



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023

FALL 2019
סתיו תשע"ט-תש"פ



• 5414 • 5779 •
CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
Year of Years Celebration



The Bulletin

America's First Jewish Congregation



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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

MOSES SEIXAS AND THE SHOFAR

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



In 1790, only several months before he wrote a famous letter to George Washington, Moses Seixas of Newport sent several halakhic questions to Manuel Josephson, Parnas of Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia and a learned Jew. One question pertained to the shofar that was held by the synagogue, which had a crack in it. Could this shofar be used? Josephson advised him how the shofar could be repaired in a manner that was valid according to Jewish law.

In reading of this, one senses how Seixas, in a Newport where few Jews remained after the Revolution, and where few shofarot were available, still ardently sought to observe punctiliously the Jewish faith. This correspondence must be taken in tandem with the one he sent to America's first president.

As Seixas wrote to Washington, Jews sought a country which gave "bigotry no sanction, persecution to assistance;" but this freedom brought with it the responsibility to live fully as Jews and as Americans. The shofar itself provides a worthy metaphor, provided by the Jewish writer Cynthia Ozick: "if we blow into the narrow end of the shofar, we will be heard far. But if we choose to be [only] Mankind rather than Jewish and blow into the wide part, we will not be heard at all; for us, America will have been in vain."

This past July 4th, our congregation took a moving trip to Newport, and we will be returning in November to pray where Moses Seixas once prayed. In pondering his story, we realize that if we work to preserve an America where religious liberty reigns, but also where Jews sound the shofar of their faith, then Moses Seixas will live again.

Meir Y. Soloveichik





A



B



C

AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL



ABOVE: Shearith Israel hosted Sheikh Mohammad Al-Issa, Secretary General of the Muslim World League and former Minister of Justice of Saudi Arabia. Together with Executive Director, Barbara Reiss, Esme Berg, Karen Daar, and Gabe Goldstein, as well as our friends from the American Sephardi Federation, Z. Edinger led a fascinating tour of our synagogue explaining our history, traditions, values, and community. The Sheikh had just spoken at the Responsible Leaders World Summit about respect for all religions and had signed a memorandum with the AJC agreeing to join them on a trip to Auschwitz in 2020.

A. Panelists at our *Smash The Stigma* event share their experiences with suicide and depression to a packed Levy Auditorium

B. Lisbon-based lawyer Rita Mayer Jardim explains the history and process of reclaiming Portuguese citizenship for Sephardic Jews

C. Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes represents Shearith Israel's participation in the Armed Forces at our annual Chatham Square Memorial

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS

CELEBRATING THE PAST YEAR OF YEARS, SECURING THE NEXT

Louis M. Solomon

The first major public program anticipating our *Year of Years* occurred in the Spring of 2018, with a major symposium conducted by Rabbi Soloveichik titled *Passover and the American Imagination*. At that time, we paid tribute to our 5778 hatanim, Simon Salama-Caro and Rob Kapito, and their respective families. Since then we have benefitted from a veritable cornucopia of truly memorable programs, including Rabbi Soloveichik's American history lecture series; a shabbat dinner program with today's conversos from Recife, Brazil; Iraqi and Egyptian heritage programs; a spirited S&P music program; a special Memorial Day event at our Chatham Square Cemetery; and a July 4th excursion to the Touro Synagogue. We've also published a variety of stellar booklets as companions to some of the programs, some of which can be purchased, and all of which are available digitally on our website at www.shearithisrael.org/year-of-years. These were BIG, even glorious events. They will stay with us for years.

There are more to come: Our capstone event is scheduled for September 10. This event will have a strong intellectual component led by Rabbi Soloveichik, who will guide us through the journey of our Torah as we, and our tradition, sojourned and endured over the centuries from Spain to Portugal to the Netherlands to the Americas. We will all be able to participate in a very special, and in some meaningful respects, historic ceremony. We will rededicate our historic Torah Scrolls, adorned by our three sets of Myer Myers rimonim, which we are bringing together, will display together, and will use together for the first time in history. We are incredibly excited for this momentous event and hope all of you attend and bring your family and friends to witness and take part in it. We are also planning a Shabbaton at Touro Synagogue over Veterans Day weekend as well as a Moroccan heritage event later in the year.

Who cannot be supremely proud of the range and quality of these celebrations and achievements? We should feel particularly good about how we've gone about and sequenced our *Year of Years*. First and foremost, it's been a time of celebration. It has also been the occasion of a necessary and major fundraising campaign. We emphasized the celebrations for quite some time, and we have been gently introducing the fundraising campaign and sometimes bothersome solicitations that come with it. Not that there is any shame in fundraising. It is among the pillars upholding the world, something Jews taught the world to do, something we should embrace, not as a necessary evil but as a mitzvah of the highest, communal order that we have been given the privilege to be a part of. Our celebrations have highlighted the richness of our legacy and the vital need for our financial self-sufficiency to preserve it.

We all must be deeply grateful to those congregants and friends who have already stepped up with very generous gifts. I tell you candidly: It is only because of their extraordinary generosity that we have been able to present the magnificent *Year of Years* events described above.

To finish our *Year of Years* Campaign on as high a note as we will finish our *Year of Years* Celebration, we need EVERYBODY'S help, both in the form of time as well as financial participation. We need more members to help make the many solicitation calls that are required in order to reach every single member. And we need every single member to contribute to the best of their ability. If each of us does that, we will all be able to say that, just as our fellow congregants did their part 365 years ago, we, all of us, did our part today. And we will all be able to smile at the thought of inspiring our fellow congregants, 365 years hence, to do their part.

Let me conclude by wishing each and every one of you a blessed new year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Ethan Borst

Sondra and Dr. Arnold Rosen

Judith Roumani

Renee and Avram Schreiber

Merry Winslow

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Angelina Drahi and Dr. Daniel Bassiri, upon their marriage.

Eloise Bregman, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Malaika and Anthony Bregman, and her grandparents, Viviane and Gerald Bregman.

Jordana Bruckheimer, daughter of Alexandra and Robert Bruckheimer, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to grandparents Carla and Jonah Schein and aunts and uncle Gabrielle and Carrie and Jeremy Schein.

Yvonne Cohen, upon the marriage of her son, Daniel Cohen to Gjilberta Lucaj.

Judi and Alan Eisenman, upon the birth of a granddaughter Rory Lou (חנה מלכה) born to their children Ariana and Jason Eisenman.

Lily Freilich, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Helen and Elliot Freilich, and to her grandmother, Estelle Freilich, and the entire Freilich family.

Margaret and Andre Guenoun, upon the birth of a grandson, Aiden Nathaniel (Aryeh Netanel).

Isaac Haberman, upon his marriage to Rachel McCoy. Congratulations as well to his parents, Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, his grandfather, Simon Haberman, and to the entire Haberman and McCoy families.

Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, upon the birth of a grandson to their children, William Herlands and Natalia Emanuel. Congratulations as well to aunt and uncle, Susan and Avery Neumark, and to great-grandfather, Melvin Neumark.

Dr. Sarah and Elie Hirschfeld, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Aria, born to their children, Rachel and David Hirschfeld.

Lynn Summers and Roger Mesznik, upon the birth of a grandson, Rafael Gil Mesznik, to their children, Dr. Elizabeth Heller and Adriel Mesznik.

Debbie and David Sable, upon the birth of a granddaughter to Elianna and Yoel Kaye.

Gillian and Simon Salama-Caro, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Ella Sara Lily, born to their son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Emilie.

Martine and Jack Schenker, upon the birth of a grandson to their children, Bella and Menachem Levy.

Judy and Joel Schreiber, upon the birth of a great-granddaughter to their grandchildren, Jordan and Kyra Schreiber.

Esther Seligson, upon her marriage to Jonathan Soleimani. Congratulations as well to her parents, Muriel and Alexander Seligson.

Linda and Morris Shamah, upon the marriage of their granddaughter, Elisheva Esses, to Alexander Fuchs.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro, on the birth of a great grandson to Sara and Josh Jay, children of Ruth and Irwin's children, Debbie and Dr. Ezra Feuer.

Aviva and Marvin Sussman, on the marriage of their granddaughter, Lital, to Snir Haddad, in Israel.

Adele and Ronald Tauber, upon the birth of a grandson, born to their children Sarah and Michael Tauber.

Anna and Dov Zigler, upon the birth of a baby boy, Eli.

HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

Members with special achievements:

Matea Frieber, who was selected to compete as a national finalist in the Hidon HaTanakh Bible Contest. She was ranked #1 in the qualifying exams at her school, Park East Day School.

Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes, the *Live the Mission* honoree at the 8th Annual Sephardic Academy of Manhattan masquerade gala.

Joshua Rozenberg, who was inducted into the Ben Zakkai Honor Society at the 2nd Annual NCSY Gala Dinner.

Oliver Stanton, who was an honoree at Chamah's annual gala dinner and concert last fall at the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Chamah is dedicated to feeding the hungry, providing medical aid for the elderly and ill, educating the young, and keeping the spark of Judaism alive in Israel, Russia, and the US.

