



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023



September 12 will mark the consecration anniversary of the 19th Street Synagogue (1860). This was the congregation's fourth synagogue building located at 5 W. 19th Street, and at the time was the tallest building north of 14th St.

FALL
2015

סתיו תשע"ה - תשע"ו

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



CONGREGATION
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The Bulletin
SHEARITH ISRAEL

America's First Jewish Congregation

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

COMING OUT AHEAD

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



One of the most beloved traditions of Rosh Hashanah is the ingesting of a bit of the head of fish. The original Talmudic tradition, still practiced by some Jews today, is to utilize the head of a sheep; this version of the *minhag* is also practiced in the Soloveichik household, to the delight of my children. The prayer uttered at this moment in the meal, said by centuries of Jews, is: *yehi ratson milfanecha, shenihyeh lerosh velo lezanav*; may it be thy will, Lord O God, that we be a head and not a tail. The prayer seems somewhat strange, and the ritual superstitious. My grandfather, however, interpreted the statement as follows. The head, he said, the mind, the brain, is the source of all active stimuli in the body. The entire rest of our physiology only moves because it is responding to signals that originate in our minds. It is, after all, the dog's mind that wags the tail; the tail does not wag the dog. On Rosh Hashanah we are offered a choice. We can be a tail wagged by our environs, continuing on the same path as last year, responding to the stimulus of society. Or we can be the Rosh: we can initiate actions, we can make decisions, that will send moral signals that reverberate throughout our lives, as a brain's signals reverberate throughout the body. On Rosh Hashanah we psych ourselves up: *nihyeh lerosh velo lezanav*; let us be a head, not a tail, reflecting on the profound capacity for change, for freedom, with which we have been gifted. Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik put it this way: "Man is born as an object, dies like an object, but possesses the ability to live like a subject, an innovator who can impress his own individual seal upon his life...Man's task in

the world, is to transform a passive existence into an active existence, an existence of compulsion into an existence replete with a powerful will, with resourcefulness, daring and imagination."

In his biography of Yogi Berra, author Carlo Devito describes how in 1949, at Briggs stadium, Berra was standing around during batting practice. A scuffle broke out, and he was distracted. Just then, he was struck in the head by an errant throw by backup first baseman Jack Phillips. Berra was knocked unconscious and was eventually taken to the hospital for x-rays, prompting, Devito writes, one of the most comical headlines of Berra's career: "X Rays of Berra's Head Reveals Nothing."

It was my grandfather who said that the name Rosh Hashanah should be translated literally: not 'the beginning of the year,' not the 'new year,' but rosh hashana, the head of the year. Because just as decisions that originate in the mind reverberate throughout our physiology, so too, decisions formed on Rosh Hashanah, the head of the year, have the ability to reverberate, and affects the rest of our year. Soon, God's gaze will examine our Rosh Hashanah, looking to see if we will engage in decisions and resolutions that will reverberate through the months to come, that will make a true difference in our year, and in our lives. This year, *Nihyeh lerosh, veLo Lezanav*. May this be a Rosh Hashanah in which, in a very real sense, we come out...ahead.

Meir Y. Soloveichik

A MESSAGE FROM OUR OFFICERS

Louis M. Solomon, Parnas
Michael Katz and Michael Lustig, Seganim

At our Hatanim luncheon last Fall, Lou mentioned that all of us and the entire congregation faced that unwelcome choice of either pinching or kicking ourselves (not each other): either pinching ourselves – for there are so many extraordinary things happening at Shearith Israel that it feels unbelievable – or kicking ourselves – for having missed out on these life-enriching opportunities.

This past year surpassed even the high expectations we had for it. Under the tireless efforts and guidance of Rabbi Soloveichik, our Distinguished Rabbinic Fellow Rabbi Hidary, and the rest of our Clergy and Staff, our spiritual leaders, consistent with Shearith Israel tradition, have exposed us to Torah and worldly and scholarly thinking that has been as intellectually enlivening as it has been spiritually uplifting. Week in, week out the cornucopia of sermons, lectures, classes, programs, events continued to overflow with unprecedented attendance levels. In its second year, Friday Night Lights, our innovative enhancement to our beautiful Friday night services, was again a major success. Our youth programming, including Rabbi Hidary's Shabbat afternoon class for teens, remained strong and vibrant. Attendance at daily minyan improved (though still needs our constant vigilance), thanks in part to Barbara Reiss and Zachary Edinger's efforts and ingenuity in initiating Jewry Duty. Our collective efforts at caring for each other in times of need or grief also moved forward positively.

