



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023

FALL  
2014  
סטיו 5774-5775

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*Our beautiful Succot plates, designed by Tiffany and Co, depict the four species. They were commissioned by the Sisterhood at the turn of the 20th century and remain in use every Succot for community meals under our Succah.*



*America's First Jewish Congregation*

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*Pictured on the cover are our Torah scrolls dressed in pastel colors for Succot. We adorn the scrolls in these festive cloaks in celebration of holidays and consecrations. The colors we cover the Torah scrolls indicate the distinctive identity of each day of the year. On regular Shabbatot throughout the year, they are dressed in red. For Yamin Noraim, our scrolls don white, evoking the image of purity. On Tisha B'Ab, we cover the Torah with a black mantle in mourning for the Temple.*

## REPENTANCE AND POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



Martin Seligman is the founder of a school of thought known as Positive Psychology. In his memoir, he describes how after a conventional career, he assumed the leadership of the American Psychological Association.

“Two weeks later,” he writes, “I had an epiphany. It changed my life, and I hope it’s changed the course of psychology.” In reflecting on how to maximize the achievements of his young daughter, Seligman writes that he came to understand that “raising children was far more than just fixing what was wrong with them. It was about identifying and amplifying their strengths and virtues, and helping them find the niche where they can live these positive traits to the fullest.”

That led, Seligman writes, to another important epiphany: that he and his colleagues had failed as psychologists, because what’s true for children is also true for adults. Psychology had, from Freud onward, been remedial, merely about correcting flaws in human beings, and not about making manifest their talents, their gifts, their positive potential. “I realized,” he concluded, “that with any program whose aim is [just] to correct what’s wrong...the best it can ever get to is zero. And yet when you lie in bed at night you’re not thinking about how to go from -5 to -2; you’re generally thinking about how to go from +2 to +6 in life. It became my mission in life, from that moment in the garden, to help to create a positive psychology, a psychology focusing not only on doing away with the negative, but also on encouraging individuals to make manifest their positive traits, to become the strongest individuals that they can be.”

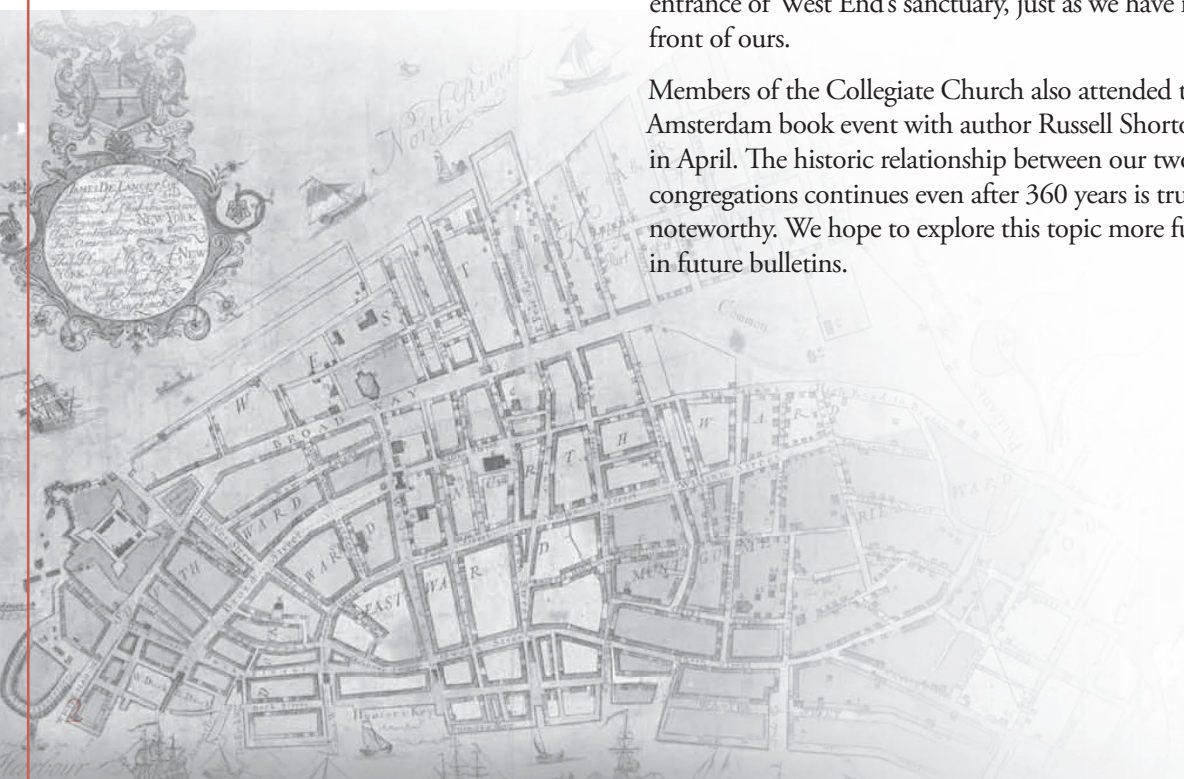
In a similar sense, Rabbi Aaron Lichtenstein has noted that repentance, *teshubah*, is all too often seen as purely remedial, involving the atonement for past misdeeds; in fact, he argues, that is only

the beginning. What must follow, he insists, is “the molding of the human personality, the maximization of one’s spiritual self and the realization of his psychological, moral and religious potential.” Today, he adds, “we speak of a person being a *baal teshuva* when [a person] lacked commitment, and then decided to serve God; but true repentance is not just as a response to particular sins, but a lifelong enterprise of building oneself, and therefore everyone should think of himself as a *baal teshuva*.”

Henry Kissinger would tell the tale of a Harvard professor who graded his students’ essays and returned one paper by writing on the bottom of the page, “Is this the best you can do?” The student improved the essay, and returned paper, only to receive it back again with the comment, “Is this really the best you can do?” Finally, the student handed in his paper by saying “This is absolutely the best I can do.” The professor replied: “Great. Now I’ll actually read it.” The penitential season is upon us, and we all too often treat this period as one focused on error and sin, and in seeking forgiveness for these failings. In truth, however, Rosh Hashanah and Kippur incorporate a much more positive theme. Each of us is called to ask ourselves: is this the best we can do? Have each of us made sure that the unique talents with which God has blessed us are directed toward living more meaningful lives?

Martin Seligman’s realization is especially meaningful for us as a community. We are able to look back on a year at Shearith Israel filled, thank God, with so much success: incredible growth in membership, in *Talmud* Torah, in vibrancy and warmth. Yet the advent of this time of year is a reminder not to rest on our laurels. As the new year approaches, let us reflect on all that we have achieved in the past year, and make this one even better.





## A RETROSPECTIVE

### COMMUNITY CLEANUP WITH WEST END COLLEGIATE CHURCH

This past June Shearith Israel joined together with our neighbors from the West End Collegiate Church to help beautify our neighborhood. Twenty-five volunteers from both congregations came together to help the Riverside Park Conservancy prune away aggressive plants along the River Walk. It was a beautiful day that was enjoyed by all.

The West End Collegiate Church is a descendant of the Dutch Reformed Church of old New Amsterdam and the connection between our congregations goes back to 1654 and the earliest days of our synagogue. In fact, the Dutch Reformed church had worshiped in this grist mill, that years later, was used by Shearith Israel. Mill stones from the mill are displayed at the entrance of West End's sanctuary, just as we have in front of ours.

Members of the Collegiate Church also attended the Amsterdam book event with author Russell Shorto in April. The historic relationship between our two congregations continues even after 360 years is truly noteworthy. We hope to explore this topic more fully in future bulletins.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### *Mazal Tob to:*

Eric and Allaya Fleischer upon the birth of a baby girl.

Roni and Jessica Jesselson upon the birth of a baby boy.

Yaara Pniel Kaplan upon her Bat Mitzvah. Yaara is the daughter of Matthew Kaplan and Dr. Yael Cycowicz.

Geoffrey Giulio Kulp upon his Bar Mitzvah in Bethesda. Geoffrey is the son of Edoardo and Susan Kulp and the grandson of Richard and Paola Kulp.

