too.

Like both Shearith Israel and West End Collegiate Church, the Latter-day Saints are uniquely a New York church by origin. Perhaps this shared geographic heritage contributed in some way to the brotherly bonds we all felt that Thanksgiving morning. Thank you for including us. We couldn't be any happier than to have been invited to join with you to serve our fellowmen and make new friends.

Brad Pelo is a tech entrepreneur who serves as a lay leader in the LDS Church with shared responsibility for 10 congregations in the greater NYC metro area.

This recipe is neither Ashkenaz nor Sephardi. It is simply a delicious recipe Barbara has often prepared for a Shabbat or Festival, and hopes that you, too, will try it and enjoy it.



Superb Chicken Breasts

by Barbara Herlands Smith

Barbara Herlands Smith has been an Upper West Side Manhattanite all of her life, and Congregation Shearith Israel has been "home" for more than 55 of those years. Her immediate and extended family have been members over generations, and when she married her beloved Crown Heights husband, Myron, z"l, he too learned to love Shearith Israel as much as she does. They both always appreciated the magnificence of the Sanctuaries, the decorum, the elegance of and respect for the traditions and customs, the outstanding Choir, and the beauty of the Services. They have befriended—and love—many of their fellow congregants, for they feel that there is a real sense of family at Shearith Israel. The role the Congregation has played in Jewish and in American history only adds to its uniqueness, and to a sense of pride as they would sit in their designated seats on a Shabbat or on hag.

CULINARY CORNER

Ingredients:

1/2 cup chopped onions
2 crushed garlic cloves
1 teaspoon chili powder
3/4 cup ketchup
1 tablespoon light brown sugar
1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup water (or white wine)
2 tablespoon white vinegar
4 chicken breasts (boned optional)
Corn oil

Instructions

Pre-heat oven to 375 degrees.

Sauté onion, garlic, and chili powder in corn oil over medium heat till onion is tender.

Over low heat, stir in ketchup, brown sugar, dry mustard, salt, water (wine), and vinegar.

Remove from heat. Place chicken breasts in baking dish and pour sauce over chicken.

Bake for 50 minutes, basting occasionally.

B'tayavon!

Buen provecho!

Bon Appetit!

If you would like to submit a recipe for a future bulletin, send it to Tikva Ostrega at tikvaostrega@gmail.com. In addition to the recipe, please include a short back-story describing the origins of the dish and why it is special to you.

SERVICES

TISHA B'AB AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

July 21-22, 2018

Tisha B'Ab, the most solemn day of the Jewish calendar, commemorates the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in ancient Jerusalem. Over the years, this day has also come to remind us of other historic tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people. For Tisha B'Ab, the Reader's Desk and Holy Ark are draped in black. The evening and morning services are conducted from a special table—also draped in black—rather than from the Reader's Desk. The synagogue lights are dimmed, so that congregants follow services with small flashlights. The melodies of Tisha B'Ab are somber and deeply moving. The afternoon service on the day of Tisha B'Ab takes on an optimistic air. We focus on Isaiah's words of consolation to the Jewish people: *Nahamu nahamu ami*, be comforted, be comforted My people. The Almighty has promised that Israel will be consoled and redeemed. The service closes with a crescendo of biblical verses, sung by the Hazzan and Congregation that speak of the restoration of Jerusalem and the redemption of the people of Israel. The fast day which had begun so somberly is now transformed by thoughts of consolation and redemption. Rabbi Meir Soloveichik will deliver a public lecture following the reading of *Eikhah* on the eve of Tisha B'Ab.