And all that is before considering the thrilling programs that brought full houses of people to see and experience the treasure that is Shearith Israel – the retrieval 350+ years later of Baruch Spinoza,

which topped off the Heretics and History lecture series; major lectures commemorating Yom Haatzmaut, Yom Hazikaron, and the Three Weeks leading up to Tisha B'Ab; and our community celebration honoring Rabbi Rohde for his first 25 years of service. Of no less importance, our community, across the generations, organized and enjoyed delightful programming of their own initiative such as the chulent-hamin-adafina-chile cookoff, a Purim Fazuelos baking class, and a Jewish Indian cooking demonstration. The unparalleled year enabled both new and veteran members, as well as the broader Jewish community, to experience the best of Shearith Israel.

This past year was nothing short of breathtaking. It enabled us to deepen our religious commitments as well as our interpersonal relationships and feelings while as a Congregation we have remained scrupulously protective of our glorious minhag.

The coming year promises even greater rewards for the Shearith Israel community. We look forward to a year of spiritual and communal growth, with just some of what is being planned presented in this Fall Bulletin.

As with this past year, we have high hopes that we can continue to progress in pursuing the six goals that we have identified for us as a community: guarding and transmitting our history and traditions; addressing our youth and young families; growing our membership; maintaining and enhancing our financial health; remaining a deeply caring community; and preserving our uniquely warm and inclusive

spirit. From our perspective as your officers and trustees, we believe that three of these deserve our particular focus and energy over the coming year:

First, over the past year, and for the second year in a row, new membership increased by another 40+ family units. This staggeringly marvelous result creates both great potential for us as a community but responsibilities as well. 85-90 new members and families over the past two years all need to feel welcome and, soon enough, at home. Each of them, along with long-time congregants, some of whom have not experienced the energy and new programming, need to feel the best of Shearith Israel's vitality, excitement, comfort, and community. We will be contacting you with several initiatives, but nothing will be more effective than introducing yourself to a new member or reinitiating contact with an old one. Invite them to a class or to an event or program. Follow up with them to make sure they feel welcome.

Second, we all must take seriously the goal of continuing to be, and grow in being, a warm and inclusive place. We pride ourselves on

being diverse and tolerant, and we should exhibit that tolerance to all visitors as well as members new and old, whether more observant or less observant. We need to show the very generosity of spirit that we believe we embody as a community.

Third, and crucially, we are pleased to have witnessed the demolition of our old community house as a precursor to building our new one. To become a reality, we will need the financial support and assistance of each and every member, each and every friend, and a great many others to the maximum extent our respective circumstances permit. Soon we will be kicking off a major fund-raising campaign, our first of this kind in over a decade. Collectively we need to do for the next several generations what prior generations did for us. They invested in us, and we must invest in our future. We owe at least this much to our forbearers and to our future

We wish all of you a good end of summer and an enjoyable and meaningful New Year. With warm wishes and hoping to see you all soon, we remain faithfully yours.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

FAITH AND FRAGILITY: THE CORNERSTONES OF OUR CONTINUITY

Barbara Reiss



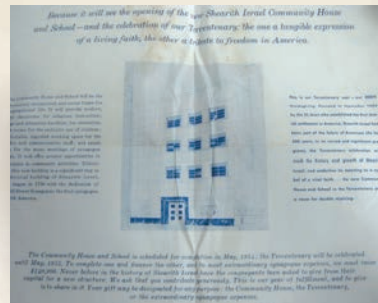
This past July, as I was writing this piece, we passed another milestone in our Community House construction project. On Friday, July 15 the demolition of our old Community

House was complete with nothing left but piles of rubble. Or so I thought. When I went out to inspect the site, I had an amazing encounter. One of the workers pulled me aside and informed me that when they took apart the building, stone by stone, they carefully extracted the cornerstone, a stone that many of us are familiar with because etched on it was the year of the building's dedication, 1954/5715. Not coincidentally, that year also marked our Congregation's tercentenary. In dislodging the cornerstone they discovered a cache of objects that were buried in it as a time capsule of sorts. The collection included: a daily and Sabbath prayer book; a 300th anniversary brochure; "The Year of Fulfillment", the fundraising brochure associated with the then new building; the front page of the New York Times; a small bag of *terra santa*; an invitation to the cornerstone laying ceremony; *tzitzith* and *tefilin*; a bulletin dated May 28, 1954; and a program of the day which included the inventory I just outlined above.