Judy and Joel Schreiber on the engagement of their granddaughter, Blima Fein, daughter of their children, Tobi and Avromie Fein, to Ben Weintraub son of Judy and Neil Weintraub of St. Louis, Missouri.

Isaac Schildkraut upon his Bar Mitzvah. Isaac is the son of Ivy and Marvin Schildkraut.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro upon the engagement of their granddaughter Sara Hammerschlag to Josh Jay.

Amit Toledo upon her Bat Mitzvah. Amit is the daughter of Limor & Moshe Toledo.

Emma Vorchheimer upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Emma is the daughter of Rachel and Dr. David Vorchheimer, and sister of Hannah, Joshua and Ethan.

### HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

#### *Special Achievements*

Sara Goldstein upon receiving the Keter Shem Tov Award at Park East Day School. She is the daughter of our Trustee, Victoria Bengualid and Gabriel Goldstein, and granddaughter of Honorary Trustee, Henri Bengualid.

Rabbi Hidary upon being granted tenure as Associate Professor of Judaic Studies at Yeshiva University.

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



Julia Levi, daughter of Amanda Schachter Levi and Alexander Levi and granddaughter of Hindy and Irving (z”l) Schacter, upon being awarded the Nathaniel Rand Keter Shem Tov Prize at Ramaz.

Melissa Schneider upon the publication of her book: The Ugly Wife is a Treasure at Home: True Stories of Love and Marriage in Communist China.

Associate Hazzan Rev. Philip L. Sherman upon being named one of “America’s Top Mohels” by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

## Graduates

Eli Aghassi, son of William Aghassi and Marian Weston, upon graduating from UC Santa Barbara with a Master’s Degree in Physical Oceanography.

Hannah Cary, daughter-in-law of William Aghassi and Marian Weston, upon graduating from USC Gould School of Law.

Naomi Freilich, daughter of Drs. Jonathan and Stephanie Freilich, upon graduating from Ramaz Middle School. She will attend Ramaz High School next year.

Rachel Freilich, daughter of Drs. Jonathan and Stephanie Freilich, upon graduating Ramaz Lower School Ramaz.

Sara Goldstein, daughter of trustee Vicki Bengualid and Gabriel Goldstein, upon graduating Park East Day School where she was recognized with the Keter Shem Tov Award. She will attend SAR High School.

Tova Goldstein, daughter of trustee Vicki Bengualid and Gabriel Goldstein, upon graduating from SAR High School.

Caroline Guenoun upon graduating Heschel High School. She will attend University of Pennsylvania – Wharton School in the fall.

Ayelet Kalfus, daughter of Ira Kalfus and Elisheva Rothstein, upon graduating from SAR Academy.

Elizabeth Maxman, daughter of Joel and Sherri Maxman, upon graduating from McDaniel College in Maryland with a B.A. in Theater.

Barukh B. Rohde, son of Rabbi Ira and Mrs. Lisa Rohde, upon graduating from Hunter College. He has been awarded a NSF Graduate Research Fellowship towards Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Univ. of Florida-Gainesville.

Ruth Malkah Rohde, daughter of Rabbi Ira and Mrs. Lisa Rohde, upon graduating Yeshiva University High School for Girls. She will attend Univ. Massachusetts -Amherst in the fall.

Reuven Sherman, son of Rev. Philip and Andrea Sherman, upon graduating from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine. Dr. Sherman will be doing his residency at Montefiore Hospital this coming year.

Lior Toledo upon graduating from Solomon Shechter Middle School. He will attend Heschel High School.

Ruby Toledo upon graduating from SAR high school. She will be going to Israel.

## Our Toddler Program Graduates

Eli Aaron

Zachary Archibald

Mendel Gordon

Stella Katz

Emma Lieberman

Channa Lowy

Eyal Lowy

Emanuel Melendrez-Dreisinger

Leila Pinewski

Claire Prager

Hanan Prager

Bella Schreiber

David Schwalbe

Kayla Schwebel

Alexandra Smith

Elsa Znaty

Nitay Zekry

## IN APPRECIATION

### Thank you to:

An anonymous donor for sponsoring this Tuesday’s Talmud Shiur with Rabbi Soloveichik.

Marco DiLaurenti for donating new festival prayer books to the congregation.

Josh Eisen and Brian and Chava Maccaba for sponsoring our Family Shabbat Picnic.

Clifford and Minna Feilig for endowing the Girls’ Reading of Shir Hashirim through Pesah 2017 in honor of the Solomon Family.

John Lewin for sponsoring our congregational Yankees’ game outing.

Lewis Lipsey for sponsoring a semester of Rabbi Soloveichik’s Tuesday Talmud Shiur.

Mildred Shinnar for sponsoring a session of Bet Midrash.

The Sisterhood, who year after year, transform our synagogue into a breathtaking, botanical sanctuary for Shabuot.

Community Shabuot Dinner Patron and Sponsor:

Jeffrey Lang and Leslie Cohen, Patron

Jonathan and Rachel Herlands, Sponsor

Shabbat Dinner with Rabbi J.J. Schacter Sponsors:

Vivien and Leon Eisenmann

Debby and Melvin Neumark

Susan and Avery Neumark

Renee and Avram Schreiber

Dr. Meyer and Susan Solny

Solomon Family

Aviva and Marvin Sussman

Susan Wind

Three Weeks Series’ Guest Lecturer Professor Lawrence Schiffman Sponsors

Karen and Jack Daar

Yasmine and Dr. Len Groopman

Sharon and Rafe Sasson

Karen and Roy Simon

Yom Yerushalayim Shiur by Rabbi Soloveichik Patrons:

Ben Greszes

Carol & Alan Schechter

The Solomon Family

Sponsors

Gregory Bell

Alan Kestenbaum

Roy Sacks

Thank you to the many supporters of our Annual Spring Gala celebrating 360 years of Jews in America and honoring David and Becky Nathan for their years of dedicated service. Your support was felt and appreciated.

## Our Kiddush Fund sponsors:

Vicki Bengualid and Gabriel Goldstein in honor of their daughter Tova who graduated from SAR HS and Sara who graduated Park East Day School and is moving on the SAR HS.

Julia Cohen and the Moalem Family in memory of Yehezkel Moalem.

Karen and Jack Daar and Debby and Melvin Neumark in commemoration of the 50th Nahalah of the three civil rights workers: James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner—killed in Mississippi during the 1964 Freedom Summer.

Rose and Henry Edinger and Rabbi Harris and Judith Guedalia in memory of Judah and Selma Guedalia.

Gideon and Sharona Gordon

Hebra Hased Va’Amet

Carol & Alan Schechter in loving memory of Carol’s father Matisyahu ben Koppel and mother Chaya Fayga bat Feivush.

Ivy and Marvin Schildkraut in honor of their son Isaac’s Bar Mitzvah.

Rudy Stern in memory of his father.

Moshe and Limor Toledo in honor of Amit’s Bat Mitzvah.

## Shabuot Kiddushim Sponsors:

Matthew Kaplan and Dr. Yael Cykowicz in honor of Yaara’s Bat Mitzvah.

Shabuot Kiddush in honor of the Girls’ Reading of Megillat Ruth

Emma and Joel Blass

Laury Freiberg

Faith Fogelman

Solomon Family

Tauber Family

Adina and Philip Wagman

Daniela Weiss

Alberto Yohananoff

## Shabuot Cheesecake Kiddush:

The Haberman Family

Muriel and Alexander Seligson

Arthur Tenenholtz

## Graduation Kiddush :

William Aghassi and Marian Weston

Stephanie and Jonathan Freilich

Andre Guenoun and Family

Rebecca and Jose Melendrez Dreisinger

Rabbi Ira and Lisa Rohde

## Learners’ Service Sponsors:

Yedidya Flaquer (both in May and June)

## NEW MEMBERS

***We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel family:***

Sharon Dane

Alan and Judi Eisenman

Leon and Vivien Eisenmann

Roni and Jessica Jesselson

Erica Markowitz

Laurence and Iris Orbuch

Scott Shay

Alan Schechter

Jack and Martine Schenker

Elie Hirschfeld and Dr. Sarah Schlesinger

Steven Valenstein

Rachel and Dr. David Vorchheimer

## IN MEMORIAM

### ***We mourn the loss of our members:***

Irene Duell. Condolences to her husband and honorary trustee Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes.