SHABBAT SERVICES

March 2nd -3rd

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 5:30 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 5:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotAdam F. Jackson
Parashat Ki Tissa..... Exodus 30:11-34:35
Haftarah, I Kings 18:20-39..... Hillel Neumark
Class 4:25 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 5:25 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset..... 5:49 pm
Habdalah..... 6:22 pm

**March 9th-10th
Shabbat Parah**

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 5:38 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 5:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot,Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Vayaqhel-Pekude-Parah
Exodus 35:1-end; Numbers 19:1-22
Haftarah Ezekiel 36:16-36 Steven A. Okin
Class 4:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 5:30 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset..... 5:57 pm
Habdalah..... 6:30 pm
Spring Forward to Daylight Savings Time!
Shabbat Parah: Ritual cleanliness was required preparation for the obligatory Paschal lamb sacrifice. Hence, in the month before Passover, we publicly read Numbers Ch. 19, the law concerning the ashes of the Red Heifer [Heb. "Parah Adumah"]

March 16th-17th

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh-HaHodesh

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 6:46 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot Sjimón den Hollander
Parashat Vayikra-Rosh Hodesh-Hahodesh
Leviticus 1:1-5:26; Numbers 28:9-15, &
Exodus 12:1-20
Haftarah Gabriel D. Lang
Ezekiel 45:18-46:15; Isaiah 66:1 and 66:23
Class 5:40 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 6:40 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:05 pm
Habdalah..... 7:39 pm

Shabbat Hahodesh derives its name from the special reading of the Torah, Exodus 12:1-20. This is the "portion about the month" referring to the special consecration of Nisan, the month of Passover. In 5778, **Shabbat Hahodesh** coincides with **Rosh Hodesh** itself, the "New Moon," the first day of Nisan.

**March 23rd-24th
Shabbat HaGadol**

1818 - 2nd Mill St. Consecration Anniversary
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 6:53 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotJacob Daar
Parashat Tsav-HaGadol Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Haftarah Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik
Malachi 3:4-24
Class 5:45 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 6:45 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:12 pm
Habdalah..... 7:47 pm

— continued —

Shabbat HaGadol, the “Sabbath of the Great [One]” is the designation used for the Sabbath just preceding Passover, which was always the occasion for a “great” sage of rank to exhort the assembled congregation concerning the upcoming Passover Festival. At Shearith Israel, this Shabbat is also observed as the anniversary of the consecration of its 2nd Mill St. Synagogue Building, which was completed and officially dedicated just in time for Passover 1818.

April 13th-14th

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:15 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotRev. Salomon L. Vaz Dias
Parashat Shemini..... Leviticus 9:1-11:47
HaftarahDavid Nathan
I Samuel 20:18-42 (Mahar Hodesh)
Class 6:10 pm
Shabbat Minhah/Rosh Hodesh Arbit..... 7:10 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:34 pm
Habdalah..... 8:12 pm

April 20th-21st

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:23 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotAdam F. Jackson
Parashat Tazria-Metzora Leviticus 12:1-15:33
Haftarah II Kings 7:3-20Jacob P. Seligson
Class 6:20 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:20 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:42 pm
Habdalah..... 8:20 pm

April 27th-28th

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:30 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot Sjimon den Hollander
Parashat Ahare Moth-Kedoshim
Lev. 16:1-20:27
Haftarah Ezekiel 20:2-20Joel Maxman
Class 6:25 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:25 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:49 pm
Habdalah..... 8:28 pm

May 4th-5th

1897-70th Street Consecration Anniversary

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:37 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotJacob Daar
Parashat Emor Lev. 21:1-24:23
Haftarah Ezekiel 44:15-31 Daniel Suckewer
Class 6:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:30 pm
Saturday Sunset 7:56 pm
Habdalah..... 8:36 pm

The Shabbat after Lag LaOmer is observed as the anniversary of the consecration of our current synagogue building on 70th St. and Central Park West, which was completed and dedicated on Lag LaOmer in 1897.