Aside from the obvious excitement of uncovering these treasured objects that connect us in a most

direct way to our past, I was struck by the foresight, humility and faith of our congregational leaders. Like we are endeavoring to do today, these devoted congregants raised the funds and surely invested much of their own to build a new Community House that according to "The Year of Fulfillment" would be "the educational, recreational, and social frame for congregational life. It will provide modern light classrooms for religious instruction; large and attractive facilities for recreation with rooms for exclusive use of children; comfortable, dignified working space for Rabbis and administrative staff; and ample place for the many meeting of synagogue groups."

While I am sure they hoped the building would have a long and useful shelf-life, they were fully aware that a building is ephemeral. They knew that, and actually planned for the day when, the building would be taken down and a future generation would find their treasures. And I am confident that they predicted that these treasures, including the very same ritual objects we use today, would not be discovered by strangers who would stare these odd objects in befuddlement but rather would be discovered exactly as they had been, by our community as the time has come, which they knew would, to take down what has become an old and obsolete building to replace it yet again with a modern and relevant space for today and future generations of Shearith



Israelites. They would be gratified not only that our community survives and thrives but that the unique and precious tradition that they upheld continues to be cherished and transmitted, just as they had done.

I find this experience to be so resonant especially at this time of year. As we approach the High Holidays we are keenly aware of our vulnerability and the temporal nature of our lives. At the same time, we are focused on our future. In our prayers

we offer promises of rededicating ourselves in our commitment to the Lord and to our fellow man in the hopes that God will grant us life and that the next year will bring us health and good fortune. Indeed, it may be the very awareness of the fragility of life, and in the case of Shearith Israel, also the precious nature of our tradition, that elicit our very best selves to flourish.

Best wishes for a happy and meaningful holiday season and a blessed year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Elan and Diana Ben-Avi on the birth of a daughter, Fay Magnolia. Congratulations to grandparents, Joanne and Jacob Ben-Avi.

Mazal tob to Mrs. Irma Cardozo on the birth of a great grandson Avraham in Jerusalem. Avraham is named after the late Rev. Abraham Lopes Cardozo. He is the son of Chana Tziporah and Yehoshua Stimmel and grandson of Deborah and Earl Smith.

Our Segan, Michael Katz, on the birth of a granddaughter, Lila Barbara Katz.

Richard and Paola Kulp on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Ethan Kulp.

Jamie and Elana Nussbaum on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Max. Congratulations to the proud grandparents, Rabbi Marc and Gilda Angel.

Iris Sasson on the birth of a grandson, Daniel Kai Sasson. He is the son of Daniel and Nurit Sasson of Herzliyah, Israel.

Judy and Joel Schreiber upon the birth of a great-granddaughter to their grandchildren, Rachel and Yoni Fein.

Jacob Seligson on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Alexander and Muriel Seligson.

Ari and Jodie Sherizen on the birth of a baby boy, Abe Sherizen.

Rev. Phil Sherman and Andrea Raab on the marriage of Reuven Sherman to Mollie Ray.

Alana Shultz on her marriage to Slava Rubin.

HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

Special Achievements:

Raif Melhado, who received his ordination from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah and will lead Kahal Joseph Congregation, a Sephardic Baghdadi synagogue in Los Angeles, California. We wish much happiness to Raif, his wife Jessica and their daughter Penny.

Rabbi Shalom Morris who was appointed rabbi of Bevis Marks, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in London.

Our Girls' Megillat Ruth Readers:

Elizabeth Ciment
Matea Frieber
Honor Greenberg
Aimee Hidary
Yaara Kaplan
Olalla Levi
Simone Lipschutz

Ariella Lopez
Daniella Roberts
Jenna Roberts
Flora Tauber
Sarah Wagman
Gabiella Yohananoff

Graduates:

Elana Bengualid, daughter of Beth and Marc Bengualid, upon graduating from Barnard College with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Latin American Studies.

Jacob Bengualid, son of Beth and Marc Bengualid, upon graduating from Ramaz Middle School.

Avi Friedman, son of Robert and Zoya Friedman, upon graduating from Park East Day School Kindergarten. He will attend Park East Day School.

Alexander Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from SAR High School. He will go to Yeshiva this year and the University of Chicago the following year.

Akiva Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from SAR Middle School. He will attend SAR High School.

Daniela Krausz, granddaughter of Mildred Green Shinnar, upon graduating from SAR High School. She will attend a Bnei Akiva Israel work/study program this year.

Gabriel Lang, son of Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang, upon graduating from Heschel Middle School. He will attend SAR High School.

Helena Lustig, daughter of Rachel Brody and Michael Lustig, upon graduating from SAR High School. She will attend Midreshet Lindenbaum this year and then Barnard College the following year.