Rachel Ergas. Condolences to her children Yasmine Ergas-Groopman, Henry Ergas, and, Jean Ergas and her grandchildren Sofia Ergas Groopman and Daniel Ergas.

Longtime member and Honorary Trustee Stuart Marks. Condolences to his children Deborah, Elizabeth, and David Marks.

Irving Schachter. Condolences to his wife Hindy Schachter and his daughter Amanda Schachter Levi.

Mrs. Fani Senbahar. Condolences to her children Vivan Strumza and Izak Senbahar, and her siblings Eti Pinto and Jojo Bahar.

Mrs. Vida Simons. Condolences to her husband, Fred Simons, and her children, Anita, David, Ronnie, and Judy. Vida was the daughter of our Hazan Joseph Corcos. Vida Simons was instrumental in helping Moshav Dalton (for many years a Sisterhood project), founded by immigrants from the Atlas Mountains, and as the Sisterhood’s representative in Israel, she kept us informed about their needs as they changed and their progress as they became self-sustaining.

## CONDOLENCES

### ***We extend sincere condolences to:***

Carole S. Baker (Solis Cohen) upon the passing of her brother Mr. Leslie I. Baker.

Yaakov and Joanne Ben-Avi upon the passing of their newborn grandson. We also extend heartfelt condolences to the parents Elan and Diana Ben-Avi.

Rabbi Richard Hidary upon the passing of his uncle, Ben Hidary.

Diana Landau upon the passing of her grandfather, Joseph Sefekar.

John Quinones and Carol DiPisa upon the passing of Carol’s mother Mary DiPisa.

Jack Schenker upon the passing of his mother, Mrs. Irene Schenker.

Avi Toledo and Moshe Toledo on the passing of their mother Mrs. Miriam Toledo.

# TURNING THE TABLES ON FORGIVENESS

Rabbi Dr. Richard Hidary, Distinguished Rabbinic Fellow



As we commence our daily selihot services during the month of Elul, we prepare ourselves for the High Holidays through introspection and repentance.

This is a time when we can identify responsibilities we have neglected and rectify our missteps—whether in our personal, professional, or religious spheres of our lives. Yom Kippur in particular, the holiest day of the year, offers us an opportunity to renew our relationship not only with God but also with our fellow man. However, repairing damaged relationships with other people is often more complicated and demanding than atoning for our sins against God. The Mishnah in Yoma 10:9 explains:

*Yom Kippur atones for transgressions between man and the Omnipresent. Yom Kippur does not atone for transgressions between man and his fellow until one pacifies his fellow. This was learned from a verse by R. Eleazar b. Azariah: "From all your sins before Hashem you shall be purified" (Leviticus 16:30) - Yom Kippur atones for transgressions between man and the Omnipresent but Yom Kippur does not atone for transgressions between man and his fellow until one pacifies his fellow.*

Yom Kippur is sufficient to atone for most sins that one commits against God. However, sins one has committed against other people require that one first request their forgiveness before procuring atonement. While the wrongdoer may have felt himself superior when putting down his fellow, the wrongdoer now ironically takes on the inferior position since his fate lies in the hands of his victim. It takes a great amount of humility and courage to bring oneself to face the person he has wronged, admit guilt, and apologize.

What if the person refuses to forgive? What if bringing it up just makes him angrier? Will I be able to rectify the relationship or will this only result in lingering resentment?

There isn't always much we can control the other person's reaction. Finding the right time to talk, verbalizing your understanding of their feelings, and using an intermediary are all ways to help make the process smoother. But one lesson we can surely learn is how to act when the tables are turned and we are the victims of an insult. The Talmud relates the following:

*When Rabbi Zera felt aggrieved by any man, he used to walk back and forth before him and would make himself available to him so that he [the wrongdoer] would be willing to come forth (Bavli Yoma 87a).*

Recognizing how difficult it is for people to gain the courage to apologize, Rabbi Zera would make himself available—both physically and psychologically—to receive the apologies of those who harmed him. He displays the highest degree of self-effacement as well as kindness and caring even for those who harmed him. Rabbi Zera made it easy for his wrongdoers to apologize by indicating in advance his willingness to accept and by requiring from them only the most minimal display of regret.

The best way to avoid the pain of having to say, "I'm sorry," is certainly to avoid acting wrongly in the first place. But life is complicated and busy; we forget birthdays, we say insulting things, and we act improperly out of anger. If we all, as a community, can commit to making ourselves available to forgive those who have offended us then hopefully they will extend us the same kindness. Once we can repair our relationships with each other, then we can stand with confidence before God and pray for a year of health, happiness, and peace.

## SHABBAT TESHUBAH DERASHA: SHOELESS JEW: A REFLECTION ON SOLES AND SOULS

Shabbat, September 27

Delivered by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

One of the most striking observances of Kippur is the removal of our leather shoes before the Day of Atonement begins. Is this merely another means to afflict ourselves on this penitential day? Or does this simple sartorial change to our feet actually allow us to reflect before we take the next step in the journey that is our lives? In this Teshubah Derasha, Rabbi Soloveichik will illustrate the often missed link between soles and souls, and the deep meaning that temporary shoelessness can bring to our lives.

## ANNUAL BETH OLAM CEMETERY VISIT

Sunday, September 14

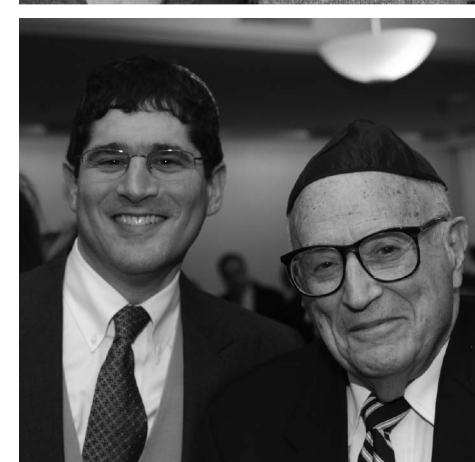
Sponsored by the Hebra Hased Va'Amet. Details forthcoming.

## MIMOUNA'S MOROCCAN JEWISH CARAVAN

Wednesday, October 20 | 7 pm

In partnership with the American Sephardi Federation

The Mimouna Caravan is making a special stop at Shearith Israel to share their amazing work with us. Come to celebrate Moroccan Jewish culture and hear from high-ranking Moroccan dignitaries. Mimouna is a Moroccan organization created to educate the local Muslim community about Jewish life. They coordinate kosher food workshops, musical performances, panel discussions on history and culture as well as distributing the first Arabic language schoolbook on the Moroccan Jewish experience.



SPECIAL LECTURES & EVENTS

*For the most up-to-date information, consult our website and weekly emails.*





# SPECIAL LECTURES & EVENTS

— continued —

## HIGH HOLIDAYS

### DOROT ROSH HASHANAH PACKAGE DELIVERY

**Sunday, September 14**

In preparation for the Haggim, join us as we deliver holiday food packages to seniors living on the Upper West Side. To participate, please contact Alana Shultz.

### SPECIAL CLASSES

Join us for two classes taught by Rabbi Richard Hidary studying the conclusion of Rambam's Guide for the Perplexed and how it relates to the High Holidays.

*Rambam's Four Step Guide to Knowing God*

**Monday, September 22 | 7 pm**

*Striving for Human Perfection and Finding True Meaning in Life*

**Monday, September 29 | 7 pm**

### SUCCOT

#### *Lulab and Etrog Orders*

**Orders due before Sunday, October 5**

Purchase your Lulabim and Etrogim through the synagogue at \$65 per set. To place your order, visit [shearithisrael.org/lulab](http://shearithisrael.org/lulab). Payment must be made at time of order. Unfortunately we cannot add these charges to your member account. Questions? Call Zachary Edinger at 212-873-0300 x216.