Dr. Lu Steinberg, the Distinguished Alumna of the Year at the Ferkauf Graduate School's 2019 Alumni Dinner.

Our Women's Megillat Esther Readers: Beth Goldman, Annette Gourgey, Janet Kirchheimer, Marjorie Lehman, Liliane Marks, Adina Marmelstein, Rachel McCoy, Rachael Meisels, Liz Ninyo, Ruth Malkah Rohde, Ina Saltz, Lina Sion, Lia Solomon, Layaliza Soloveichik, Suzanne Stern, and Julie Walpert. Thank you to Mrs. Lisa Rohde for coordinating.

Our Book of Ruth Readers: Eloise Bregman, Lily Cohen, Matea Frieber, Cherish Greenberg, Honor Greenberg, Flora Jakobishvili, Yaara Kaplan, Shayna Kaye, Shirin Kaye, Hudson Lentnek, Cecilia Roberts, Daniella Robers, Jenna Roberts, Hella Sasson-Gelman, Ruth Sherizen, Neta Wiznia, Zahava Wiznia, Daniella Wolkovisky, Galia Wolkovisky. Thank you to Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde for teaching, and to Mrs. Lisa Rohde for coordinating.

— continued —

Graduates:

Atticus Bregman, son of Malaika and Anthony Bregman, upon graduating from Booker T. Washington Middle School. He will attend the Abraham Joshua Heschel High School.

Kiki Bregman, daughter of Malaika and Anthony Bregman, upon graduating from Windward Lower School. She will attend Windward Middle School.

Akiva Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from SAR High School. He will be taking a gap year in Israel, and then attend Washington University in St. Louis.

Isaac Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from NYU with a Masters in Data Science. He will be working for Roku.

Natalie Kahn, daughter of Janegail and Jim Kahn, upon graduating from Ramaz Upper School. She will attend Harvard College.

Gabriel Lang, son of Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang, upon graduating from SAR High School. He will attend the Hartman Institute (Hevruta) in Israel, followed by the University of Michigan.

Dr. Wesley Warren Ludwig, son-in-law of Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, upon graduating from his Johns Hopkins residency, specializing in Urology/Robotic Surgery. He has won the award for Outstanding Resident in minimally invasive surgery, and will be joining an Atlanta, Georgia urology practice.

Daniel de Sola Marks, son of Eliza de Sola Mendes, upon graduating from Boston University School of Law.

Louis Nahon, son of Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, upon graduating from Booker T. Washington Middle School with honors. He will attend The Bronx High School of Science.

Raphael Nahon, son of Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, upon graduating from Booker T. Washington Middle School with honors. He will attend The Bronx High School of Science.

Elizabeth Uretsky Neumark, wife of Samuel Neumark, daughter-in-law of Susan and Avery Neumark, upon graduating Fordham Law School.

Jared Ninyo, son of Elizabeth and Jak Ninyo, upon graduating from NYC iSchool with his high school diploma. He will attend SUNY Binghamton.

Lia Adielle Solomon, daughter of Beth Goldman and Louis Solomon, upon graduating from SAR High School. She will attend Migdal Oz in Israel.

Flora Tauber, daughter of Natasha and Daniel Tauber, upon graduating from Fieldston Middle School. She will attend Fieldston High School.

Kobi Tsesarsky, son of Robyn and Mark Tsesarsky, upon graduating from Princeton University.

Robyn Tsesarsky, upon graduating from Hebrew Union College with a doctorate in Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Hannah Vorchheimer, daughter of Rachel and David Vorchheimer, upon graduating from SAR High School. After spending her gap year at Migdal Oz, she will attend Barnard College.

Susan, upon graduating from Heschel Middle School.

Elizabeth, upon graduating from Ramaz High School.

Shearith Israel Toddler Program Graduates:

Rafael Lubling, Matthew Rosman, Maya Simpson, Aya Shriki, Olivia Spitalny, Sebastian Srulowitz, Miriam Weinberg, and Evan Znaty

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Yaacov Ben-Avi, on the passing of his brother, Moshe Ben-Avi.

Chaim Edelstein, on the passing of his sister, Sarah Friedel.

Daniel Feder, on the passing of his father, Aaron Feder.

Mindy Lamm, on the passing of her sister, Gloria Mehler.

Gabriel Goldstein, on the passing of his mother, Reta Goldstein.

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

Melvin Newman on the passing of his brother, William Newman.

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

Barbara Shahmoon, on the passing of her mother, Jean H. Schwartz.

Rivka Shoulson (Wiznia) on the passing of her grandfather, Rabbi Solomon Shoulson.

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

Special thanks to:

Our team of volunteer docents, who continue to do a wonderful job guiding all our visitors on public and private tours of the Synagogue. Tours this past season were led by: Rose Edinger, Zachary Edinger, Janet Kirchheimer, Vivienne Roumani, and Arthur Tenenholtz. If you would like to learn more about becoming a docent, please contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

The Shearith Israel Sisterhood, for sponsoring the gorgeous Shabuot flowers that adorned our Sanctuary.

Gjilberta Lucaj and Daniel Cohen for their contribution to the Sisterhood for the Shabuot flowers, in honor of their marriage.

Class Sponsors:

Henry G. Rieser, for sponsoring a Shabbat Afternoon Class, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik.

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Fall Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of his mother, Chana Razel bat Aharon v'Sara.

Minyan Breakfast Sponsors and Supporters:

Anonymous, for a full summer semester.

The Haberman Family, in memory of Eva Haberman on the occasion of her second *nahala*.

Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, in memory of Philippe Nahon.



Kiddush Fund Sponsors and Contributors:

Anonymous

Angelina Drahi and Dr. Daniel Bassiri, in honor of their wedding.

Malaika and Anthony Bregman, in honor of Eloise's Bat Mitzvah.

Ina and Steve Beispel, in honor of Paul Beispel's 90th birthday.

Doina and Dr. Lawrence Bryskin, in memory of Doina's mother, Hermina Levi, on the occasion of her *nahala*.

Gjilberta Lucaj and Daniel Cohen, in honor of their recent marriage.

Karen and Jack Daar, in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11's moon landing.

Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman, in honor of Avi Friedman reading his first Haftarah (with thanks to Rabbi Rohde for teaching him so diligently and to Z for his encouragement) and also in honor of Samuel chanting *Kol Yisrael* in the large synagogue for the first time.

The Haberman Family, in memory of Eva Haberman on the occasion of her second *nahala*.

Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, in honor of Isaac's marriage to Rachel McCoy.

Marco di Laurenti, in honor of Leon Hyman's birthday.

Hebra Hased vaAmet

The Julis Rabinowitz family, in memory of Maurice Raphael Julis.

Mrs. Lisa Rohde and family, in memory of Lisa's father, Herbert Brun.

Carla Salomon Schein and Jonah Schein, in honor of their marriage at Shearith Israel 50 years ago.

Rabbi Soloveichik's Pre-Purim Lecture

Yasmine Ergas and Leonard Groopman

Suzanne and Norman Javitt

Purim Dinner:

Suzanne and Norman Javitt

Carol and Alan Schechter

Karen and Roy Simon

The Solomon Family

Purim Youth Programming Supporters:

Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman

Purim Breakfast:

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

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

Shabbat HaGadol Derasha Sponsors:

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

Kiddush in honor of our Shir HaShirim Readers:

Anonymous

Faith Fogelman

Shabuot Lecture Sponsors and Contributors:

Nicole and Raanan Agus

The Bengio Misrahi Family

John Chapman

Lynette and Jonathan Tulkoff

Kiddush in honor of our Book of Ruth Readers:

Benefactor:

Isabelle and Nugi Jakobishvili

Patron:

The Wiznia Family

Sponsors:

The Roberts Family

The Wolkovisky Family

Supporters:

Laury Frieber

Raquel and Dr. Ian Lentnek, Hudson, and Dakota

Contributors:

Nicole and David Cohen

Faith Fogelman

Graduation Kiddush:

Sponsors:

Janegail and Jim Kahn, in honor of Natalie Kahn.

Elizabeth Flisser Rosman and Adam Rosman, in honor of Matthew Rosman.

The Solomon Family, in honor of Lia Adielle Solomon.

Contributors:

Anonymous

Faith Fogelman, in honor of all the graduates.

Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, in honor of Akiva Haberman and Isaac Haberman.

Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, in honor of Dr. Wesley Warren Ludwig.

Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang, in honor of Gabriel Lang.

Daniel de Sola Marks, in honor of his graduation from Boston University School of Law.

Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, in honor of Louis and Raphael Nahon.

Natasha and Daniel Tauber, in honor of Flora Tauber.

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.



HIGH HOLIDAYS

INTRO TO SHOFAR

Wednesday, September 4

Learn about the customs and laws of blowing the shofar: Who can blow shofar? What makes a shofar kosher for use? What are the types of sounds to be produced and their different lengths? What are the blessings made over the shofar? (A variety of different shofars, and techniques of blowing will be demonstrated.) For those who are curious about becoming a *ba'al tokeah*, or simply want to understand more about this special mitzvah. Open to males and females of all ages.