May 11th-12th

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:43 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
ZemirotAdam F. Jackson
Parashat Behar-Behukkothai Lev. 25:1-end
Haftarah Noah Lang
Jeremiah 16:19-17:14
Class 6:40 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:40 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:02 pm
Habdalah..... 8:43 pm

May 18th-19th

Shabbat on Eve of Shabuot

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:50 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Bemidbar..... Numbers 1:1-4:20
Haftarah Hosea 2:1-22..... Joseph A. Solomon
Shabbat Minhah & Shabuot Arbit 7:45 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:09 pm
Shabbat Ends/Light Festival Candles..... 8:50 pm

May 25th-26th

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 7:57 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot Sjimon den Hollander
Parashat Naso Numbers 4:21-7:89
Haftarah Daniel Nathan
Judges 13:2-25
Class 6:50 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:15 pm
Habdalah..... 8:57 pm

June 1st-2nd

Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 8:02 pm
Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:30-11:45 am
ZemirotJacob Daar
Parashat Behaalotekha..... Numbers 8:1-12:16
Haftarah Zachariah 2:14-4:7Jacob P. Seligson
Class 6:55 pm
Minhah & Arbit..... 7:55 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:21 pm
Habdalah..... 9:03 pm

June 8th-9th

Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 8:07 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:30-11:45 am
ZemirotAdam F. Jackson
Parashat Shelah Lekha.....Numbers 13:1-15:41
Haftarah, Joshua 2:1-24..... Steven Beispiel
Seudah Shelishit & Class 7:00 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:26 pm
Habdalah..... 9:08 pm

June 15th-16th

Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 8:11 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Korah Numbers 16:1-18:3
Haftarah I Samuel 11:14-12:22 Isaac Haberman
Class 7:05 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:29 pm
Habdalah..... 9:12 pm

June 22nd-23rd

Friday Evening Services..... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Services..... 8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot Sjimon den Hollander
Parashat Hukth.....Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah Judges 11:1-33 Marc Wiznia
Class 7:05 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset 8:31 pm
Habdalah..... 9:13 pm

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June 29th-30th

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Balak	Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah	Avi Friedman/Lewis Bateman
Micah 5:6-6:8	
Class	7:05 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:31 pm
Habdalah.....	9:13 pm

July 6th-7th
Shabbat Dibre

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:12 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Pinehas	Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah, Jeremiah 1:1-2:3	Jacob Daar
Class	7:05 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:30 pm
Habdalah.....	9:12 pm

The Three Weeks between the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz and the Fast of the 9th of Ab are a traditional period of contrition and mourning for Jerusalem and the Temple; prophetic passages of reproof and foreboding are designated as the haftarah readings on the three intervening Sabbaths. Sephardic custom is to refer to these Sabbaths by the opening words of the particular haftarah read on that day. **Shabbat Dibre** is the first; its reading is the opening of the Book of Jeremiah. All three haftarot are chanted in a dirge of lament, although each ends on notes of comfort.

July 13th-14th
Shabbat Shimu

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:10 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Mattoth-Mase	Numbers 30:2-end
Haftarah	Charles Gourgey
Jeremiah 2:4-28 and 4:1-2	
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	7:05 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:27 pm
Habdalah.....	9:09 pm

Shabbat Shimu continues the theme of reproof and ominous foreboding with a reading from the second chapter of Jeremiah.

July 20th-21st
Shabbat Hazon, Eve of Fast of Ab

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:05 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon den Hollander
Parashat Debarim.....	Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Haftarah, Isaiah 1:1-27	Rabbi Ira Rohde
Saturday Afternoon Minhah	3:30 pm
Sat. Sunset (Fast Begins).....	8:22 pm
End of Shabbat.....	9:04 pm
Eve of Fast Arbit Service.....	9:20 pm

Shabbat Hazon refers to the opening “vision” of the Book of Isaiah, parallel to the opening prophetic vision of the book of Jeremiah which was read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the group of these three haftarot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab, is often read by the hazzan or a scholar who is “well-versed in lamentation,” as it is at Congregation Shearith Israel. This year, the fast is postponed to Ab 10th, so the Saturday of Shabbat Hazon is the Eve of the Fast, which begins at sunset on Saturday Evening.