#### *Succah Decoration*

**Monday, October 6 | 4 to 9 pm**

**Tuesday October 7 | 8 am to 8 pm (three shifts)**

The Sisterhood's decoration of the Congregation's internal, open-air Elias Room Succah has made it one of the most beautiful in New York City. Teens and adults are invited to help decorate in preparation for the Succot Festival. To participate, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at [lirohde-sis@yahoo.com](mailto:lirohde-sis@yahoo.com). Financial contributions to the Sisterhood's Succah Fund are also welcomed to help defray the costs of decorating and maintaining the Succah, as well as for the food for the Kiddushim and communal breakfasts to be held there this year. To make a contribution to the Sisterhood Succah Fund or to sponsor a Succah Kiddush or breakfast, please contact Rabbi Ira Rohde.

#### *Meals in the Succah*

**Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 8, 9 and 10**

As space is limited, reservations are required for meals both the catered and brought-from-home. Registration details to follow.

CATERED: Leave the preparation to professionals. Join our communal catered dinners for pre-registered guests in the courtyard Succah.

BRING-YOUR-OWN: The beautiful and unique Elias Room Succah is reserved for members who prefer to bring their own food.

#### *Guest Networking Breakfast in the Succah*

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014 | 7:45 am**

**In partnership with the Jewish International Connection of New York (JICNY)**

The JICNY Networking group is a forum for respected young professionals to create circles of influence. Join us for a breakfast to get to know one another and connect under our Succah. 20s and 30s only.

### SIMHAT TORAH

#### *Women's Hakafot*

**Thursday, September 25 | 7:15 pm in the Little Synagogue**

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a parallel Hakafot ceremony is held for women accompanied by a choir of women congregants.

— continued —

SHABBAT DINNER  
WITH SIMPSONS' WRITER  
MIKE REISS:

*The Simpsons and Other Jewish Families*

Friday, October 24 | 7pm

Mike Reiss has won four Emmys and a Peabody Award during his 25 years writing for The Simpsons. He will join our in-house Simpsons aficionado, Rabbi Soloveichik, discussing Jewish themes, characters, writers, and actors that have been a part of the show. You don't have to love the Simpsons, or have even seen it (you've NEVER seen The Simpsons?) to enjoy this funny, fast-paced talk. Registration details to follow.

THE LEAGUE'S  
WARSHAVSKY LECTURE

*A Lecture by Dr. Stefan Reif: When and How Did Early Rabbinic Prayer Develop?*

Thursday, October 30 | 7:30 pm

Dr. Stefan Reif is the Professor Emeritus of Medieval Jewish Studies at Cambridge University and the Retired Director of the Cairo Genizah Collection/Research in the Cambridge University Library.

JEWISH INTERNATIONAL  
CONNECTION OF NEW  
YORK (JICNY) ANNUAL GALA

Tuesday, November 4

This year, we not only continue to celebrate JICNY's contribution to the young Jewish community, but are very proud that our own Rabbi Shalom Morris will be honored at their gala with the Dedication to Jewish Life Award.

INTIMATE SHABBAT DINNER  
IN THE ELIAS ROOM

Friday, November 7

How would you like to host a Shabbat dinner in our elegant Elias Room? No need to plan, shop, cook, serve, or clean. Simply bring your gracious sense of hospitality, and we will take care of the rest. Your Shabbat table will include up to 16 guests in total—fellow members of our congregation and one of our rabbis and their family. Our wait staff will ensure an enjoyable and carefree experience for all. To host one of these special dinners all you need to do is sponsor the meal for \$1,000. Or perhaps you'd prefer to be a guest? No need to bring flowers, wine, or a hostess gift of any kind. All you will need to do is contribute \$18 per person.

How does it work? Simply register at [shearithisrael.org/shabbatinelias](http://shearithisrael.org/shabbatinelias) to express your interest in either hosting or attending as a guest. We will notify you two weeks in advance to finalize the arrangements.

For full and associate members only. More dates to follow in the winter and spring.

A LEAGUE EVENT

*Movie Night! Viewing of Israeli Film Shalosh Imahot (Three Mothers)*

Saturday, November 8

Shalosh Imahot is the story of three women from the Egyptian Jewish community who immigrate to Israel. This movie night is in memory of Joyce Mosseri, a doyenne of the Jewish community in Egypt. Chaired by Richard Schulz. Sponsored by Felcia Warszawsky.

HERETICS AND HISTORY

Saturday, Nov 15 | 7 pm

Join Rabbi Soloveichik for the first installment of this four-part series. The series will culminate in the spring with a major public event featuring distinguished personalities and Rabbi Soloveichik.

THANKSGIVING SERMON

*Delivered by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik*

Thursday, November 27

During Morning Services (begin at 8:15 am)

ANNUAL LEAGUE DINNER

Sunday evening, November 30

Held at B'nai Zion, 136 East 39th Street

Each year the League hosts this event to support their cultural, social, and Hesed activities for the community. Enjoy dinner, dancing, and live music with lovely company. This year's honorees are Jean and Serge Naggat. Details forthcoming.

SAVE THE DATE!

*Celebrating 360 Years of Dutch Jewish Heritage in New York/New Amsterdam in Concert*

Sunday, December 7 | 3 pm

Celebrate Shearith Israel's 360th year with a concert featuring the Spanish & Portuguese musical heritage in Amsterdam and NYC. CSI's Rabbi Ira Rohde will be joined by Hazzan Daniel Halfon, Emeritus Cantor of the Yad Harav Nissim Synagogue in Jerusalem and a leading authority of the cantorial style of the western Sephardim, Hazzan Daniel Colthof, Cantor at the Heichal Habanim Synagogue, in Israel, of Dutch descent, Hazzan Gideon Zelermyer, Cantor at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Montreal, Canada, representing the influences from the Dutch Antilles (Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao), and Raymond Goldstein, Arranger and Associate Conductor to the Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir, Senior Teacher at the Tel Aviv Cantorial Institute and member of the vocal faculty of the Jerusalem Academy of Music.

NEW MEMBERS KIDDUSH

Our members who have joined over this past year are welcome to a private Kiddush on the Central Park Portico with the rabbis and synagogue leadership. Date and details to follow.





Our congregation is defined by our warm, welcoming approach towards a more traditional Judaism. We are committed to providing the highest quality of Judaic education, both for more advanced students of Torah as well as beginners. While our Rabbi leads a challenging course on nuances of the Talmud, our Education Director is guiding beginners through the Hebrew language and the Jewish calendar just down the hall. We hope you will join us for a class, and to engage, learn, and grow as a community.

*For the most up-to-date information, consult our website and weekly emails.*

# JUDAIC EDUCATION

## SUNDAYS

***Saadia Gaon's Emunot ve'Deot on Revelation and Commandments***

**Sjimon den Hollander**

**Begins after Succot (October 19) | 9:30 am**

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

### ***Hebrew Class***

**October 26 - December 14 (Except November 30)  
10 - 11 am**

Build reading comprehension skills in one of these three Hebrew classes for adults. The 7-session fall semester of Hebrew is \$75 and includes a light breakfast for every class. Register online.

Level I: Learn the Hebrew alphabet and the basics of Hebrew reading.

Level II: Improve reading fluency and begin to focus on comprehension.

Level III: Develop Hebrew vocabulary and reading comprehension skills.

### ***Conversational Hebrew Class***

**October 26 - December 14 (Except November 30)  
11:15 - 11:45 am**

Immediately following our standard Hebrew classes, join us for a 7-session conversational Hebrew course. \$50 per student for the full semester. Register online.

## ***Day of Learning***

**In partnership with the Jewish International Connection of New York (JICNY)**

**Sunday, November 16**

We are happy to collaborate with JICNY on this worldwide Day of Learning. This year's theme is Heroes, Villains, Saints and Fools: The People in the Book. More information to follow.

## MONDAYS

### ***Bet Midrash***

**7 - 8 pm; 8 - 9 pm beginning October 20**

The Bet Midrash program features high-level textual study in small groups that encourages active participation and involvement. Rabbi Hidary and visiting faculty lead discussion groups on a wide range of topics for all ages and levels. Some groups meet from 7 - 8 pm and others from 8 - 9 pm. Dinner is provided. All are welcome to come to the Bet Midrash program and join any class or find a study partner for independent study.