SHABBAT TESHUBA DERASHA

Shabbat Morning, October 5

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a major address illuminating the themes of teshuba. To co-sponsor the Kiddush following the derasha, go to shearithisrael.org/shabbat-teshuba2019.

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN

Rosh HaShanah, Kippur, and Succot

During youth groups, children will participate in special holiday activities. For more information, see page 24.



SUCCOT

LULAB AND ETROG ORDERS

Orders due before midnight, Thursday, October 10

Purchase your *Lulabim* and *Eetrogim* through the Synagogue at \$68 per set. To place your order, visit shearithisrael.org/lulab. Payment must be made at time of order and before the deadline. (We cannot bill these charges to your account.) For questions contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION

Thursday, October 10 | 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday, October 11 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday, October 13 | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Our unique open-air Elias Room Succah is considered one of the most beautiful in the world. Decorated lavishly and lovingly by the Shearith Israel Sisterhood, who sponsors Succot kiddushim served on vintage Shearith Israel branded Tiffany Limoges china and elegant silver for all congregants to enjoy. Teens and adults, women and men, are invited to help decorate in preparation for the Succot Festival. To participate in this fun mitzvah, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lrohde-csi@yahoo.com or Aimee Margolis at art1show@verizon.net or sign up at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5780.

Financial contributions to the Sisterhood's Succah Fund are also welcome to help defray the costs of decorating and maintaining the succah. To make a contribution to the Sisterhood Succah Fund, please either send a check made out to "Sisterhood of the Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue" indicating "succah fund" in the memo, or make a donation online at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5780.



Visiting Scholar, Rabbi David Moster, PhD

VISITING SCHOLAR IN THE SUCCAH: DAVID MOSTER

Sponsored by
The Shearith Israel League

Thursday, October 17

Following 6:00 pm Evening Services

Rabbi David Moster, one of the foremost *etrog* experts, explores the *etrog's* most pressing mysteries, including: How did the *etrog* make its way from China to Israel by the Second Temple period, ca. 400 BCE? How and why did the *etrog* become the "choice tree-fruit" (פרי עץ הדר) of Leviticus 23:40? What does the archaeological evidence from the "paradise" garden at Ramat Rahel say about the history of the *etrog*? Why does the *etrog* appear so prominently in Jewish art from the Roman and Byzantine periods?

David Z. Moster, PhD and Rabbi, is the founder and director of the Institute of Biblical Culture (www.BiblicalCulture.org) and the author of *Eetrog: How a Chinese Fruit Became a Jewish Symbol*. He received his PhD in Hebrew Bible from Bar-Ilan University, his MA in Ancient Israel from NYU, and an MA, MS, and *Semikha* from Yeshiva University. David currently lives in Yonkers, NY with his wife and children.

MEALS IN THE SUCCAH

For Shearith Israel members and their guests who wish to eat self-catered meals in the Elias Room Succah, we offer timed seatings on *yom tob* following kiddush, and on *hol hamoed*. Registration is required for all meals and we charge \$12 per person per meal to help defray costs. You bring the food (strictly kosher, of course) and we supply tablecloths, disposables, and basic beverages. Space is highly limited, so register early.

We will accommodate members and immediate family on a first-come-first-serve basis. Non-member guests will be accommodated closer to the date subject to availability. To register, go to shearithisrael.org/meals-succah-5780.

SIMHAT TORAH

WOMEN'S HAKAFOT

Monday night, October 21 | 6:30 pm
Little Synagogue

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a parallel *Hakafot* ceremony is held for women. This joyous Shearith Israel tradition began in 1991 and has been held annually ever since.

ANNUAL SIMHAT TORAH DINNER AND ICE CREAM EXTRAVAGANZA

Monday night, October 21

Following Simhat Torah *hakafot* in the sanctuaries, we host a casual dairy dinner. Pre-registration is required; details to follow.

Following *hakafot*, CHILDREN ONLY are invited to enjoy our annual ice cream part in the Elias Room. After the dinner, adults are also welcome to partake. Volunteer teen scoopers are needed.

Sponsored by the Haberman and Lustig families.

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS

Thursday, November 27

In 1789, Shearith Israel responded to George Washington's call for a day of national thanksgiving with a special service. Today, we observe Thanksgiving with the addition of Psalms during Shahrit and the omission of tahanunim and a Thanksgiving-themed lecture by Rabbi Soloveichik. We invite the children of the congregation for parade viewing on the CPW Portico and hot chocolate for all in the Elias Room.

5TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING PACK-A-THON

Thursday, November 28
9:30 am | Levy Auditorium

In what has become yet another wonderful annual Shearith Israel tradition, following Rabbi Soloveichik's special Thanksgiving address, registered volunteers will pack meals to be distributed to hungry New Yorkers. We are joined again in this endeavor by our local faith community partners: The Jewish Center, Church of Latter-day Saints, the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan, West End Collegiate Church, and Drisha. If you'd like to join this planning committee and help ensure the success of this important activity, please contact Sarah Meira Rosenberg at srosenberg@shearithisrael.org.

Year of Years Update



Reflections on an Independence Day Trip to the Touro Synagogue

One of our newest members, Dr. Arnold Rosen, attended our July 4th trip to the Touro Synagogue in Newport, RI. He was so moved by the experience that he shared his impressions of the trip, his experience of Shearith Israel, of and reconnecting to the roots of American Jewry, in the following letter to his granddaughter, Bella, who was away at Camp Ramah at the time:

Dear Bella,

You are at camp and I expect you are too busy having fun (as it should be) to sit down and answer this long-winded letter from your grandpa (who is gaining a reputation for writing long-winded letters). A simple reply (letter? postcard?) consisting of 'I received your letter, grandpa' will suffice. In a way, this process of communicating back and forth is an appropriate backdrop for this letter. My topic will be: how I spent yesterday, July 4th, which, to an extent, involved learning about two letters written over 200 years ago, and what these letters mean for us now.

For the past 3 months or so, I have spent Saturday mornings attending Shabbat services at the "Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue," located on West 70th

and Central Park West. That title (or "S&P") is how it is generally known, or spoken of, here on the Upper West Side. Its formal name is "Shearith Israel," which ironically is the name of the synagogue associated with my family in Dallas. (Shearith Israel is the name of the shul that "I grew up in," although, it must be said, its impact on me growing up was as profound as my overall impact on it. I promised not to bother it, expecting the same. We generally held to our bargain.) S&P is the oldest congregation in America, organized in 1654!, well over a hundred years before we became an independent country. It was the first Jewish congregation set up upon these shores, by people fleeing the lingering effects of the Spanish Inquisition.



Rabbi Soloveichik presents a gift to Ruth Taylor, Executive Director of the Newport Historical Society who gave us a private tour of the Old Colony House

The people who founded the shul were Sephardim from the Iberian peninsula. They had either been in hiding (as Marranos) or running — north to the Netherlands or east to the Ottoman Empire. Neither of these places would ever be considered a haven today. The Netherlands was still a province of Spain and remained under its authority. It's true it was by comparison somewhat enlightened but it may have simply been sluggish in carrying out Spain's anti-Jewish agenda. The Ottoman Empire in turn was ruled by an absolute monarch, who embodied both the Sultan (as head of state affairs) and Caliph (as head of the religion). These Sephardim must have been, in Spain, as mice scurrying about on a burning roof. Can we possibly imagine now an America so hostile to us as Jews that to jump off the roof to the east, or in today's terms to flee to Iran, might look appealing? What a dilemma they were in! Still, unlike the bulk of their Ashkenazi cousins in Eastern Europe at that time (who were probably almost as oppressed), they were somewhat more worldly, and often "of means." What was probably as important was the fact that they were, at the time, located geographically at the hub of world commerce where travel was possible.

Later on, I found all this information very interesting, but it was not the reason that I began to attend services in a regular way. The reason I became interested in S&P was that I enjoyed hearing the rabbi, Meir Soloveichik. He is a member of one of those prominent rabbinical families. (Your great-grandparents, already in their 60's when I came into my wife's family, held Rabbi Soloveichik's great-uncle to be the wisest and most-revered Torah sage of the age!) But that information, also, was peripheral to that which drew me to Rabbi Soloveichik.

He had gained a reputation as giving a really good sermon! And indeed, I went and did find them interesting. His approach to Jewish history, to our identity as a people, included the entire range of human experience. I went to hear him draw parallels between being Jewish and Shakespeare's famous speech in Henry V. I went to hear him identify aspects of Rembrandt's painting that bore on Jewish life at the time in Amsterdam. He drew upon an impressive, wide range of knowledge, but all his sermons were presented in a subtle mocking self-deflating manner. He might reference his years at the University of Chicago by reminding us that its motto is "This is where fun goes to die." He might cite a quotation from his great-uncle, the



Madelene and Stan Towne enjoying their day in Newport

Rabbi Soloveitchik. But if he did, he would do so with the same degree of pride he took, in being a long-suffering, ultimately redeemed, Chicago Cubs' fan. And he could derive and develop the same religious message from both sources.