July 27th-28th
Shabbat Nahamu

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:59 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Vaethanan	Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11
Haftarah, Isaiah 40:1-26	Joseph A. Solomon
Class	6:50 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:16 pm
Habdalah.....	8:57 pm

Shabbat Nahamu: The Fast of Tisha BeAb is followed by the seven Sabbaths preceding Rosh HaShanah on which special Haftarot of Consolation from the end of the Book of Isaiah are chanted. The first of these is called **Shabbat Nahamu**, referring to Isaiah Chapter 40’s famous opening words “Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people.”

August 3rd-4th

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:52 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Ekeb	Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25
Haftarah, Isaiah 49:14-51:3	Raphael Sasson
Class	6:45 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	7:45 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:09 pm
Habdalah.....	8:49 pm

August 10th-11th
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh (1st of Two-Day)

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:44 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Reeh-Rosh Hodesh	
Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17 & Num. 28:9-15	
Haftarah	Isaiah 54:11-55:5;
Isaiah 66:1&23; & I Samuel 20:18 & 42	
Class	6:35 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	7:35 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:01 pm
Habdalah.....	8:40 pm

August 17th-18th

Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:33 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Shofetim.....	Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
Haftarah Isaiah 51:12-52:12.....	Charles Gourgey
Class	6:25 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit, & Selihot.....	7:25 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:50 pm
Habdalah.....	8:28 pm

August 24th-25th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:23 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Raphael Sasson
Parashat Ki Tetse.....	Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
Haftarah, Isaiah 54:1-10	Reuben Frieber
Class	6:15 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.....	7:15 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:39 pm
Habdalah.....	8:17 pm

— continued —

August 31st-September 1st

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:12 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Ki Tabo	Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Haftarah, Isaiah 60:1-22	Louis Nahon
Bene Mitzvah	Raphael Nahon & Louis Nahon
Class	6:05 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.....	7:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:28 pm
Habdalah.....	8:05 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS

Rosh Hodesh Nisan (One-Day)

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh- HaHodesh
 Friday Evening, March 16th through
 Saturday, March 17th
 (For Services see Shabbat Schedule)

Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

Wednesday Evening, April 11th
 through Thursday, April 12th

Rosh Hodesh Iyar (Two-Day)

Saturday Evening, April 14th through
 Sunday & Monday, April 15th & 16th
 (For Services see Shabbat & Daily Schedule)

Yom Ha`Atzma`ut (Observed)

Israeli Independence Day

Wednesday Evening, April 18th
 through Thursday, April 19th

Lag La`Omer

1897-70th Street Consecration Anniversary
 Wednesday Evening, May 2nd through
 Thursday, May 3rd

Yom Yerushalayim

Jerusalem Reunification Day

Saturday Evening, May 12th
 through Sunday, May 13th

Rosh Hodesh Sivan (One-Day)

Monday Evening, May 14th
 through Tuesday, May 15th
 (For Services see Daily Schedule)

Memorial Day Legal Holiday

Monday, May 28th
 Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Tammuz (Two-Day)

Tuesday Evening, June 12rd through
 Wednesday & Thursday, June 13th & 14th
 (For Services see Daily Schedule)

Fast of (the Seventeenth of) Tammuz

Shib`a `Asar BeTammuz (Observed)

Sunday, July 1st
 Dawn (Fast Begins)3:40 am
 Sunrise.....5:28 am
 Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am
 Minhah (men wear tefillin)7:45 pm
 Sunset.....8:31 pm
 End of Fast8:59 pm
The Fast of Tammuz commemorates the breach of the city walls of Jerusalem and the destruction of the first Ten Commandments Tablets following the sin of the Golden Calf. Observed this year on Sunday, Tammuz 18.