Rabbi Hidary will teach his class, Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed on Prophecy, at 7pm. Information on other groups to follow.

### ***YL Monday Night Learning***

**In partnership with the Jewish International Connection of New York (JICNY)**

**7 - 8:30 pm**

For those in their 20s and 30s. \$5 per person.

Parasha Class: Steve Eisenberg at 7:00 pm

Parasha Class for Spanish Speakers:  
Rabbi Nissim Elnecave at 8:30 pm

## ***YL Peer Learning***

**In partnership with the Jewish International Connection of New York (JICNY)**

**7:15 - 8:15 pm**

Engage in the study of Jewish texts with a mentor or peer. Chavruta (partnered study) is the backbone of Jewish learning. Together with a study partner explore an area of interest (Bible, Ethics, Law, Talmud...) and take your Jewish engagement to a new level. To participate and be paired, contact Rabbi Shalom Morris.

### ***Living Jewish***

**Rabbi Shalom Morris**

**7:30 - 8:15 pm beginning October 27**

Transform Jewish thought into Jewish action. The Jewish day, year and lifecycle collectively aid in the creation of a holistic and compelling Jewish lifestyle. Explore both the thought that forms the basis of these elements and the practices that bring them to fruition. This course is ideal for those seeking a greater understanding of Judaism, wishing to increase their religious observance or actively pursuing conversion. Newcomers are welcome throughout the year.

### ***Rambam Rules for Young Professionals***

**Rabbi Shalom Morris**

**8:30 - 9 pm**

Learn about the most influential teachings of Maimonides' monumental Mishneh Torah. This class is for those in their 20s and 30s.

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## TUESDAYS

### *Shulhan Arukh*

**Rabbi Richard Hidary**  
7:40 am beginning September 2

Join us every Tuesday for Minyan, breakfast, and a short class. Each week we will learn a selection of Halakhot from Rabbi Yosef Karo's 16th century Shulhan Arukh.

### *Jewish Time: The Festivals in Halakha and Jewish Thought*

**A class for women**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**  
9 am in the Elias Room

Drawing on Halakhic, literary, and philosophical texts, we will attempt to examine anew the holidays we are about to celebrate: Rosh Hashanah, Kippur, Succot, and Simhat Torah.

### *"Chai" Tea*

**The 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month beginning in October**  
**An hour and a half before Minhah**

It's almost like High Tea, but Jewish! Join our literary leader, Janet Kirchheimer, for a social gathering, light refreshments, and special programs and discussions on poetry and prose. Every 2nd Tuesday there will be a surprise topic and guests such as musicians or new authors. All are welcome. CSI members: \$10; non-members \$12. RSVP prior to each session to Alana Shultz.

### *Talmud Class: Tractate Berakhot and the Philosophy of Jewish Prayer*

**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**  
8 pm beginning October 21

C.S. Lewis once wrote: "Let's now at any rate come clean." Prayer is irksome. An excuse to omit it is never unwelcome. When it is over, this casts a feeling of relief and holiday over the rest of the day. We are reluctant to begin. We are delighted to begin. While we are at prayer, but not whole we are reading a novel or solving a crossword puzzle, any trifle is enough to distract us." If Lewis is correct, this is because we often fail to appreciate the nature and meaning of Tefillah. Combining Talmudic texts and Jewish philosophical reflections, this Shiur will elucidate the unique nature and history of Jewish prayers, the extraordinary depth of its liturgy, and the reasons why prayer lies at the heart of Jewish devotional life.

## WEDNESDAYS

### *Women's Bet Midrash: The Image and the Idea: An Interdisciplinary Seminar on Art History and Jewish Thought*

**Presented by Shearith Israel and Yeshiva University**

**October 29 - December 3**  
**10:30 am - 12:45 pm**

**Held at Yeshiva University Museum (15th W 16th St)**

Sessions will feature Rabbi Soloveichik and Dr. Jacob Wisse, Director of Yeshiva University Museum and Associate Professor of Art History, Stern College for Women. This course explores the process through which art and artists make use of physical means to achieve spiritual or intangible ends; and the ways Judaism and Jewish sources deal with the tension between the physical and the spiritual, between external

act and internal meaning, between the visual and the intellectual, the image and the idea.

To register and learn more, visit [yu.edu/sternlearn](http://yu.edu/sternlearn). Tuition is \$250 before October 6 and \$275 after.

## THURSDAYS

### *Tai Chi*

**Lewis Paleias**  
11:15 am - 12 pm

A wonderful exercise for all ages, this ancient practice helps balance, strength, circulation, and mindfulness. As a physical therapist, Lewis was the Tai Chi Master at Mount Sinai Hospital's Martha Stewart Center for Healthy Living (facilitating the grants "Tai Chi for Stroke/Frailty and Tai Chi for Fall Prevention") and now facilitates the NYU grant Tai Chi for Parkinson's. Lewis offers individual attention and adapts the class based on the group. \$10 per class or \$50 for 6 classes. Walk-ins and beginners welcome.

### *History of the Sephardim, the Spanish and Portuguese Jews*

**Rabbi Shalom Morris**

**6:45 - 7:30 pm (following evening services) beginning Thursday, October 30**

Many Jews throughout the non-Ashkenazi world have adopted the identity of the Sephardim, the Jews of Spain. The course studies the history (10th - 18th Century) from their Golden Age under Islam to life under Christian rule and their ultimate expulsion and spread throughout the Mediterranean and Atlantic Basin (Western Europe, North America and the Caribbean). The course will focus on their intellectual and cultural achievements, political upheavals, important individuals, community histories, and lasting influence. Includes extensive use of primary sources.

## SHABBAT

### *Friday Night Lights: The Making and Meaning of Shabbat*

**Begins October 31**  
**Friday Evenings following Services**

Our Friday evening services are enhanced with a brief talk by Rabbi Soloveichik. These 20-minute Shiurim will reflect on the nature of Shabbat, the beauty and depth of its prayers, and how the larger worldview it embodies has sustained Israel throughout the ages. Each talk can be attended individually, and will build on each other in a way that will provide added continuity and depth for regular attendees.

We are told by the Talmud that each Jew is accompanied home from synagogue by angels on Shabbat eve; and the meaning, perhaps, is that we are meant to bring the ethereal experience of the Shabbat service back to our own homes. Our goal at Shearith Israel, with an unparalleled setting and service, is to help create this bridge through both Tefillah and Torah: to greet the Sabbath Queen in God's home, and then thereby to make the Sabbath Queen at home in ours.

### *Learners' Service*

**Led by Rabbi Shalom Morris**  
**9:45 - 10:45 am in the Little Synagogue**

'Eat, Pray, Learn' in an inviting atmosphere geared toward those new to full Shabbat services. This abridged Shabbat morning service, Kiddush, and study session is an invigorating beginning to your Shabbat mornings.



***The Misunderstood Masterpiece: A New Approach to Pirkei Abot***

**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

**One hour before Minhah accompanied by Seudah Shelishit**

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and maxim in Pirkei Abot actually hints at the extraordinary, and unique, life story and worldview of its rabbinic source, and the chapters of Abot are joined together in a structure that actually tells the story of the transmission of the Oral Law. We will see how studying the history of the rabbinic figures cited lend 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.

***Keter Shem Tom***

**Rabbi Richard Hidary**

**Between Minha and Arbit in the Main Sanctuary beginning in early September**

Rabbi Hidary will present an analysis of various Sephardic customs and liturgies based on the classic work Keter Shem Tob by Rabbi Shem Tob Gaguine.

***For our robust offerings on Shabbat for youth, see page 22.***

**KIDDUSH SPONSORS**

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 a time for fellow congregants to catch up with friends, meet new members and guests, and greet synagogue leaders.

***Kiddush Sponsorship Opportunities:***

Light cold Kiddush: \$400

Light warm Kiddush: \$1,000

Kiddush luncheon: \$2,000

Contributions at lower amounts are welcome in addition to the sponsorship levels. Both sponsors and contributors will be recognized as Kiddush Fund Contributors in the Shabbat Handout (print and electronic) and The Bulletin.