I also grew to appreciate the atmosphere of the shul. Although it is strictly orthodox in the Sephardic manner (men downstairs, women in the balcony), we usually gather together to hear the rabbi speak. I appreciated their traditions (top hats at the *bimah* [or *tebah*, as they call it], ritualistic processions with bowing instead of handshakes). Many of our New York friends, who like Sondra grew up in a modern orthodox Ashkenazi tradition, found the service alien and unfamiliar. I was spared that feeling because both my attendance and attention at shul had been so limited through the years that everything was equally alien. I had little to compare. I suppose that gave me an advantage. I particularly loved the fact that their service, as traditional as found in any modern orthodox synagogue, was somehow able to accommodate and integrate a professional male choir. It is situated in the front balcony, separate from where the women sit and above from my preferred seat. (How they managed to pull off the choir trick, I do not know.)

So I hope all this explains why yesterday (July 4th) morning at 7:15, I found myself sitting on a bus, heading north on the Major Deegan with Yankee Stadium passing by to my right. I had joined Rabbi Soloveichik and 60 of his congregants in a day's trip to Newport, Rhode Island. There we planned to visit the Touro Synagogue and participate in Newport's Fourth of July celebration. Whereas S&P is the nation's oldest congregation, having gradually moved through the years from their downtown origins, the Touro Synagogue is this country's oldest synagogue building. Like the founders of S&P, those of the Touro Synagogue were of Sephardic origin (as were almost all the Jews of colonial America). The building was designed and constructed to be a truly impressive edifice, not some simple humble *shtiebl* cowering in a European ghetto. It was designed by America's first prominent colonial architect and was completed in 1763. It was meant to be grand. It is situated on a hill in Newport. There, with other equally prominent buildings and churches, it overlooks in almost lordly fashion the town itself and the harbor below.

We arrived before noon and left the bus by the entrance to the synagogue. Walking a mere 100 or so steps downhill from the shul took us to the colonial courthouse. We watched as a member of the town, dressed in colonial uniform, walked out upon the front steps and read out the Declaration of Independence. He was re-enacting the actual event as it occurred in 1776, where the Declaration, after being proclaimed (so he told us), was then nailed to the front door of the King's official building. Kind of like, take that, your kingship lordship. To honor the Fourth and America's independence, we watched the volunteer artillery corps send off a 21-gun salute, in cannons cast by Paul Revere. We then followed the rabbi as he took us on a walking tour through



Left: Neta and Zahava Wiznia show us the way | Center: The Rabbi delivers his lecture | Right: The group views Touro Synagogue's Jewish cemetery

the center of colonial Newport (only a 3 or 4 block radius), showing us where important figures from the shul and the community at large lived. He explained how these shul figures came into contact with their neighbors, and how all together they found their individual roles in the birth of our country. Finally, we ended up nearby at Touro's Jewish cemetery, where we were handed poems by Longfellow and Emma Lazarus. Both had come here, reflected upon the tombstones, and put their thoughts to verse. And there, in the cemetery, under the rabbi's tutelage, we studied and read them.

I found the entire afternoon to be enlightening and inspiring: watching and hearing the re-enacted reading, flinching with the cannons' roar and seeing the clouds of smoke drift through the trees, seeing the houses of notable personalities, Jewish and non-Jewish, and learning how they interacted with one another. As I stood in the cemetery, poems in hand, I remembered with a smile how Grandma would laugh with pleasure thinking how concerned you were that camp would cut you off from all news of the Supreme Court — how was it going to rule on the census issue and the gerrymandering case before it? I remembered accompanying you to the Bronx Science HS open house, and recalled how interested you were in their debate club and political issues

in general. And I thought, "Bella should be here. Bella would have appreciated this afternoon." That thought, more than anything else that I have witnessed since your Bat Mitzvah (now almost a year ago), told me, in no uncertain terms, that I now (psychologically) viewed you as an adult.

Later that day, after dinner, we filed into the Touro sanctuary to hear the rabbi's formal lecture. His topic was "*A Tale of Two Letters: Washington's Words to Newport and Savannah.*" He spoke about how the "Old Testament," both in language and in thought, had animated all our founding fathers. In the main, however, he spoke about the two letters that George Washington wrote one year into his presidency: one to a Jewish congregation in Savannah, Georgia and one to the leader of the Touro Synagogue. (Washington had visited Newport and the synagogue as part of a national tour following his election.) He wrote these letters upon receiving letters of congratulation from both congregations. Both letters are well known in American history. There is no way that I can summarize or do justice to the interesting and at times humorous stories the rabbi told as he developed his themes and elaborated on the events leading up to the letters.



Touro Synagogue sanctuary

Suffice it to say, these two letters were written in the summer of 1790. The constitution had been ratified and Washington was President, but the "Bill of Rights," the first 10 amendments to the constitution, were still an entire year away from being ratified. Yet even without the "freedom of religion" amendment, the constitution specified (under Article VI) that "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States". This notion, having now been enshrined in our country's founding document, when measured against the general philosophical tenor of the times, was not only revolutionary but practically unthinkable.

In the first letter, to Savannah, Washington extolled these ideas "of liberality and philanthropy" which were not even to be found "among the enlightened nations of the earth," and expressed the hope that this "wonder-working Deity" would plant in America a "promised land" and continue to water this new nation and all its inhabitants "with the dew of heaven."

A few months later, Washington received a letter from the leader of the Touro Synagogue, Moses Seixas (pronounced "say-shus") which praised Washington and the people of America for creating

a government "which to bigotry gives no sanction, to persecution gives no assistance." Washington responded immediately, happily repeating Seixas' phrase of "no sanction, no assistance" but going farther (than even his first letter) to explain that unlike those enlightened nations of the earth referenced above, the American concept of religious freedom constitutes no grant of indulgence or toleration of the Jews' right to peacefully practice their religion unfettered. Rather it is simply their entitlement as free citizens. And America, by recognizing this as something innate, not granted to Jews from on high, enlarges both the Jew and the American people as a whole. Then he closes his letter with his prayer from the prophet Micah that "everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall make him afraid."

With a much deeper understanding of the unique quality of our history, both as a proud American and Jew, I boarded the bus and was soon heading south, back to New York City. So that's how I spent my July 4th. I hope yours was equally wonderful and eventful.

Love,
Grandpa Arnie

SPECIAL EVENTS



RABBI MARC ANGEL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN THE RABBINATE

Shabbat Morning, December 8

Our Rabbi Emeritus, Marc Angel, is celebrating 50 years in the rabbinate and will mark the occasion with a seminar, “*Reflections on 50 Years of Rabbinic Service*.” Congregants are then welcome to wish Rabbi Angel *mazal tov* at the kiddush to follow.



Year of Years Event

THE TRAVELS OF THE TORAH: FROM SPAIN TO PORTUGAL, FROM AMSTERDAM TO AMERICA

Tuesday, September 10

Join us for an unmissable event, marking 365 Years of Judaism in America, featuring a historical ceremony and lecture by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik.

The ceremony will include: a reunion between descendants of Don Isaac Abarbanel, one of the greatest Sephardic rabbinic figures of all times, and certainly the greatest Jewish Portuguese figure of all times, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Braganza; the welcoming and rededication of a newly restored centuries-old American Torah; the unprecedented return of our three precious sets of Myer Myers *rimonim*, which we are bringing together for the first time ever.

We are incredibly excited for this momentous event and hope all of you attend and bring your family and friends to witness and take part in it. Register at shearithisrael.org/capstone2019.

SISTERHOOD FAMILY PHOTO DAY

Sunday, September 15 | 4:00 pm

Join the Sisterhood for the unique opportunity to have your family portrait taken by a professional photographer against the backdrop of Shearith Israel’s majestic front Portico. A Rosh HaShanah themed project will keep kids occupied and engaged throughout any downtime. Details coming soon at shearithisrael.org/photo-day.

HEBRA HASED VA’AMET’S ANNUAL PRE-HIGH HOLIDAY COMMUNAL BETH OLAM CEMETERY TRIP

Sunday, September 22

10:00 am at Beth Olam Cemetery
Cypress Hills Street, Ridgewood (Queens)

Round-trip transportation available by advance registration (departing Shearith Israel at 9:00 am)

Join us for our annual visit to Beth Olam Cemetery where members can visit the graves of loved ones before the High Holidays and participate in a memorial service in the Calvert Vaux-designed “*metaher* house.” A highlight of the visit is an illuminating tour given by our sexton, Zachariah Edinger. Register at shearithisrael.org/beth-olam-trip5780.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS 5780 SEASON PREMIERE

Friday Night, October 25
following Shabbat Evening Services
Rabbi Soloveichik

There is no better way to transition from the workweek to the aura of Shabbat than experiencing our magnificent Friday night service followed by *Friday Night Lights*. Don’t miss the return of Rabbi Soloveichik’s inspiring series! To learn more about this series, see page 22.