American Independence Day

Fourth of July (Legal Holiday)

Wednesday, July 4th
 Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Ab (One-Day)

Thursday Evening, July 12th through
 Friday, July 13th (Follows Daily Schedule)

Fast of (the 9th of) Ab

Tisha BeAb (Observed)

Eve of the Fast, Saturday, July 21st
 Saturday Afternoon Minhah3:30 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset (Fast Begins).....8:22 pm
 End of Shabbat.....9:04 pm
 Eve of the Fast Arbit Service.....9:20 pm
Tish`a BeAb Day, Sunday, July 22nd
 Morning Service.....8:00 am-12:15 pm
 Sunday Minhah & Arbit.....7:30 pm
 Sunday Evening Sunset8:22 pm
 End of Fast & Habdalah (wine only)8:49 pm
The Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab, three weeks after the **Fast of Tammuz**, commemorates the breaching of the Temple Mount fortifications and the dates of destruction of both the First and Second Temples. This year the 9th day of the Month of Ab falls on Shabbat, and the Fast is put off until the following day, the 10th, so that Shabbat Hazon becomes the Eve of the Fast of Ab. Saturday afternoon Minhah is held early at 3:30 pm, so that all may go home to eat their Third Meal at suppertime and begin their fast by sunset (8:22), concluding Sabbath (at 9:04 by reciting “barukh hamabdil ben kodesh lehol”) and returning to the synagogue for the Motza’e Shabbat/Fast of Ab Arbit Service, which is called for 9:20 pm. The service begins on this occasion with the hazzan reciting the blessing “bore meore haesh.” On Sunday evening, the fast is concluded with habdalah over a cup of wine, without spices and without a candle.

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)

Friday Evening, August 10th through
 Saturday & Sunday, August 11th & 12th
 Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Elul:
 Fri. & Sat. Services follow Shabbat Schedule
 Sunday Morn Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf.....8:00 am
 Sunday Eve Minhah, Arbit & *Selihot6:30 pm
***Selihot: Weeknights from Aug. 12th-Sep. 16th**, during the month before the High Holy Days, Sephardim add the special penitential Selihot Prayers. Our congregation’s custom is to recite an abridged version daily after Arbit beginning on the Eve of the 2nd of Elul, Sunday Evening, August 12th..

Labor Day Legal Holiday

Monday, September 3rd
 Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am
 Evening Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.....6:30 pm

FESTIVALS: PASSOVER FESTIVAL

PESAH, HAG HAMATZOT

Friday Eve, March 30th - Saturday, April 7th
Preparations

Search for Hametz (Leaven)

Thursday Evening, March 29th
 At night on Thursday(after sunset, 7:18 pm)
 Fast of First Born
 Friday Morning, March 30th
 Fast of First Born begins (Dawn)5:20 am
 Sunrise.....6:43 am
 Shahrit & siyyum for the First Born7:15 am
 Stop eating *hametz* by10:55 am
 Dispose of any remaining *hametz* by11:58 am

— continued —

First & Second Days of Passover
FIRST TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH
First Day of Passover

Eve of the First Day, Friday Eve, Mar. 30th
 Candle Lighting 7:01 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)..... 7:00 pm
 Friday Evening Sunset..... 7:19 pm
 Begin the First Haggadah..... after 7:42 pm
First Day Morning, Saturday, March 31st
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit.....9:00 am
 Tikkun HaTal.....inserted in Musaf 10:40 am
 Sermon & Service Conclusion..... 11:25-11:50 am

Second Day of Passover
Eve of Second Day, Sat. Evening, Mar. 31st
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)..... 7:00 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset..... 7:20 pm
 Shabbat Ends & Omer Counting..... after 7:55 pm
 Candles & Second Haggadah after 7:55 pm
Second Day Morning, Sunday, April 1st
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf..... 9:00-11:50 am
Second Day Conclusion, Sunday, April 1st
 Minhah & Arbit..... 7:00 pm
 Sunday Evening Sunset 7:21 pm
 Sunday Evening Habdalah 7:44 pm

Intermediate Weekdays of Passover
HOL HAMOED PESAH
Mon. - Thu. Mornings, April 2nd - 5th
 Shahrit & Musaf7:15 am
Mon. - Wed. Evenings, April 2nd - 4th
 Minhah & Arbit..... 6:30 pm

Seventh & Eighth Days of Passover
FINAL TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH
Seventh Day of Pesah