Julia Lustig, daughter of Rachel Brody and Michael Lustig, upon graduating from SAR High School. She will attend Midreshet Moriah this year and then Binghamton University the following year.

Benjamin Nathan, son of David J. Nathan and Rebecca Chaplan, upon graduating from Williams College.

Jonathan Nathan, son of David J. Nathan and Rebecca Chaplan, upon graduating from the University of Chicago.

Hillel Neumark, son of Susan and Avery Neumark, upon graduating from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Science, Technology and Society. He plans to attend NYU School of Law.

Meiri Binyamin Ovadiah, son of Janice Ovadiah, upon graduating from Yeshiva Rabbi Chaim Berlin in Brooklyn. He will attend Yeshiva Tiferes Zion in Yerushalayim this year.

Isaac Schildkraut, son of Marvin and Ivy Schildkraut, upon graduating from Bi-Cultural Day School. He will attend SAR High School.

Mira Schildkraut, daughter of Marvin and Ivy Schildkraut, upon graduating from The Spence School. She will attend Cornell University.

Lia Solomon, daughter of Louis Solomon and Beth Goldman, upon graduating from Ramaz Middle School. She will attend SAR High School.

Joshua Ness Tam, son of Susan and Robert Tam, upon graduating from MDS kindergarten.

Hannah Vorchheimer, daughter of Rachel and Dr. David Vorchheimer, upon graduating from Ramaz Middle School and receiving the Keter Shem Tov Award. She will attend SAR High School.

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Shearith Israel Toddler Program Graduates:

Sia Carr
 Samuel Friedman
 Sam Gibber
 Alfie Grunfeld
 Zeke Halevy
 Gabriel Minkowitz
 Abigail Pfefferman
 Leo Henry Siscovick
 Naomi Stone
 Ari Lev Tam

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Edward Berman and Anna Titarchuk-Berman and their children, Daniel and Michelle.

Lawrence Mondschein and Alexandra Corbin and their son Teodoro Mondschein.

Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon and their twin sons, Louis and Raphael.

Susan Lobel

Daniel and Leyla Posner and their children, Gabrielle, Alexandra, Jonathan, Jordan, Yakira and Joshua.

Alene Schneiersson

Joseph Sokol

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of our members:

Shirley Arbesfeld
 Gladys Benbasat
 Sylvia Gamal

Nelly Enriquez
 Arthur Hyman
 Saul Laniado
 Belda Kaufman Lindenbaum
 Esther Shear
 Hedy Wegier

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Naomi Cohen on the passing of her brother, Dr. Eli Rosenthal.

Leon “Muk” Eisenmann on the passing of his mother, Evelyn Eisenmann.

Robert “Naftali” Friedman on the passing of his father, Alexander Friedman.

Joel Kazis on the passing of his father, Albert Kazis.

Ruth G. Nathan on the passing of her brother, George Gottesman.

Susan Shay on the passing of her mother, Selma Rothenberg.

Bequests

The congregation expresses its sincere gratitude to Myron Habib, of blessed memory for a bequest recently received from his estate.

The congregation expresses its sincere gratitude to Camila Pinto, of blessed memory, and to her family for a bequest recently received from her estate.

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. To discuss, please contact our executive director, Barbara Reiss.

IN APPRECIATION

Class Sponsors:

Yedidya Flaquer for contributing to a Shabbat Learners’ service kiddush.

Nicholas Garo for sponsoring a Shabbat Learners’ service kiddush.

Cindy Trop for sponsoring Rabbi Soloveichik’s Tisha B’ab lecture in memory of her mother, Yehudit Bat Beilah v’Avraham HaCohen, on the occasion of her first nahalah.

Alexander and Muriel Seligson for sponsoring a Shabbat afternoon class in honor of their son, Jacob’s Bar Mitzvah.

Dr. Morris and Linda Shamah for sponsoring a Shabbat afternoon class in memory of Linda’s father, Yitzhak ben Moshe Dweck HaCohen.

Scott Shay for sponsoring a Shabbat afternoon class in memory of his father, Gutman Ben Shmuel.

The Sion and Daar families for sponsoring the last installment of Rabbi Hidary’s Three Weeks Series.

Kiddush Fund Sponsors:

The Board of Trustees in memory of Saul Laniado on the occasion of the conclusion of his sheloshim.

Julia and Yair Cohen and the Moalem Family in honor of their father Yehezkel Moalem.

Eliot Jacobowitz, Lori Jacobowitz, Robert Watkin, and Faith Fogelman in memory of the Jacobowitz Family of Borough Park.