HATANIM LUNCHEON

Shabbat, October 26
following Shabbat Morning Services

On Shabbat Bereshit, our community and friends come together to honor our Hatanim — David J. Nathan, Hatan Torah, and Jack Daar, Hatan Bereshit — with an elegant luncheon and celebration. Stay tuned for invitations and further details.

“UNVEILING LIBERTY”

A Live Original Stage Production
by Charlotte Rahn-Lee and Jennie Contuzzi

Sunday, October 27 | 2:00 pm

Experience an exclusive live performance co-sponsored by Shearith Israel and the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan. The whole family will enjoy this play that is sure to bring American history to life as you’ve never seen it before! For more about “Unveiling Liberty,” see page 24.

SHABBATON AT TOURO WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

Veterans Day Weekend
Friday-Sunday, November 8-10

Come with us to Newport for a full Shabbat experience at the Touro Synagogue. This trip promises many extraordinary historic experiences, fascinating lectures, stimulating intellectual discussions, and time to enjoy the sites of Newport on Sunday. Registration and additional details coming soon at shearithisrael.org/touro-shabbaton.



— continued —



PTTS SHABBATON

Shabbat, November 23

PTTS students are warmly encouraged to take advantage of all our Junior Congregation services as a free supplement to the Hebrew School curriculum—and on special Shabbatot like this one, we welcome PTTS students to celebrate learning to lead parts of the service themselves. Please be in touch with PTTS Principal Yona Glass at yglass@shearithisrael.org to discuss your student's participation.

CELEBRATING MOROCCAN JEWISH HERITAGE AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

November, Date TBA

Many Moroccan Jews who reached these shores many years ago found the sounds of Shearith Israel to be the most familiar to them, and made Shearith Israel their spiritual home. And from that time until today, we have retained a strong contingent of Moroccan Jewish families and are proud of the unique character they contribute to our community.

This program is one of our many Year of Years, 365th Anniversary celebration events, which showcase the extraordinary diversity of our congregation, throughout its history until today.

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.



Rabbi David Silber

THE ROAD TO KINGSHIP

Sundays | 10:00 am

Rabbi David Silber

Beginning October 27

An exploration of the Samson story, the last 5 chapters of the Book of Judges, and Megillat Ruth as texts that prepare us for the institution of kingship. The sessions will include a survey of attitudes towards monarchy and the centralization of human authority in other biblical texts—both narratives and biblical poetry.

Rabbi David Silber received ordination from Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and is the Founder and Dean of Drisha Institute for Jewish Education. He received the Covenant Award in 2000. He is the author of *A Passover Haggadah: Go Forth and Learn*, published by JPS in 2011, and the newly released *For Such a Time as This: Biblical Reflections in the Book of Esther*, published by Koren Publishing in 2017 (Hebrew).

Shearith Israel members can register for FREE at shearithisrael.org/silber-kingship.

JUDAIC EDUCATION

THE GUIDE TO THE DUTIES OF THE HEART

Sundays | 8:45 am

Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander

While *The Guide to the Duties of the Heart* (completed around 1075 CE) is sometimes called the first work of Jewish ethics, it aims to guide us towards a spiritual dedication, taught within a philosophical outlook that has similarities with both Saadiah Gaon and Maimonides. Besides philosophical concepts, Bahya ibn Paquda frequently uses stories and concepts from Sufism (Islamic mysticism) to stir in us a spiritual mindfulness and to deepen our love of God.

Rabbi 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. More recently, Rabbi den Hollander received *semikha* from Rabbi Eliyahu Ben Haim and from Yeshiva University. He teaches Jewish literature at Hunter College. In addition, he does research on Islam's perception of Judaism and writes online articles in Arabic explaining Judaism to a Muslim audience.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY LEARNING WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

On select Mondays and Tuesdays | 7:00 pm

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik delivers major lectures on select Mondays and Tuesdays, with Mondays devoted to history, and Tuesdays focused on Judaic/Torah/Talmud content. Dates will be announced in advance, so keep an eye for announcements in our emails, on our website, and on our Facebook page. If you're not already on the Rabbi's email distribution, sign up at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

OPEN BET MIDRASH

**Most Weeknights (Monday-Thursday)
5:15 pm until Evening Services**

On most weeknights, men and women, adults and youth, are invited to learn with university-level and rabbinical students from Yeshiva University in the Elias Room at our “Open Bet Midrash.” Learn your way: join a *habruta*, hear a short *debar torah*, or simply pick a *sefer* off the shelf. Take advantage of this unique opportunity, and don’t hesitate to contact Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org with any questions. Participants are welcome to stay for evening services and help strengthen our minyan.

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 a member of our clergy.

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. Rabbi Soloveichik sends a reminder email each Monday which includes occasional cancellation notices. Make sure to sign up for this specific email distribution at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists. Class sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT

2019-2020 season sponsored by the Julis family

**Fridays | Following Evening Services
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

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 Friday night service followed by *Friday Night Lights*. The 2019-2020 season commences on Shabbat Bereshit, Friday, October 25.

THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT

**Shabbat Afternoon, Year-Round
One Hour Before Mincha
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. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE SHEARITH ISRAEL LEAGUE

Lucienne Carasso Bulow

***The Shearith Israel League was founded in 1919
and recently celebrated its 100th anniversary.***



The League organizes social events, helping congregants get to know each other and develop friendships, both inside and outside the Synagogue. Over the years, The League has organized visits to museums, galleries, plays on Broadway, opera, and apple picking outings. It sponsored stimulating lectures and panel discussions, concerts of Ladino songs and traditional music, and films.

Importantly, the League helped to preserve our Spanish and Portuguese musical tradition. In the 1950s, the League sponsored and published recordings of Dr. David de Sola Pool, Reverend Abraham Lopes Cardozo, and Dr. Louis C. Gerstein. These recordings were re-published by the League in 2003 and are currently available for purchase through the synagogue website at shearithisrael.org/store.

This past year, the League sponsored a special choir performance in memory of David Bouso, who grew up in the Congregation and

was a most gifted musician and conductor. The League also helped sponsor the Sisterhood’s Judaica Appraisal Day, and supported “*Out of Egypt*,” Shearith Israel’s *Year of Years* celebration of our congregants who came to the United States from Egypt. The commemorative book of that evening is also available for purchase at shearithisrael.org/store.

The League has been an incubator of new ideas and the supporter of members’ volunteerism in organizing interesting activities that contributed to a dynamic Shearith Israel. We are always looking for new ideas and new members. If you have ideas for social activities or would like make or meet friends in the congregation, please contact Lucienne Bulow at lucienne.bulow@gmail.com. George Bulow continues to serve as the President of the Shearith Israel League Foundation.

The League is a great place to bring your ideas for social activities to fruition – please join us!



Note To Parents

For everyone's safety, children should be either in a youth program or in the Sanctuary accompanied by a parent. Children should not be anywhere in the synagogue unattended. We appreciate your understanding.

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN

Rosh HaShanah, Kippur, and Succot

While the adults of the congregation are enjoying the beautiful *tefilla* of the High Holidays in the sanctuary, we have wonderful, fun, and educational learning activities as well as youth-led *tefilla* for the children. Ages 0-4 have babysitting, holiday storytelling and songs. Children 5-12 will play fun educational games lead by our engaging leaders. Past holiday activities have included a shofar blowing exercise and a *sheheyanu* party.

Don't forget to register your children for high holiday youth programming along with your seating selections. This helps us prepare for their fun and safety.

"UNVEILING LIBERTY"

A Live Original Stage Production by Charlotte Rahn-Lee and Jennie Contuzzi

Sunday, October 27 | 2:00 pm

Experience an exclusive live performance co-sponsored by Shearith Israel and the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan. The whole family will enjoy this play that is sure to bring American history to life as you've never seen it before!

It's 1886 and ten-year-old Isabelle is enamored of the enormous statue about to be unveiled in New York harbor. Her father and brother are going to go watch the dedication, and Isabelle doesn't understand why she's not allowed, just because she's a girl. But it turns out that the very thing Isabelle loves about the statue—that a woman has been chosen to represent liberty—has drawn the attention of the Woman's Suffrage Association. Meanwhile Jackie, a young black woman, has her own thoughts about this statue, but is she even at liberty to express them? With cameo appearances by Lillian Devereux Blake, Emma Lazarus, Joseph Pulitzer and others, this play explores the state of women's rights at the time of the birth of an iconic landmark.

For tickets, visit shearithisrael.org/unveiling-liberty.

PTTS SHABBATON

Shabbat, November 23

PTTS students are warmly encouraged to take advantage of all our Junior Congregation services as a free supplement to the Hebrew School curriculum—and on special Shabbaton like this one, we welcome PTTS students to celebrate learning to lead parts of the service themselves.

Please be in touch with PTTS Principal Yona Glass at yglass@shearithisrael.org to discuss your student's participation.

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS

Parade Viewing, Snacks, and Pack-A-Thon

Thursday Morning, November 28

Our Thanksgiving festivities always draw a big crowd, but some, but some special opportunities are just for kids! Come watch the Thanksgiving Day Parade from our Portico — it is a view and experience that is not to be beat! Accompanied by hot chocolate and snacks in the Elias Room. Registered Pack-A-Thon kids also get to "give back" in the Kids' Craft Activity. For more details on the Pack-A-Thon, see page 12.



BRUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

For PTTS Students and Their Parents

Sundays | 10:30 am
December 8, February 9, and March 29

Students of PTTS and their parents enjoy a special time with the rabbi. On several Sundays over the course of the year students and their parents start the day together with morning services after which they will proceed to a topical "Brunch and Learn" with Rabbi Soloveichik. CSI members with elementary school age children are heartily welcome by registration at shearithisrael.org/brunch-learn-registration.

MITZVOT WORKSHOPS WITH ZACHARY EDINGER

For Elementary School Aged Children

Sundays | 10:00 am
November 17, January 5, March 15, and May 3

On select Sundays, our *Shamash*, Zachary Edinger, leads our PTTS students and CSI youth in an interactive and educational *tefillah* class. Students learn to sing the melodies of selected prayers from the Shabbat and holiday services as well as learn about the parts of the Torah service, and get trained in the hands-on parts of the service. For full schedule of workshop dates and registration, visit shearithisrael.org/mitzvot-workshop.



HEBREW SCHOOL: POLONIES TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

**2019 - 2020 school year begins on
October 24**

**Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm and
special programming on select Sundays**

Our Hebrew School, led by Principal Yona Glass, provides students with a substantive supplemental 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 to enroll, go to shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool.

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

**Fall 2019 Semester begins on
Wednesday, September 4**

**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 with childhood educator extraordinaire, Liz Rios, 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 and to enroll, go to shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram.

YOUTH ON SHABBAT

TOT SHABBAT

10:00 am – 11:45 am | Ages 0 – 4

Our little ones enjoy Tot Shabbat all year round, led by our beloved teachers, Liz and Shanade. Held in our cheerful, safe, and well equipped Fidanque Youth Room, independent play, snacks, and circle-time with songs will entertain the toddlers while parents are in services. 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 in the Elias Room for a fun curriculum of educational and entertaining activities connected to the parasha of the week and other Jewish themes, created by our Youth Group Leader and Programming Coordinator, Nat Bernstein, and Youth Group Leader, Daniela Bernstein. At 10:30 am, the children come together for Junior Congregation, a lively, participatory service in the Little Synagogue (after which they return to the Elias Room with their group leader until the end of services). For a list of parts your child may lead in Jr. Congregation, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

WOMEN AT SHEARITH ISRAEL



SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION

**Thursday, October 10 | 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Friday, October 11 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sunday, October 13 | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Our unique open air Elias Room Succah is considered one of the most beautiful in the world. Decorated lavishly and lovingly by the Shearith Israel Sisterhood. For more information, see page 11.

WOMEN'S HAKAFOT

**Monday night, October 21 | 6:30 pm
Little Synagogue**

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a parallel *Hakafot* ceremony is held for women. This joyous Shearith Israel tradition began in 1991 and has been held annually ever since.

WOMEN'S SHABBAT SERVICES

On select Shabbat Mornings

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 at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

YOETZET HALAKHA

Shearith Israel is a co-sponsor of the Manhattan *Yoetzet Halakha* Initiative. If you have any questions regarding *Taharat Hamishpaha* (Family Purity) or the laws of *Niddah*, please contact our *Yoetzet Halakha*, Shiffy Friedman, in confidence at nycyoetzet@gmail.com.

Shiffy Friedman has been serving as a *Yoetzet Halakha* in Manhattan since 2017. She 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 children in Morningside Heights, where they serve as the OU-JLIC couple at Columbia/Barnard Hillel.

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.



HESED

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. Caring Connection also facilitates and organizes important communal conversations, raising awareness on mental health issues, such as our recent "Smash the Stigma" panel on suicide and depression.

If you know someone who might need assistance, or if you would like to volunteer or help with events, please email caringconnection@shearithisrael.org.

When Caring Connection lacks the expertise or resources to provide appropriate assistance, they do their best to direct people to other congregational and communal organizations.



MEALS FOR MOURNERS AND NEW PARENTS

Shearith Israel's Caring Connection provides meals for members and their families after the birth of a child, and the *Hebra Hased Va'Amet* provides mourners and their family with their *shiba* meals.

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/hesed-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 Caring Connection's fund, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at layaliza@gmail.com beforehand. Layaliza is our congregation's volunteer coordinator for meals for new parents, and she makes every effort to ensure that the family's preferences and requests are accommodated and that duplication of efforts are avoided.

Moist, sweet, and somewhat spicy, this easy-to-prepare Dutch cake will quickly become a favorite at your family table.



Dutch Jewish Ginger Butter Cake

by Elisheva Friedman

Elisheva Friedman came to New York after she won the Green Card Lottery in the Netherlands. In Amsterdam, she was a member of the Esnoga back in the days of Rabbi Drukarch and Hazzan Sam Behar.

Elisheva and her husband Dan, who grew up in Israel, celebrated their wedding at Shearith Israel with Rabbi Marc Angel. Their daughter, Gita Rebecca, has enjoyed many fun Shabbat mornings with Liz and Shanade at Tot Shabbat.

Today Dan, Gita, and Elisheva feel honored to be part of and surrounded by the special and caring community led by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, and would like to share this Dutch recipe for a taste of Elisheva's country of origin

CULINARY CORNER

Ingredients:

½ pound (2 sticks) butter, room temperature

½ pound flour (about 2 cups)

½ pound sugar (1 cup)

1 egg, room temperature

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Grated peel of 1 lemon

½ cup chopped candied ginger

Flaked almonds to decorate

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Mix all ingredients in a bowl by hand until it does not adhere to bowl.

Press dough into an ungreased 8- or 9-inch round glass or ceramic baking pan with straight sides.

Bake in preheated oven 30 to 40 minutes, until the edge is a little brown; the top should not be brown. Do not overbake. Bake it for less time if you want the cake to be chewier.

Sprinkle flaked almonds on top to decorate.

Let cool in pan about 20 minutes, then turn out and cut into 1 ½-inch squares.

Makes about 2 dozen pieces.

If you would like to submit a recipe for a future bulletin, or a review of a kosher cookbook or restaurant, either in NYC or around the world, send it to Tikva Ostrega at tikvaostrega@gmail.com. In addition to the recipe or review, please include a short backstory describing yourself, your connection to Shearith Israel, and the food's significance to you.

RETROSPECTIVE:

“OUT OF EGYPT”— CELEBRATING EGYPTIAN JEWISH HERITAGE AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

Vivette Ancona

On May 8, the sanctuary at Shearith Israel was crowded with people of Egyptian heritage and their friends. There were people whose connection to Egypt was short and there were people whose Egyptian heritage was several centuries old. We all came to remember a community which flourished in Egypt for thousands of years, and which has now disappeared. The reminiscences of Shearith Israel's Egyptian Jewish families were placed in context by scholarly presentations. We heard about the Egyptian Jewish community in pre-modern times, documented by the extraordinary trove of the Cairo Geniza, from Professor Arnold Franklin. We also were shown a slideshow of synagogues of Egypt, attesting to the size, wealth, and acceptance of the Jews by the surrounding community, shown by Eddie Ashkenazie of the Diarna Geo-Museum. We were treated to a talk by the foremost writer on the dissolution of the Egyptian Jewish community in the twentieth century, Andre Aciman. And then there were the reminiscences of our members. Mrs. Emy Cohenca and her children, to whose family the evening was dedicated, were the first to talk about their family's years in Egypt. Their loving and detailed talks were a hard act to follow but our panelists, Jeffrey Mosseri, Lucienne Carasso Bulow, and Rabbi Albert Gabbai of our sister S&P synagogue, Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia, provided a superb ending to the evening.



Top: Emy Cohenca enjoying her family heirloom display with Rabbi Soloveichik and Executive Director, Barbara Reiss

Lower left: Andre Aciman, author of *Out of Egypt*

Lower right: Photo from the collection of Jean Mosseri Naggat

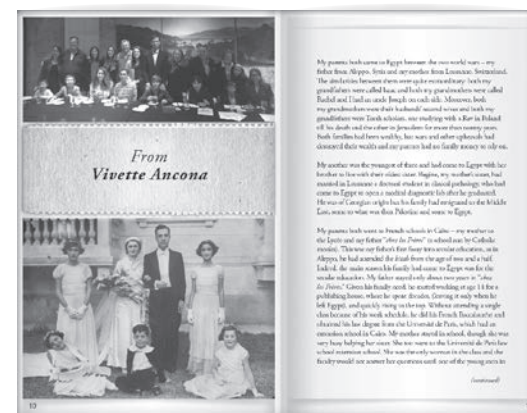
The evening started with wine and delicious desserts from the Mansoura bakery. Even that was symbolic: before Brooklyn, the Mansoura bakery resided in Heliopolis, a district of Cairo, where many Syrian Jews lived after emigrating to Egypt.