Synagogue Consecration Anniversary
First Mill Street Synagogue (1730)
Eve of the 7th Day, Thursday Eve, April 5th
Erub Tabshilin: When the festival begins on Thursday evening, an Erub, bread and food prepared for the following Sabbath, is set aside prior to the festival before sunset. See Prayers for the Festivals, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.
 Thursday Evening Candle Lighting..... 7:07 pm
 Thursday Evening Minhah & Arbit 7:00 pm
 Thursday Evening Sunset 7:25 pm
7th Day Morning, Friday, April 6th
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit.....9:05 am
 Torah Reading.....9:50 am
 Featuring reading of the Shirah-Song of the Sea
 Musaf, Sermon, Conclusion 10:40-11:45 am
Shabbat, the Eighth Day of Pesah
Eve of the 8th Day, Friday Eve, April 6th
 Shabbat/Festival Candle Lighting..... by 7:08 pm
 Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit..... 7:00 pm
 Friday Evening Sunset..... 7:26 pm
8th Day/Shabbat Morn, Saturday, April 7th
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit.....9:00 am
 Reading of Shir HaShirim.....11:30 am-12:15 pm
8th Day Conclusion, Saturday, April 7th
 Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit..... 7:05 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset..... 7:27 pm
 8th Day/Shabbat Concluding Habdalah 8:04 pm
 Do not Consume hametz until
 ½ hour after Habdalah..... 8:34 pm

FESTIVALS: SHABUOT FESTIVAL
(Two-Day Observance)
PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS
Saturday Eve, May 19th - Monday, May 21st
Shabbat on the Eve of Shabuot
Friday Eve, May 18th - Saturday, May 19th
 (Full schedule listed under **Shabbat Services**)
Eve of the First Day of Shabuot

Saturday Evening, May 19th
 Shabbat Minhah & Shabuot Arbit 7:45 pm
 Saturday Sunset 8:09 pm
 Shabbat Ends/Light Festival Candles 8:50 pm
 Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class..... 11:30 pm
First Day of Shabuot Morning
1834 - Crosby St.Consecration Anniversary
Sunday Morning, May 20th
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit & Hallel.....9:00 am
 Taking Out Torah & Readings..... 9:50-10:45 am
 Exodus 19:1-20:23 (The Ten Commandments)
 Haftarah Ezekiel 1:1-28 & 3:12
 Musaf & Sermon 10:45-11:25 am
 Girls' Reading Book of Ruth..... 11:30-12:30 am

Eve of the Second Day of Shabuot
Sunday Evening, May 20th
 Reading Intro & 1st Part of Azharot 7:15 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)..... 7:45 pm
 Sunday Evening Sunset 8:10 pm
 Candle Lighting after 8:37 pm
Second Day of Shabuot Morning
Monday Morning, May 21st
 Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf..... 9:00-11:50 am

Second Day of Shabuot Conclusion
Monday Evening, May 21st
 Reading 2nd Part of Azharot 7:15 pm
 Minhah & Arbit..... 7:45 pm
 Monday Evening Sunset 8:11 pm
 Monday Evening Habdalah 8:38 pm

Shabuot, The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost comes on the fiftieth day, just after the 7-week Omer period between the beginnings of the barley and wheat harvests, and traditionally commemorates the Revelation at Sinai seven weeks after the Israelites left Egypt.

The Book of Ruth is traditionally read on Shabuot, since it deals with both the Israeli grain harvest at this time of year, which this festival marks, as well as acceptance of the Torah, in this case by Ruth as a faithful convert. The younger girls of the congregation who take part are pre-assigned a few verses each, which they carefully rehearse, learning to chant them according to the congregation's unique traditional cantillation system for the Book of Ruth. Girls wishing to take part, or their parents, should please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde (lrohde-csi@yahoo.com) well in advance of the festival. The girls will read their portions at the end of Sunday Morning Services at 11:30 am.