To sponsor a Kiddush, contact Alana Shultz at [ashultz@shearithisrael.org](mailto:ashultz@shearithisrael.org) or 212-873-0300 x209.

**EDUCATION SPONSORS**

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 a class or semester of Bet Midrash, Tuesday morning women's class, Tuesday evening's Talmud Shiur, Hebrew courses, Learners' Service, or Shabbat afternoon class. Visit [shearithisrael.org/sponsor](http://shearithisrael.org/sponsor) a class for more information and to contribute to these important educational opportunities.

**RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Rabbis' Discretionary Fund is a charitable arm of our congregation. These funds are never directed towards our operating or programming costs, but are rather distributed by our rabbi to members in need, with their dignity and confidentiality preserved, and communities in crisis.

Visit [shearithisrael.org/discretionaryfund](http://shearithisrael.org/discretionaryfund) to donate.

***All contributions are fully tax deductible.***



## YOUTH SUCCAH DECORATING

Tuesday, October 7 | 3:30 - 6pm

Join us for arts & crafts projects for all ages to adorn Shearith Israel's courtyard Succah. Bring your enthusiasm and creativity; we will supply the materials and pizza. Teen and parent volunteers needed. \$5 suggested donation. RSVP to Alana Shultz.

## "WILDMAN" STEVE BRILL CENTRAL PARK OUTING

Co-sponsored by the League  
Hol HaMoed Succot, Tuesday, October 14th  
Meet at 3:50 pm

"Wildman" is back! What better way to celebrate Succot than to admire the beauty and tastes of nature! Children of all ages are invited to join us as we embark on an edible tour of Central Park. We will forage for delicious mushrooms, roots, nuts, and fruits that grow in our backyard! If you cannot arrive on time, our program director will arrange for you to meet up in the park. \$5/person. Children and adults are welcome.

Following the outing, we will have a light dinner in the Succah. Registration to follow.

## WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Begins Monday, September 8  
Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 - 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. Contact Alana Shultz to enroll your toddler.

- 1 or 2 day options
- Discounted rates for full-year enrollment
- Full Members receive preferential pricing

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## CRISIS IN ISRAEL

This summer, Israel tirelessly defended and fought for its right to protect its citizens and its very right to exist. Israeli soldiers sacrificed their lives to confront Hamas and those who pursue terror over peace, while Israeli citizens hid in bomb shelters as rockets were fired at their homes and schools.

To echo the words of Rabbi Soloveichik, our brethren's crisis is our crisis. This both obligates us to pour out our hearts in prayer for their safety, and to do what we can to assist them in their hour of need. We have come together as a congregation in support of Israel through community-wide Tefillah and contributions to the UJA Emergency Fund. We sponsored and attended rallies across the city, wrote letters to soldiers in the field, and supported educational events with Israeli leaders and more.

Today, we continue to pray for the safety of the brave men and women of the IDF, especially the many young soldiers in our extended Shearith Israel family. May there be speedy and lasting peace and security of the State of Israel.





## SHIR FUN WITH DAFNA ISRAEL-KOTOK:

### *A Musical Hebrew Immersion Program*

**For children 10 months - 3 years of age**  
**Thursdays, 10:15 am - 11:00 am**

**September 11, 18, October 2, 23, 30,  
November 13, 20, December 4, 11, 18**

Leveraging the positive effects on the brain of musical enrichment and cultural pride, the Shir Fun program immerses children in using musical instruments, and a specially designed curriculum which includes original songs, movement-based activities, holiday celebrations, and personal interactions. Visit our website to register or contact Alana Shultz.

\$250 for Full Members and children enrolled in the Shearith Israel Toddler Program

\$280 for others

\$33 per session drop-in price

## HEBREW SCHOOL: POLONIES TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

**For students 3 - 16 years of age**

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

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

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 for the 2014-2015 academic year today at [shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool](http://shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool).

## YOUTH ON SHABBAT

The next generation of members and leaders of our synagogue are our teens. At Shearith Israel, we are proud of our talented group of young men and women who have already taken leadership positions in the Junior Congregation and throughout the Jewish community. The teens gather every week on Shabbat to learn Torah with Rabbi Hidary and run their own Hesed activities. This year, based on the resounding success of last year's "pilot," we are excited to launch our Teen Minyan. Once every few weeks, our talented teens will come together to conduct a complete Shabbat morning service in the Little Synagogue and enjoy a special Kiddush.

## BABYSITTING

**Ages 0 - 4**  
**10 am until the end of services**

We offer babysitting in the New Auditorium playroom with our experienced sitters and teachers Liz and Shanade every Shabbat and holiday morning.

## TOT SHABBAT

**Ages 0 - 4 | 11 am**

We also offer Tot Shabbat, an interactive program with songs and stories. Babies 2 years and under must have an adult caregiver in the room as well.

## SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY CLUBS

**Ages 5 - 12**  
**10 am until the end of services**

Clubs gather before and after Junior Congregation with our experienced and engaging leaders for fun activities connected to the Parashah of the week and other Jewish themes.

## ASSIGNED JUNIOR CONGREGATION

**Ages 5 - 12 | 10:30 am on select weeks**

Junior Congregation is a lively, participatory service for children ages 5 - 12. While prayer is always a part of youth groups, this more formal youth service takes place on select weeks. Children learn Shearith Israel's melodies and have opportunities to lead prayers, read Torah and perform Mitzvot. Regular Shabbat groups still begin at 10 am and continue after Junior Congregation. For more information and to have your child lead a part of the service, contact Rabbi Shalom Morris.

## JEWISH PHILOSOPHY: THE PARTS THEY SKIP IN HIGH SCHOOL

**A Class for Teens | Rabbi Richard Hidary**  
**Shabbat Afternoons beginning September 13**

In this class, we will read and discuss a few of the letters of the Rambam on subjects such as astrology, afterlife, resurrection, conversion, martyrdom, predestination, and messianism.

## TEEN MINYAN

**Shabbat, September 13 and November 22**

A few times a year, our teens lead an entire Sabbath morning service—by teens for teens. Participants are trained and prepared to recite and lead prayers according to Shearith Israel's beautiful tradition and dignified standards. To participate, please contact Rabbi Hidary, [rhidary@shearithisrael.org](mailto:rhidary@shearithisrael.org).



# CHOIRMASTERS OF SHEARITH ISRAEL

Zachary Edinger, Ritual Director/Shamash



One of the distinguishing features of our synagogue service today is the participation of a professional choir. In the early days of our congregation services were

conducted without any choral accompaniment. By the early part of the nineteenth century, a choir was formed to accompany special services. Thanksgiving Day services, consecration ceremonies of the Second Mill Street and Crosby Street Synagogues, and other special events all enjoyed the participation of a choir. However, a choir did not participate regularly in our services until the late nineteenth century.

The consecration ceremony of the Nineteenth Street Synagogue in 1860 was held with the participation of an eighteen voice choral ensemble. The chorus included several professional opera singers which apparently was the first time this was done. The beauty of this event led to the adoption of a choir at Shearith Israel followed by congregations Bnai Jeshurun, Anshei Chesed, and Temple Emanu-El. Little is known about the choir from 1860-1883. It is likely that the Hazzan Jaques Judah Lyons or his son Julius J. Lyons, served as choirmaster at various times during this period. In 1883, Leon Kramer was hired by the congregation to succeed the previous choirmaster, Daniel Korn. Little is known about Korn's tenure as choir master.

## Leon Kramer

*Served from 1883 until 1943*

Leon Kramer studied music at the Royal Academy of Arts in Berlin and had served as an assistant to the great German synagogue composer, Louis Lewandowsky. He served Shearith Israel as choirmaster from 1883 until 1943 (60 years!) Outside of the synagogue he was influential in the formation of the Rubenstein Amateur Orchestra and the Halevy Hebrew Singing Society (both funded by the Educational Alliance). He was also a principal conductor of the Jewish-American Opera Company and influential in the International Music Festival Chorus. Kramer was probably the first to compile, transcribe, and arrange Shearith Israel's liturgy into four part harmony. From some of the older transcriptions we can deduce that the choir of the late nineteenth century probably included men and boys singing music arranged for Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass (SATB). In the early 20th century these arrangements are replaced by ones with two Tenor lines, Baritone, and Bass (TTBB).