It was a great evening, but it was more than that. It showcased the variety, richness, and depth of the Shearith Israel community. We follow the minhagim of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, but we come from all parts of the world. There are many of us who come from communities in the Middle East, which disappeared in our time after thousands of years. An evening such as the one on May 8 on Egyptian Jews and the one in December on Iraqi Jews remind us of those destroyed communities. It brings these communities back to life with personal stories about real people, not just numbers. In the reminiscences presented on May 8 and the ones

included in the handsome commemorative booklet, we see many similar themes and differences too. Shearith Israel, by putting this all together, is doing a service to history. The symbolic significance of the date of the evening on the cusp of Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) and Yom HaAtsmaut (Israel's Independence Day) was emphasized by Rabbi Soloveichik, by Dr. Jason Guberman, Executive Director of the American Sephardi Federation, our program partner, and by Rabbi Gabbai. We came out of Egypt not once but twice. Shearith Israel reminded us that the destroyed communities are still alive and thriving, if in a different place.

We all owe our beloved shamash, Z. Edinger, a great debt of gratitude for imagining these evenings and planning them so well. Our thanks go also to Emy Cohenca and her children who spearheaded the event and contributed not only their reminiscences but documents and photos. Thank you to all the fascinating presenters. The evening of May 8, in short, reminded us all why Shearith Israel is such a special place: diverse, warm and inviting.

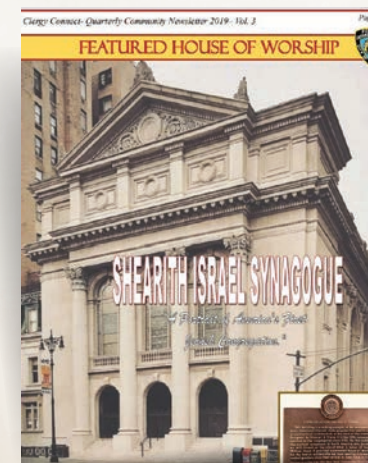
Vivette Ancona is an active member of Shearith Israel, who often serves as a volunteer at our special events and as an occasional docent.



NYPD VISIT TO SHEARITH ISRAEL

In April, Police Officer Michael Riomas of the New York City Police Department's community outreach division visited Shearith Israel to discuss security concerns and deepen our relationship with the local police. He and his colleagues were so impressed by Shearith Israel's majestic building and extensive history that they profiled us as their Featured House of Worship in their quarterly newsletter.

Regarding security, Shearith Israel is continually updating and strengthening our protocols, including training of our staff; retaining highly trained contracted security guards on Shabbat, holidays, and major events; ongoing consultation with our security consultants; updating our professional security assessment and reviewing our priorities; obtaining grants from the Department of Homeland Security to enable us to update our equipment and reinforce our exits; regular contact with the NYPD; evacuation maps and drills, and more. Your support and cooperation is appreciated.





SERVICES

SHABBAT SERVICES

September 6th-7th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:02 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Shofetim.....	Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
Haftarah Isaiah 51:12-52:12.....	Charles Gourgey
Class	5:55 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:55 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:19 pm
Habdalah.....	7:55 pm

September 13th-14th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:51 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Ki Tetse Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19	
Haftarah Isaiah 54:1-10	Elie Sasson
Class	5:40 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:40 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:07 pm
Habdalah.....	7:42 pm

September 20th-21st

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:39 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon den Hollander
Parashat Ki Tabo.....	Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Haftarah	Louis Nahon
Isaiah 60:1-22	
Class	5:30 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:30 pm
Saturday Sunset	6:55 pm
Habdalah.....	7:30 pm

September 27th-28th

1860 - 19th St. Consecration Anniversary

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Nitsabim	Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
Haftarah	Akiva R. Haberman
Isaiah 61:10-63:9	
Class	5:20 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit (no <i>Selihot</i>)	6:20 pm
Saturday Sunset	6:43 pm
Habdalah.....	7:17 pm

October 4th-5th

(See High Holy Days Schedule)

Shabbat Teshuba

October 11th-12th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:04 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Haazinu.....	Deuteronomy 32:1-52
Haftarah	Adam F. Jackson
II Samuel 22:1-51	
Class	4:55 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	5:55 pm
Saturday Sunset	6:21 pm
Habdalah.....	6:53 pm

October 18th-19th

October 25th-26th

(See Fall Festivals Schedule)

Shabbat Hol HaMoed

Shabbat Bereshit

November 1st-2nd

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:34 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Noah	Genesis 6:9-11:32
Haftarah Isaiah 54:1-10	Mark Aaron
Bar Mitzvah.....	Elia Mateus-Tique
Class	4:25 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:25 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:51 pm
Habdalah.....	6:21 pm

November 8th-9th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Parallel Women's Service	9:00-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Lekh-Lekha	Genesis 12:1-17:27
Haftarah	Gregory Levin
Isaiah 40:27-41:16	
Bar Mitzvah.....	Gregory Levin
Class	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:20 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:44 pm
Habdalah.....	5:12 pm

November 15th-16th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:20 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Vayera.....	Genesis 18:1-22:24
Haftarah II Kings 4:1-23	Reuben Frierber
Bat Mitzvah.....	Matea Frierber
Class	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:10 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:34 pm
Habdalah.....	5:05 pm

DAILY SERVICES

Mornings:

Sundays Shahrit.....	8:00 am
Monday-Friday Shahrit	7:15 am

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:

Sep. 1st-26th Minhah, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:30 pm
Oct. 3rd-7th Minhah, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:15 pm
Oct. 7th-10th Minhah & Arbit	6:15 pm
Oct. 16th & 17th Minhah & Arbit.....	6:00 pm
Oct. 23rd-31st Minhah & Arbit.....	5:45 pm
Nov. 3rd-Feb. 27th Arbit Only.....	6:30 pm

November 22nd-23rd

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:15 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Haye Sarah	Genesis 23:1-25:18
Haftarah I Kings 1:1-31	Jacob Daar
Class	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit	4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:32 pm
Habdalah	5:00 pm

November 29th-30th

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:12 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Toledoth	Genesis 25:19-28:9
Haftarah Malachi 1:1-2:7	Aaron Nathan
Class	3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:29 pm
Habdalah	4:56 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)

Friday Evening, August 30nd through
Sat. & Sun, August 31st & September 1st

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Elul:
Fri. & Sat. Services follow Shabbat Schedule
Sunday Morn Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf 8:00 am
Sunday Eve Minhah, Arbit & Selihot 6:30 pm

Labor Day Legal Holiday

Monday, September 2nd

Morning Service (Shahrit) 8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Heshvan (Two-Day)

Monday Evening, October 28th through
Tue. & Wed., October 29th & 30th

(Services Follow Daily Schedule)

Rosh Hodesh Kislev (Two-Day)
& American Thanksgiving Holiday

Rosh Hodesh: Wed. Eve, Nov. 27th
through Thu. & Fri, Nov. 28th & 29th:

Eve of Rosh Hodesh, Wed. Eve, Nov. 27th
Wed. Evening Service (Arbit only) 6:30 pm

Thanksgiving Holiday & First Day:
Thursday Morning, November 28th

Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf & Lecture 7:45 am

Eve of Second Day, Thu. Eve, Nov. 28th
Thursday Evening Service (Arbit only) 6:30 pm

Second Day Rosh Hodesh Daytime:
Friday Morning, November 29th

Shahrit, Hallel, & Musaf 7:15 am

Friday Evening, November 29th
Rosh Hodesh Minhah/Shabbat Arbit 4:15 pm

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5780

Rosh HaShanah - New Year 5780

Sunday Eve, Sep. 29th-Tuesday, Oct. 1st
PREPARATIONS

Sunday Morning, September 29th

Special Morning Selihot Service 7:15 am
Morning Shahrit Service 8:00 am

EVE OF 1st DAY ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday Evening, September 29th

Sunday Evening Candle Lighting 6:24 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:15 pm
Sunday Evening Sunset 6:42 pm

1st DAY ROSH HASHANAH MORNING

Monday, September 30th

Zemirot 7:45 am
Shahrit 8:35 am
Special Prayers & Taking Out Torah 9:35 am
Torah Reading & Haftarah 9:50 am
Offerings 10:30 am
'Et Sha'arei Ratzon & Shofar Service 10:40 am
Ashrei and Returning Torah 11:05 am
Musaf 11:20 am
Sermon 12:20 pm
Adon `Olam & Conclusion 12:40-12:45 pm

EVE OF 2nd DAY ROSH HASHANAH

Monday Evening, September 30th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:15 pm
Monday Evening Sunset 6:40 pm
Mon. Evening Candle Lighting after 7:02 pm

2nd DAY ROSH HASHANAH MORNING

Tuesday, October 1st

Zemirot 7:45 am
Shahrit 8:30 am
Special Prayers & Taking Out Torah 9:30 am
Torah Reading & Haftarah 9:45 am
Offerings 10:25 am
'Et Sha'arei Ratzon & Shofar Service 10:30 am
Ashrei and Returning Torah 10:55 am
Musaf 11:10 am
Sermon 12:05 pm
Adon `Olam & Conclusion 12:25-12:30 pm