Alexander and Muriel Seligson in honor of their son, Jacob’s Bar Mitzvah.

Alana Shultz and Slava Rubin in honor of their engagement.

The Tikvah Fund

Kiddush Fund Contributors:

Esme and Roger Berg in honor of Louis Alexandre Berg’s reading of the Haftarah.

Girls Book of Ruth Kiddush

Sponsors:

Laury Frieber
 Tauber Family
 Wagman Family

Supporters:

Blass Family
 Debby and Melvin Neumark

Contributors:

Kaplan Family
 Daniela Weiss and Avi Yohananoff

Rabbi Ira Rohde’s 25th Anniversary Celebration:

Sponsors:

Aboodi Family
 Isaac and Harriet Ainetchi
 Anonymous
 Anonymous
 Anonymous
 Banin Family
 Lewis Bateman
 Ina Saltz and Steven Beispel
 Joanne and Yaacov Ben-Avi
 Henri Bengualid
 Bengualid-Goldstein Family
 Marc and Beth Bengualid and Family
 Esme and Roger Berg
 Sara and David Berman
 Malaika and Anthony Bregman
 Florie Algranti Charles
 Ben, Aline, Jonah and Samuel Cohen

David and Nicole Cohen
 Karen and Jack Daar
 Susie, William, David and Daniel Dellal
 Elizabeth Edelman
 Edinger Family
 Jesse and Brenda Epstein
 Ferguson Family
 Estelle and Dennis Freilich
 Laury, Reuben, and Matea Frierber
 Rabbi Albert Gabbai
 Judith and Sidney Gerson
 Sabra and Simon Gerson
 Sharon and Michael Goldberg
 Arthur and Carol Goldberg
 Andre and Maggie Guenoun
 Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman
 Simon and Eva Haberman
 Hidary Family
 Suzanne and Sjimon Den Hollander-Stern
 Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals
 Matthew Kaplan
 Kalfus Family
 Michael Katz
 Ronen Korin
 Danielle and Philippe Lahmani
 Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey, Jared, Noah and Gabriel Lang
 Marcia and David Lavipour
 Shearith Israel League
 David Lerner
 Henry and Liz Lipschutz
 Sherri, Joel, Elizabeth and Sophie Maxman
 J. De Sola Mendes Family
 Dinah and Andy Mendes
 David and Rebecca Nathan
 Ninyo Family
 Steve, Carolyn, Michael, Rebecca and Rachel Okin

Susan, Marlon, Jacob, Ruthie and Hannah Portes
 Roberts Family
 Adrienne and Roberto Salama
 Jonah and Carla Schein
 Marvin, Ivy, Eli, Mira and Isaac Schildkraut
 Maimon Schwarzschild
 Seligson Family
 Connie, Phil and Elana Shaprio
 Rev. Philip L. and Mrs. Andrea R. Sherman
 Barbara Smith
 David, Carole, Hannah, Ben and Emma Solis-Cohen
 Solomon Family
 Rabbi Meir and Layaliza Soloveichik
 Madelene and Stan Towne
 Dr. Steven L. Valenstein
 Susan Wind

Contributors:

Mark, Penny, Laelah, and Eli Aaron
 Vivette Ancona
 William and Marian Aghassi
 Marilyn Baer
 Deborah Bendheim
 Karyn Braka Bogart
 Daisy & Albert Braverman
 Rabbi Yigal and Efrat Greenstein Brayer
 Viviane Bregman
 Robert and Alexandra Schein
 Bruckheimer
 George and Lucienne Bulow
 Samuel Cohen and Angela Salas
 Yair and Julia Cohen
 Alexander Daar
 Laura Daar

Jerry and Susan Duci
 Z. Edinger
 Leon and Vivien Eisenmann
 Ellie Franco
 Faith Fogelman
 Michael Goldberg
 Rabbi Steve and Shira Golden
 Simone, Elias and Sarah Hannema
 William & Suzanne Heitin
 Ruthie Israeli
 Melissa Epstein and Adam Jackson
 Janet R. Kirchheimer
 Levi Family
 Rabbi Yehuda Licht
 Andres Lopez and Ronit Cohen
 Families of Roger Mesznik and Adriel Mesznik
 Raif Melhado and Jessica Cavanagh-Melhado
 E. Sherry Miller
 Jane Mushabac and Arthur Morgenroth
 Gloria and Jeffrey Mosseri
 Francine Alfandary, Laurent Nahon, Louis and Raphael Nahon
 Neumark Family
 Cory and Stacey Notrica
 Suzanne and Shlomo Offer
 Hayyim Obadyah
 Stephen Rappaport
 Barbara and Guy Reiss
 Henry G. Rieser
 Gustave Rieu
 Yehudit Robinson
 David Rohde
 Julie Walpert and Rabbi Charlie Savenor
 Hindy Schachter