Azharot ("Admonitions") is the name given to the poem by Shelomo Ibn Gabirol with introduction by David Ibn Eleazar Pekudah. It enumerates all 613 Commandments of the Torah in rhymed verse. The introduction and the first part, which lists the 248 positive Commandments, is read on Sunday evening at 7:15, before Minhah. The second part, which enumerates the 365 negative Commandments, is read on Monday evening at 7:15, again before Minhah. The poem is chanted by the men and boys of the congregation to the Spanish & Portuguese traditional Shabuot melody in round-robin style, with each participant leading two lines at a time.

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DAILY SERVICES

Mornings, Sundays & Legal Holidays:

Shahrit.....8:00 am

Mornings, Monday-Friday:

Shahrit.....7:15 am

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:

Mar. 4th-Mar. 8th, Minhah & Arbit.....5:45 pm

March 11th-May 31st, Minhah & Arbit6:30 pm

June 3rd-July 26th, Minhah & Arbit6:45 pm

July 29th-Aug. 9th, Minhah & Arbit6:30 pm

Aug 12th-Sep 16th Minha Arbit *Selihot.....6:30 pm

*Selihot: from Aug. 12th-Sep. 16th, during the month before the High Holy Days, Sephardim add the special penitential Selihot Prayers. Our congregation's custom is to recite an abridged version daily after Arbit, from the Eve of the 2nd of Elul, Sunday Evening, August 12th, and continuing every night until Sep. 16th, excluding Friday nights and the Eve of Rosh HaShanah.

5779/2018 Fall Holiday Preview

Rosh Hashanah, 5779

Sun. Eve., Sep. 9th through

Mon. & Tue., Sep. 10th & 11th

Shabbat Teshubah, 5779

Fri. Eve., Sep. 14th through Sat. Sep. 15th

Yom Kippur, 5779

Tue. Eve., Sep. 18th through Wed., Sep. 19th

First Two Days of Succot, 5779

Sun. Eve., Sep. 23rd

through Mon. & Tue., Sep. 24th & 25th

Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot, 5779

Fri. Eve., Sep. 28th through Sat. Sep. 29th

Shemini Hag Atseret, 5779

Sun. Eve., Sep. 30th through Mon. Oct. 1st

Simhat Torah, 5779

Mon. Eve., Oct. 1st through Tue., Oct. 2nd

Shabbat Bereshit (Shabbat Hatanim), 5779

Fri. Eve., Oct. 5th through Sat. Oct. 6th

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

We are thrilled with the number of new members and guests who have been joining us for services, classes, special lectures, and events over the past few years. In order to make our beautiful but distinctive customs, that we are so proud of, as accessible and welcoming to all, we have recently released two attractive, user-friendly publications. Pick up a hard copy at the synagogue and access them on our website anytime at shearithisrael.org/content/bulletins-and-program-guide.

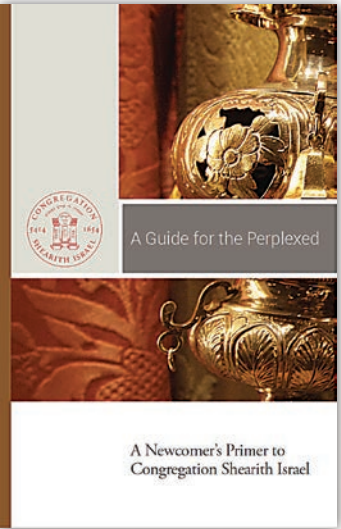
A Guide For The Perplexed: A Newcomer's Primer To Congregation Shearith Israel (2nd Edition)

Whether you are a first time visitor, a new member, or even a regular attendee of our extraordinary services, most congregants enjoy a deeper appreciation of our service and our community after they have become familiar with our unique minhag, customs, and liturgy as well as our culture and style. This booklet, conceived in a user-friendly Q&A format, was created in the hopes that you will become an active and confident participant in our service in whatever way most suits you.

Friday Night Services: A Guide To Congregation Shearith Israel's Unique Customs (1st Edition)

Surely one of the highlights of our service is our Friday night *Kabbalat Shabbat*, capped by Rabbi Soloveichik's *Friday Night Lights* talks. Many have told us how beautiful and inspiring these services are, but they also wish they had a deeper understanding of our service, liturgy, music, and customs. Our clergy, leadership, and veteran members are eager for all to learn and settle in as well.