2nd DAY ROSH HASHANAH CONCLUSION

Tuesday Evening, October 1st

Tue. Evening Minhah, Arbit & Selihot 6:15 pm
Tuesday Evening Sunset 6:38 pm
Tuesday Evening Habdalah 7:00 pm

Fast of Gedaliah

Wednesday, October 2nd

Fast Begins (Dawn) 5:32 am
Wednesday Morning Sunrise 6:53 am
Wednesday Morning Shahrit 7:15 pm
Minhah (with tefillin), Arbit & Selihot 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Sunset 6:37 pm
End of Fast 6:58 pm

Shabbat Teshubah

Sabbath of Penitence

EVE OF SHABBAT TESHUBAH

Friday Evening, October 4th

Candles (18 min. before sunset) 6:15 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:15 pm
Friday Evening Sunset 6:33 pm

SHABBAT TESHUBAH DAY

Saturday Morning, October 5th

Zemirot, led by Jacob Daar 8:15 am
Shahrit 9:00 am
Torah Service & Offerings 9:45-10:50 am
Parashat Vayelekh Deuteronomy 31:1-30
Haftarah Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik
Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20

Musaf, Sermon & Conclusion 10:50-11:55 am

Saturday Evening, October 5th

Class 5:05 pm
Sat. Evening Minhah, Arbit & Selihot 6:05 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset 6:32 pm
Habdalah 6:58 pm

Yom Kippur-Day of Atonement

PREPARATIONS

Tuesday, October 8th

Special Morning Selihot Service 6:30 am
Morning Shahrit Service 7:15 am
Early Afternoon Minhah Service 1:30 pm

EVE OF YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday Evening, October 8th

Tuesday Candle Lighting before 6:09 pm
Tuesday Evening Kal Nidre Service 6:00 pm
Begin Fasting before sunset, 6:27 pm
Sermon & Evening Arbit Service 6:30-8:45 pm

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Wednesday, October 9th

Zemirot 8:00 am
Shahrit 9:00 am
Torah Service and Offerings 10:55 am
Midday Sermon 12:10 pm
Musaf 12:30 pm
Minhah 3:00 pm
Perpetual Hashcobot & Offerings 4:50 pm
Sermon before Neilah 5:20 pm
Neilah 5:45 pm
Sunset 6:25 pm
Shofar, Arbit & Habdalah 6:56 pm

FALL FESTIVALS 5780

Succot

Festival of Tabernacles

Sunday Eve, Oct. 13th-Saturday, Oct. 19th
Succot: First Two Days (Yom Tob)

EVE OF 1st DAY SUCCOT

Sunday Evening, October 13th

Candle Lighting6:01 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....6:00 pm
Sunset6:19 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah.....6:45 pm

1st DAY SUCCOT DAYTIME

Monday Morning, October 14th

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel..... 9:00 am
Torah Service 10:00 am
Musaf & Hoshaanot 10:45-11:30 am
Conclusion & Sermon..... 11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah..... 12:00 pm

EVE OF 2nd DAY SUCCOT

Monday Evening, October 14th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....6:00 pm
Sunset6:17 pm
Candle Lightingafter 6:38 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah.....6:45 pm

2nd DAY SUCCOT DAYTIME

Tuesday Morning, October 15th

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel..... 9:00 am
Torah Service 10:00 am
Musaf & Hoshaanot 10:45-11:30 am
Conclusion & Sermon..... 11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah..... 12:00 pm
Tuesday Evening, October 15th
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....6:00 pm
Sunset6:16 pm
Habdalah, End of Yom Tob6:36 pm

Hol HaMoed Succot

Intermediate Days of Tabernacles

INTERMEDIATE WEEKDAYS

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday Mornings
October 16th, 17th & 18th:

Shahrit, Musaf, & Hoshaanot 7:15 am
Breakfast in Succah..... 8:15 am

Wednesday & Thursday Evenings

October 16th & 17th:

Minhah & Arbit Services6:00 pm

Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot

Intermediate Shabbat of Tabernacles

EVE OF SHABBAT HOL HAMOED

Friday Evening, October 18th

Candle Lightingbefore 5:53 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....6:00 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....6:11 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah.....6:45 pm

SHABBAT HOL HAMOED DAY

Saturday Morning, October 19th

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel 9:00 am
Torah Service 9:50 am
Musaf, & Shabbat Hoshaana 10:45-11:30 am
Conclusion & Sermon..... 11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah..... 12:00 pm

Saturday Afternoon, October 19th

Class in Succah.....4:45 pm
Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....6:10 pm
Habdalah, end of Shabbat.....6:41 pm

Hoshaana Rabba, Grand Hosanna

Seventh Day of Succot (Tabernacles)

EVE OF HOSHAANA RABBAH

Saturday Evening, October 19th

Mishmarah-Tikkun & Rabbi's Special Class (Held in
Elias Room Succah).....9:00 pm

HOSHAANA RABBAH DAY

Sunday Morning, October 20th

Zemiroth, led by Avery E. Neumark..... 8:00 am
Shahrit & Hallel..... 8:30 am
Torah Service 9:00 am
Musaf, Hoshaanot, Shofar..... 9:35-10:15 am
Service Conclusion..... 10:15-10:30 am
Breakfast in Elias Room Succah 10:30 am

Shemini Hag Atseret

Eighth Day Convocation Festival

EVE OF SHEMINI HAG ATSERET

Sunday Evening, October 20th

Candle Lighting 5:50 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)..... 5:45 pm
Sunset 6:08 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah..... 6:30 pm

SHEMINI HAG ATSERET DAY

Monday Morning, October 21st

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel..... 9:00 am
Torah Service 9:50 am
Musaf, Tikkun HaGeshem 10:40-11:20 am
Service Conclusion & Sermon..... 11:20-11:45 am
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah..... 11:50 am
Tikkun HaGeshem is the Sephardic poem added at the
inauguration of Israel's rainy season, for the duration of
which, until Passover, a request for rain is inserted in the
second blessing of the Amidah.

Simhat Torah

End of Reading-Cycle Celebration

EVE OF SIMHAT TORAH

Monday Evening, October 21st

Minhah & Arbit, with Tenu Shebaha 5:45 pm
Sunset 6:07 pm
Candle Lighting after 6:27 pm
Hakafot & Children's Celebration 6:30 pm
Women's Hakafot (Little Synagogue) 6:30 pm

SIMHAT TORAH DAY

Tuesday Morning, October 22nd

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel..... 9:00 am
Torah Service, with Hatanim Honors 9:50 am
Musaf 10:40-11:25 am
Service Conclusion & Sermon..... 11:25-12:00 pm

Tuesday Evening, October 22nd

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....5:45 pm
Sunset6:00 pm
Habdalah, End of Festival6:20 pm

Shabbat Bereshit

The First Parashah-Shabbat Hatanim

EVE OF SHABBAT BERESHIT

Friday Evening, October 25th

Candle Lightingbefore 5:43 pm
Minhah&Arbit, with Tenu Shebahah5:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset.....6:01 pm

SHABBAT BERESHIT DAY

Saturday Morning, October 26th

Zemiroth 8:15 am
Shahrit 9:00 am
Torah Service, Hatanim Honors 9:45-10:50 am
Parashah Bereshith
Genesis 1:1-6:8
Haftarah
Isaiah 42:5-21; 61:10; 62:5
Musaf 10:50-11:40 am

SHABBAT BERESHIT CONCLUSION

Saturday Evening, October 26th

Class4:35 pm
Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit5:35 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset.....6:00 pm
Habdalah, End of Shabbat.....6:30 pm



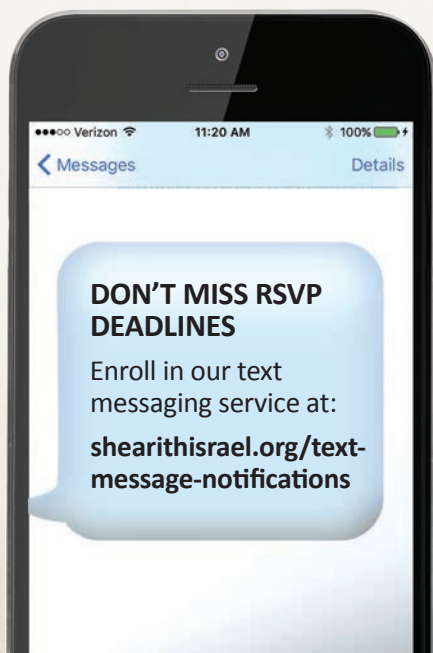
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Have you attended a Shearith Israel tour, lecture, or event that you loved? Leave a post on our Facebook page so that others can share your enthusiasm!

To learn about upcoming events and fascinating historical Shearith Israel tidbits, follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc.



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 Cypress 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.

HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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 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.

Giving is easy and feels good too. Visit shearithisrael.org/giving. Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.





Rabbi Soloveichik speaking at the Mill St Seixas Way street naming



STAFF AND BOARD

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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.