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

Alene Schneierson
 Morris and Linda Shamah
 Alana Shultz
 Raquel Solomon
 Rudy Stern
 Gabriella Styler
 Suckewer Family
 Steven Teitelbaum (Wolf)
 Laura Tobocman
 Ruth Yasky
 Daniela Weiss and Avi Yohananoff
 Charlotte Triefus and Lloyd Zuckerberg

Graduation Kiddush:

Sponsors:

Beth and Marc Bengualid
 Haberman Family
 David J. Nathan and Rebecca Chaplan

Contributors:

Neumark Family
 Susan and Robert Tam
 Rachel and Dr. David Vorchheimer

Professor Laura Leibman Lecture Sponsors:

Haberman Family





HOLIDAYS AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

HIGH HOLIDAYS

ELUL CLASS

Monday, September 7 | After Evening Services
Rabbi Richard Hidary

Join us for this special class taught by Rabbi Richard Hidary to prepare us for the High Holidays on the topic of “Satan’s Yom Kippur Candid Camera Test: How to Avoid Overconfidence.”

SHABBAT TESHUBAH DERASHA

Shabbat, September 16
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Come hear Rabbi Soloveichik give his Shabbat Teshubah Derasha on the topic “Blessing Our Children on the Eve of Atonement.”

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN

Rosh Hashana, Kippur and Succot

Join for special programs like a Shofar blowing exercise and a show & tell of Rabbi Soloveichik’s exotic animal shofar collection during youth groups. For more information, see page 20.

SUCCOT

LULAB AND ETROG ORDERS

Orders due before September 20

Purchase your Lulabim and Etrogim through the synagogue at \$65 per set. To place your order, visit shearithisrael.org/lulab. Payment must be made at time of order. Unfortunately we cannot add these charges to your member account. For questions call Zachary Edinger.

SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION

Friday, September 25 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sunday, September 27 | 9:00 am – 12:00 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 which 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, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com or sign up at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5776. Financial contributions to the Sisterhood’s Succah Fund are also welcomed to help defray the costs of decorating and maintaining the Succah. To make a contribution to the Sisterhood Succah Fund, please either send a donation to The Sisterhood Succah Fund at the synagogue office, make a gift online at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5776 or contact Ruth Yasky.

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 and registration is required for all meals and costs \$12 per person per meal. You bring the food (strictly kosher, of course) and we supply disposables and basic beverages. Space is highly limited especially as our Courtyard Succah is unavailable due to our construction. To register contact Maria Caputo.

“WILDMAN” STEVE BRILL CENTRAL PARK SUCCOT OUTING

Hol HaMoed Succot

Wednesday, September 30 | 4:00 pm

What better way to celebrate Succot than to admire the beauty and tastes of Nature! Children and adults are welcome to join as we embark on another edible tour of Central Park. See page 20 for more details.

NEW MEMBERS SUCCAH GATHERING

By Invitation

Thursday, October 1
Elias Room Succah

New members are a blessing to our community but they are also a responsibility. Our community, especially our synagogue leadership, is very eager to get to know each and every new member and to make them feel at home at Shearith Israel. Several times throughout the year, sometimes on Shabbat, sometimes mid-week, we host gatherings, sometimes at the synagogue, sometimes in private homes, where new members can mingle with each other and our leadership. Our succah gathering is especially lovely because it is held in our uniquely beautiful and world acclaimed Elias Room succah. Our newest members will receive an invitation and are asked to RSVP.

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HOSH'ANA RABBA MISHMARAH-TIKKUN

Saturday Night, October 3 | 9:00pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Join us as we bid farewell to succot and prepare for Simhat Torah with celebratory food and study in our Succah, featuring a shiur by Rabbi Soloveichik centering on the reading of the last and first verses of the Torah.

SIMHAT TORAH

WOMEN'S HAKAFOT

Monday night, October 5 | 7:00pm | Little Synagogue

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a joyous parallel Hakafot ceremony is held for women.

SIMHAT TORAH DINNER AND ICE CREAM PARTY

Monday, October 5

Following Simhat Torah hakafot in the sanctuary, we will host a light dinner. Pre-registration is mandatory.

Our annual ice cream party for children will follow. As usual, volunteer teen scoopers are needed. Contact slandau@shearithisrael.org to help out- strong arms required, lactose tolerance preferred.