Kramer composed several oratorios and plays as well as liturgical compositions for the synagogue that are still part of our repertoire today. This includes one of the settings for the 23rd Psalm, Emet Malkenu, El Erekh Apayim, and a Misheberakh. (These can be heard on the CD Choral Music of Congregation Shearith Israel, available for purchase through the synagogue office). At the very end of his life, Kramer began work on publishing the congregation's music. He had



Sigfried Landau



Leon Hyman

only completed the Friday Night Service when he passed away in 1943. Therefore, volume I of the Music of Congregation Shearith Israel was only put into its final form and published with the aid of his successor, Oskar Guttman.

## Oskar Guttman

*Served from 1943 until 1953*

Oskar Guttman was a prominent German Musician and Musicologist. He came to the United States as a refugee from Nazi Germany. Before his arrival in this country, Guttman was the Music Director of the Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue in Berlin and a contributor to the prominent musical journal "Melos." Unfortunately, he passed away only two years after becoming choirmaster at Shearith Israel. He was succeeded by Raphael Bress, who had been member of the choir since 1917. Bress served as choirmaster until 1953 when the congregation hired Sigfried Landau.

## Sigfried Landau

*Served in 1953*

Sigfried Landau was born into a famous orthodox rabbinic family in Germany (and was related to our former parnas, Dr. Dennis Freilich). Like Guttman, he was a refugee from Nazi Germany, arriving in the United States in 1940. At the time of his hire by Shearith Israel in 1953, Landau already had a great musical resume. He had studied with Pierre Montreux and was the chair of the Opera and Orchestra departments

of the New York Musical College. He had been the conductor of the Kinor Sinfonietta of the Hebrew Arts Foundation, director of the chorus of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, and was a member of the faculty of the Cantors Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary. Landau was only choirmaster at Shearith Israel for a short time although he had a significant impact.

At the time of his arrival, the choral music was mostly written in individual books for each of section of the choir. This was a vestige from the days of Leon Kramer. Landau rewrote (and at the same time rearranged) the entire repertoire of Shearith Israel's music into full scores. He also began the recording of Shearith Israel's choral music. Some of his style can be heard on recordings published by the Shearith Israel League (Historic Music of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue). Volume 3 of the League's 3 CD set (available from the Synagogue office) also contains several choral pieces under his direction. During his short tenure, Landau apparently became embroiled in some controversy among the synagogue leadership and Hazzanim. My grandfather, former Shamash Judah Guedalia, recalled that Landau requested to conduct the Hazzan during services, a proposal that did not sit well with the Hazzanim of the time, and which was not adopted.

In 1953, Landau left the synagogue to become the Music Director of the Brooklyn Philharmonic. He served as their Music Director for 17 years –

— continued —



# CHOIRMASTERS (continued)

This past year, the choir introduced several new pieces composed specifically for our synagogue. Two of these were composed by Leon Hyman, and third piece (“Tehillat”) was composed by Jonathan Koch (a long-time tenor in our choir). The pieces composed by Leon are dedicated to his parents, who were immigrants from Poland and Lithuania and for whom music was important culturally despite never having been educated musically. Leon’s composition Yehi Hasdekha is dedicated to his mother, Rebecca Hyman, and his Ubnoho Yomar is dedicated to his father, Abraham Hyman. Leon is grateful for their sacrifices which permitted him to pursue an education and career in Music. He describes these compositions as an attempt to stay within the style and musical sense of our congregation while expressing a unique point of view regarding the settings and texts.

Leon is also near completion of a new setting for the 23rd Psalm. This composition uses the musical theme of the Az Yashir to explore the interplay of melody and harmony; it challenges our ideas of dissonance with a colorful and harmonic base built out of conventional dissonance. We hope that this piece will be premiered at a choral concert which is planned for this coming Spring.

and was noted for his emphasis on new music. He died tragically in a house fire along with his wife in 2007.

**Maurice Edwards**  
*Served from 1953-1955*

A member of the choir, Maurice Edwards served as interim choirmaster until the appointment of our current choirmaster, Leon Hyman.

**Leon Hyman**  
*Serving from 1955-present*

In 1955, Leon Hyman was a conducting the Halevy Choral Society (a large chorale of amateur singers which had been founded many years before by Shearith Israel’s Leon Kramer). One of the choristers informed Leon of an opening for choirmaster at Shearith Israel. Currently, he is the synagogue’s longest serving employee, having been choirmaster for 59 years. Leon studied with the noted choral conductor Hugh Ross, and has had a long career conducting classical, choral and operatic music as well a Broadway musicals. He served as the conductor of the Montclair State University Chorus for 25 years and was a founder and director the New Philharmonic of New Jersey. He has also served on the faculties of The Juilliard School, Teachers College of Columbia University, and Montclair State.

One of the major contributions Leon made with our choir was a complete re-setting of the prosody of Landau’s arrangements. This refers to the matching of the Hebrew syllabic pronunciation and phrasing with the musical score. He also introduced several of our most beloved pieces into the repertoire, including arrangements of Solomon de Rossi. Leon recently told me that one of the things he is most grateful to the congregation for is permitting him to tour the United States and Russia in 1963 with the Robert Joffrey ballet, and to go to Tokyo in 1964 as the conductor of the West Side Story, which was the first Broadway musical ever staged in Japan. Leon’s son, Adam, is the congregation’s associate choirmaster, and leads the choir throughout the year whenever Leon is unavailable.

## DAILY SERVICES

<b>Mornings</b>	
Sunday.....	8:00 am
Monday-Friday.....	7:15 am
<b>Evenings</b>	
August 31st- September 23rd	
Minhah & Arbit.....	6:30 pm
September 29th-October 7th	
Minhah & Arbit.....	6:15 pm
October 12th-14th	
Minhah & Arbit.....	6:00 pm
October 19th-October 30th	
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:45 pm
Beginning November 2nd	
Arbit only .....	6:30 pm

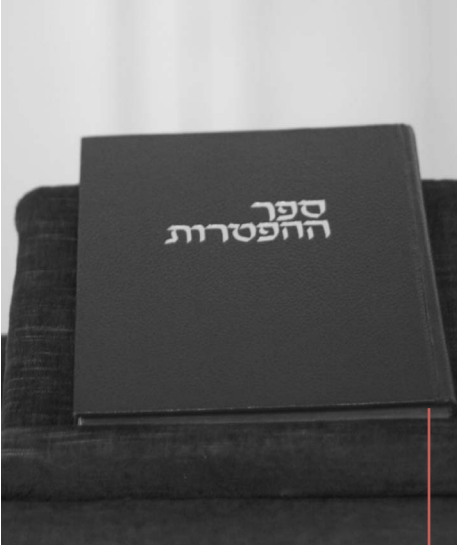
## SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY SERVICES

<b>September 5th-6th Ki Tetse</b>	
Candle Lighting* .....	7:04 pm
Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset .....	7:22 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon .....	8:15 am
Shahrit .....	9:00 am
Haftarah .....	Reuben Frieber
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset .....	7:20 pm
Habdalah.....	7:57 pm

<b>September 12th-13th Ki Tabo</b>	
Candle Lighting* .....	6:52 pm
Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset .....	7:10 pm
Zemirot, led by Salomon L. Vaz Dias ....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah .....	Salomon L. Vaz Dias
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset .....	7:08 pm
Habdalah.....	7:44 pm

\*Those praying with the congregation should light before services.