This guide is intended to help make our Friday Night Service more accessible and less intimidating for the newcomer (and even some veterans). Our hope is that when the discomfort of not knowing what to expect is removed, you will be free to enjoy, participate, and be uplifted by what surrounds you. If you have any further questions, please let us know. Your input may even help us when we issue the second edition of this guide!





HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

The generosity of our members and friends enables us to continue to honor our past, strengthen our community and pass on our traditions for the next chapter of Jewish and American history. We have many opportunities to contribute in fulfilling our mission as a synagogue.

GENERAL DONATIONS

General donations honor our past with dignity through the preservation of our historic spaces including our main sanctuary and small synagogue, three historic cemeteries in Lower Manhattan and our active cemetery in Cyprus Hills, Queens. These donations ensure a strong future through engaging educational programs with rigorous ritual and liturgical training for youth including PTTS, our Toddler Programs, Junior Congregation, and special opportunities for girls. And perhaps most importantly, general donations uphold and celebrate our minhag and liturgical traditions through dedicated clergy members, our sublime choir, Shabbat, and holiday services.

KIDDUSH FUND

The congregational Kiddush is an opportunity for congregants and visitors to socialize and mingle after services, humbly serving an important congregational function. Sponsoring a kiddush is a beautiful way to pay tribute to a loved one, celebrate a birthday, anniversary, graduation, a personal accomplishment, or a ritual honor. It is also a great way to foster community—facilitating fellow congregants to catch up with friends, meet new members and guests, and greet synagogue leaders.

SPONSOR SCOTCH AND ARAK

In addition to our weekly Kiddush sponsors and contributors we are now also accepting sponsors for the scotch and arak that we make available each week.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund is a charitable arm of our congregation. These funds are designated by our rabbis for members in need and communities in crisis. This past year, our funds have assisted a number of members who have hit hard times as well as important causes such as the Houston Jewish Community recovering from flooding, the Food Bank for NYC and worthy institutions in Israel.

CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Help us strengthen educational initiatives at Shearith Israel by supporting a warm and inviting atmosphere to learn, debate, and grow together as a community. Sponsor for a class, Monday Night Learning, minyan breakfast, Tuesday morning women's class, Tuesday evening Talmud shiur or Shabbat afternoon class. Or, contribute to sponsor an event, such as academic symposiums, lectures, and discussions with Jewish scholars from around the world and maintain our synagogue as a leader in contemporary Jewish dialogue.

CARING CONNECTION

Financial contributions support efforts in proactively providing organized assistance to members of our community through times of need, one of Judaism's greatest Mitzvot. Caring Connection raises the funds needed to defray the costs of all it does, including delivering meals to mourners and new parents. Not only does this vital assistance greatly aid the individual or family, it also strengthens and unifies our community and enhances our sense of responsibility for one another.

BEQUESTS

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. For more information, please speak with our Executive Director, Barbara Reiss.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENT

Shearith Israel belongs to its devoted members and our vitality depends on our participation and involvement. Our most successful programs and activities are those that are organized with the help of capable volunteers who bring creativity, good cheer and friends. We have a variety of committees and societies, such as our Sisterhood and Young Leadership for you to contribute ideas and energy. We also benefit from the talents and expertise of lay leaders who can help us in important projects such as historic cemetery restoration, archival upgrades, real estate projects and facilities needs, and so much more. And of course, at our core, we are a caring community and that means that providing emotional and logistical support to members in times of need cannot depend on our clergy alone but requires the care and involvement of many whether through our Caring Connection hesed committee or our Hebra. Getting involved is how you make it happen and how you forge meaningful connections at your synagogue.

To give and learn more, visit shearithisrael.org/giving. Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.





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MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES

Interested in becoming a member or curious to learn more about our membership options? Executive Director, Barbara Reiss, would be delighted to speak with you. Information and applications are also available online at shearithisrael.org/membership.