Sponsored again by the Haberman and Lustig families.

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS

Thursday, November 26
Morning services | 7:45 am
Parade Viewing | 9:00 am

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 Shahrut and the omission of tahanunim. Following morning services and a Thanksgiving-themed sermon 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.

HATANIM LUNCHEON

Shabbat Bereshit, October 10
Following Morning Services

On Shabbat Bereshit, we honor our Simhat Torah Hatanim with a lovely luncheon and celebration. Hatan Torah will be Seth Haberman (on the 25th anniversary of his being Hatan Bereshit) and Hatan Bereshit will be Ari Sherizen. Registration and sponsorship information to follow.

SHEARITH ISRAEL ANNUAL GALA

Wednesday, October 21

This annual gala honors individuals who have made important contributions to our community. This year we will be celebrating our Hebrew School, The Polonies Talmud Torah School (PTTS), which was established in 1731 through the generosity of a \$900 fund donated by Meir Polonies. We will honor our longtime members and PTTS family, Lloyd Zuckerberg and Charlotte Triefus. We will also use this opportunity to express our thanks to Rabbi Shalom Morris who just recently completed his tenure at Shearith Israel and PTTS and assumed the pulpit at the Bevis Marks Synagogue in London. Stay tuned for more information regarding this festive and important event.

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS





SHABBAT DINNERS

TEEN SHABBAT DINNER

Friday Night, November 13
Following evening services

We welcome the teens of the congregation to attend services, followed by a special, youth-oriented Friday Night Lights, and a Shabbat dinner with the rabbis. Friends are welcome! Co-sponsored by our fellow UWS Synagogues.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS DINNER

Friday Night, November 20
Following evening services

Shearith Israel has a dynamic group of young families, couples and singles. CSI Young Leadership, is designed to help these members connect with each other and feel at home at Shearith Israel.

Friday, November 20th, a CSI Young Leadership Shabbat dinner is planned. Save the date!



WEEKDAY CLASSES

THE BOOK OF KINGS

Sundays | 8:40 am – 9:30 am
Rabbi Richard Hidary

We will analyze the biblical book of Kings with the aid of recent archeological findings and literary approaches that have succeeded in bringing this ancient drama to life.

BET MIDRASH

Mondays | 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Each Monday night, we invite the community to immerse themselves in prayer, learning, eating, and discussing together. Beginning with evening services, Bet Midrash attendees are invited to enjoy a delicious dinner, engage in a stimulating class with Rabbi Hidary for the first hour, and then continue studying a choice of varying texts in small breakout groups. For questions, contact Rabbi Richard Hidary. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

SECOND TEMPLE JEWISH HISTORY

Mondays | 7:00 pm | Rabbi Richard Hidary

Using primary sources, we will reconstruct the history of the Jews during the Second Temple, a period that witnessed the development of many aspects of Judaism as we know it today, such as the holidays of Purim and Hanukkah, the fast days, the canonization of Tanakh, and set the stage for the rise of Christianity and the Rabbis. But this period is also interesting for the variety of forms of Judaism and groups of Jews that did not gain hegemony: Samaritans, Hellenists, Sadducees, Pharisees, Essenes, and the Dead Sea sect, among others. Each of these groups had to respond to and find a way to survive



JUDAIC EDUCATION



— continued —

revolts and exiles, strong influences from foreign cultures, and internal strife while at the same time remaining committed to monotheism and the Biblical tradition. Why were some of these groups more successful than others? How is this period relevant for understanding our own identities and for evaluating the current state of Judaism and its future prospects?

BREAKOUT GROUPS:

Mondays | 8:00 pm

Phil Getz: Modern Halakhic Responsa

Dr. Josh Eisen: How was the Talmud created? An Academic Approach to the Formation of the Talmud

Rabbi Ira Rhode: The thoughts of the late Leo Straus (September 20, 1899 – October 18, 1973), and his students, the ‘Straussians,’ German-Jewish expatriate founder of an influential school of American conservative thought

Meira Wokenfeld: Stories of the Babylonian Talmud

RAMBAM’S MISHNEH TORAH

Tuesdays | 7:45 am

Rabbi Richard Hidary

Start your day with minyan, breakfast, and a few insights from Maimonides’ complete code of Jewish law and thought.