# SERVICES



## September 19th-20th Nitsabim-Vayelekh

CONSECRATION ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
NINETEENTH STREET SYNAGOGUE (1860)  
Candle Lighting .....6:40 pm  
Friday Evening Services .....6:45 pm  
Friday Evening Sunset .....6:58 pm  
Zemirot, led by Jack Daar ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:00 am  
Haftarah ..... Akiva Raphael Haberman  
Seudah Shelishit & Class .....5:30 pm  
Saturday Evening Services .....6:30 pm  
Saturday Evening Sunset .....6:57 pm  
Habdalah .....7:31 pm

## ROSH HASHANAH

Ereb Rosh HaShanah, Wednesday, September 24th  
Wednesday Morning Selihot & Shahrit. 6:30 am  
Erub Tabshilin: When the festival begins on  
Wednesday evening, an Erub, bread and food  
prepared for the following Shabbat, is set aside  
prior to the festival before sunset. See Prayers for  
the Festivals, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.

### *Eve of the First Day*

Wednesday Evening, September 24th  
Candle Lighting: .....6:32 pm  
Evening Services .....6:30 pm  
Sunset .....6:50 pm

### *First Day*

Thursday, September 25th  
Zemirot .....7:45 am  
Shahrit ..... 8:35 am

### *Eve of the Second Day*

Thursday Evening, September 25th  
Evening Services .....6:30 pm  
Sunset .....6:48 pm  
Candle Lighting .....after 7:10 pm

## Second Day

Friday, September 26th  
Zemirot .....7:45 am  
Shahrit ..... 8:35 am

## SHABBAT TESHUBAH

### *September 26th-27th*

Candle Lighting .....before 6:28 pm  
Evening Services .....6:30 pm  
Sunset .....6:46 pm  
Zemirot, led by Adam Jackson ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:00 am  
Torah Reading ..... Haazinu  
Haftarah ..... Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik  
Seudah Shelishit & Class .....5:20 pm  
Evening Services .....6:20 pm  
Sunset .....6:45 pm  
Habdalah .....7:18 pm

## FAST OF GEDALIAH

Sunday, September 28th  
Fast Begins (Dawn) ..... 5:28 am  
Shahrit ..... 8:00 am  
Evening Services .....5:45 pm  
Sunset .....6:43 pm  
End of Fast .....7:00 pm

## KIPPUR

### *Ereb Kippur, Friday, October 3rd*

Selihot & Shahrit ..... 6:30 am  
Early Minhah ..... 1:30 pm  
Candle Lighting .....at or before 6:17 pm  
Kal Nidre .....6:15 pm  
Sunset .....6:35 pm

## Kippur Day

Saturday, October 4th  
Zemirot ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:15 am  
Torah Reading ..... 11:15 am  
Musaf .....12:30 pm  
Minhah .....3:10 pm  
Sermon .....5:45 pm  
Ne'ilah (Closing Service) .....6:00 pm  
Shofar & Arbit .....7:06 pm

## SUCCOT

Preparations, before Wednesday, October 8th  
Succah & Lulab/Etrog: Prior to the Festival,  
a Succah should be built and a Lulab/Etrog  
set should be purchased, or arrangements  
should be made to use the Succah and Lulab/  
Etrog of others. The Sisterhood sponsors a  
Kiddush in the Succah of the synagogue in  
the evening and before noon, and members  
can make reservations in advance to use the  
Succah for private meals. We are taking orders  
for Lulabim and Etrogim at \$65 per set. To  
place your order, click here. Deadline for  
orders is Sunday, October 5 at noon. Payment  
must be made at time of order. Unfortunately  
we cannot add these charges to your member  
account. Questions? Call Zachary Edinger at  
212-873-0300 x216.

### *Eve of the First Day*

Erub Tabshilin: When the festival begins on  
Wednesday evening, an Erub, bread, and food  
prepared for the following Shabbat, is set aside  
prior to the festival before sunset. See Prayers for  
the Festivals, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.

Wednesday Evening, October 8th

Candle Lighting .....6:09 pm  
Evening Services .....6:15 pm  
Sunset .....6:27 pm

### *First Day*

Thursday, October 9th  
Zemirot ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:00 am

### *Eve of the Second Day*

Thursday Evening, October 9th  
Evening Services .....6:15 pm  
Sunset .....6:25 pm  
Candle Lighting .....after 6:46 pm

### *Second Day*

Friday, October 10th  
Zemirot ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:00 am

## SHABBAT HOL HAMOED

Friday October 10th-11th  
Candle Lighting .....before 6:05 pm  
Evening Services .....6:15 pm  
Sunset .....6:23 pm  
Zemirot ..... 8:15 am  
Shahrit ..... 9:00 am  
Seudah Shelishit & Class .....5:00 pm  
Evening services .....6:00 pm  
Sunset .....6:22 pm  
Habdalah .....6:54 pm



## HOL HAMOED

Sunday, October 12th	
Morning Services.....	8:00 am
Evening Services.....	6:00 pm
Monday and Tuesday, October 13th and 14th	
Shahrit.....	7:15 am
Evening Services.....	6:00 pm

## HOSHA'ANA RABBAH

Tuesday Evening, October 14th	
Mishmarah (Class).....	8:30 pm
Wednesday, October 15th	
Shahrit.....	6:30 am

## SHEMINI HAG ATSERET

### *Ereb Shemini Atzeret*

Wednesday Evening, October 15th	
Erub Tabshilin: When the festival begins on Wednesday evening, an Erub, bread and food prepared for the following Shabbat, is set aside prior to the festival before sunset. See Prayers for the Festivals, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.	
Candle Lighting.....	5:58 pm
Evening Services.....	6:00 pm
Sunset.....	6:16 pm

### *Shemini Atzeret Morning*

Thursday, October 16th	
Zemirot.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Tikkun HaGeshem (Prayer for Rain) inserted in Musaf.....	10:30 am

## SIMHAT TORAH

### *Ereb Simhat Torah*

Thursday Evening, October 16th	
Evening Services.....	6:00 pm
Hakafot (Circuits) and Children's Celebration.....	6:45 pm
Sunset.....	6:14 pm
Candle Lighting.....	after 6:34 pm
Simhat Torah Day	
Friday, October 17th	
Zemirot.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am

## SHABBAT BERESHIT

Hatanim Luncheon honoring  
George Bulow, Hatan Torah  
Elliot Freilich, Hatan Bereshit

### *October 17th-October 18th*

Evening Services.....	6:00 pm
Candle Lighting.....	before 5:55 pm
Sunset.....	6:13 pm
Zemirot.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:45 pm
Evening Services.....	5:45 pm
Sunset.....	6:11 pm
Habdalah.....	6:42 pm

### *October 24th-25th Noah-Rosh Hodesh*

Candle Lighting.....	5:40 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	6:03 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	Marc Aaron
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:35 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	5:35 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	6:01 pm
Habdalah.....	6:32 pm

### *October 31st-November 1st Lekh-Lekha*

Candle Lighting.....	5:35 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	5:53 pm
Zemirot, led by Sjimon den Hollander..	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Parashah.....	Joseph A. Solomon
Shabbat Morning Services.....	8:15 am
Haftarah.....	Joshua Berman
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	5:52 pm
Habdalah.....	6:22 pm

### *November 7th-8th Vayera*

Candle Lighting.....	4:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	4:45 pm
Zemirot, led by Jacob Daar.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	Joseph Aden Solomon
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:20 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	4:20 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	4:44 pm
Habdalah.....	5:13 pm

### *November 14th-15th Haye Sarah*

Candle Lighting.....	4:21 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	4:39 pm
Zemirot, led by Adam Jackson.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	4:38 pm
Habdalah.....	5:06 pm

### *November 21st-22nd Toledot-Mahar Hodesh*

Candle Lighting.....	4:15 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	4:33 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	David Nathan
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	4:10 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	4:33 pm
Habdalah.....	5:00 pm

### *November 28th-29th Vayetse*

Candle Lighting.....	4:12 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....	4:30 pm
Zemirot, led by Jack Daar.....	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Haftarah.....	Bernard Turiel
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Services.....	4:05 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....	4:30 pm
Habdalah.....	4:57 pm

## LEGAL HOLIDAYS

Labor Day	
Monday, September 1st	
Morning Service.....	8:00 am
Evening Service.....	6:30 pm
Thanksgiving	
Thursday, November 27th	
Morning Service.....	7:45 am
Evening Service.....	6:30 pm



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