FEASTS AND FASTS: THE FESTIVALS IN JEWISH THOUGHT

A Class for Women

Tuesdays | 9:00 am

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

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

TALMUD CLASS

Tractate Rosh Hashana And The Philosophy Of Jewish Time

Tuesdays | 8:00 pm

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch reports in an essay that he once embarked on a lengthy trip only to discover that his luggage, containing all of his Torah tracts, had been misplaced. He now had nothing to read for his entire journey. Reaching into his pocket, he discovered a luach, a Jewish calendar. He spent the trip pondering how the way Judaism approaches time actually tells us everything it believes about human nature, our relationship with God, and with each other. These weekly shiurim will engage in a similar endeavor, emerging therefrom with a better understanding of the calendar that has preserved the Jews for millennia, and of the diverse sacred and secular times that create the very rhythm of our lives. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Learn more at shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

PARASHAT HASHABUA

Wednesdays | 10:00 am

Esther Hidary

This class, held in our historic Elias Room, explores the weekly parashah through an examination of its literary elements and themes. Suitable for learners at all levels. Esther has an MA in English Literature from NYU and an EdM from Columbia University Teachers College. She has taught high school English and run the Honors program at Yeshiva of Flatbush and is now leading the literacy program at Barkai Yeshiva.

SHABBAT LECTURES

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT

Fridays Following Evening Services

Begins Friday night, October 23

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

As Shabbat begins earlier and the nights grow longer stay around for a bit after Friday evening services for an inspiring shiur delivered by Rabbi Soloveichik. There is no better way to transition from the workweek to the aura of Shabbat than experiencing our magnificent Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by Friday Night Lights.



THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT

Shabbat Day | One Hour before Minhah
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and much-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/sponsoraclass.

KETER SHEM TOB

Following Minhah | Rabbi Richard Hidary

Rabbi Shemtob Gaguine (1884-1953) was Rosh Yeshibah of Judith Montefiore College in Ramsgate and was an accomplished halakhist, ethnographer, author and communal leader. His seven volume classic, Keter Shem Tob, documents and explains the customs and liturgy of the Spanish Portuguese tradition in comparison with other rites. Each week, we explain one aspect of our own siddur and minhag based on Hakham Gaguine’s insight.



YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN

Rosh Hashana, Kippur and Succot

While the adults of the congregation are enjoying the beautiful tefillah of the High Holy Days in the sanctuary, we have wonderful, fun, and educational learning activities as well as youth-led tefillah for the children. Ages 0-4 have babysitting, holiday story-telling and songs. Children 5-12 will play fun educational games lead by our engaging educators. Join for special programs like a shofar blowing exercise and a show & tell of Rabbi Soloveichik's exotic animal shofar collection.

"WILDMAN" STEVE BRILL CENTRAL PARK SUCCOT OUTING

Hol HaMoed Succot

Wednesday, September 30 | 4:00 pm

What better way to celebrate Succot than to admire the beauty and tastes of Nature! Children and adults are welcome to join as we embark on another edible tour of Central Park. Foraging for delicious mushrooms, roots, nuts and fruits that grow in our backyard! This time we will explore further north. Following the outing, we will have a light dinner in the Succah.

THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

Thursday, November 26 | 9:00 am

Watch the Thanksgiving Day parade from our Portico followed by hot chocolate in the Elias Room! It is a view and experience that is not to be beat!

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Begins Wednesday, September 9

Mondays and Wednesdays

9:30 am – 11:30 am

For children ages 16-34 months.

Parent or caregiver attendance required.

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

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

HEBREW SCHOOL

Polonies Talmud Torah School

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 pm – 6:00 pm

Starts on Sunday, October 18

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 2015-2016 academic year today, go to shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool.

YOUTH ON SHABBAT

TOT SHABBAT

10:00 am – 12:30 pm | ages 0 – 4

Our little ones enjoy Tot Shabbat all year round, led by our beloved teachers, Liz and Shanade. Independent play, snacks, and circle-time with songs will entertain the toddlers while parents are in services. Please note that children under the age of two must be accompanied by an adult.

YOUTH GROUPS AND JR. CONGREGATION

September – June

10:00 am until the end of services

Children ages 5 – 12 gather with our experienced and engaging youth leaders for fun activities connected to the parashah of the week and other Jewish themes. Junior Congregation, a lively, participatory service for children, takes place at 10:30 am in the Little Synagogue.

TOPICS IN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY

Shabbat afternoons

High School students

Rabbi Richard Hidary

Each Shabbat afternoon, our teens gather at the home of Rabbi Hidary to discuss relevant topics of Jewish philosophy, contemporary issues, and analysis of Torah texts.

PTTS APPRECIATION: A FAMILY TESTIMONIAL

By Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon



Our twin sons, Louis and Raphael (Rafi) Nahon, are entering 5th grade at PS 87 and have just completed their first year as students of the Polonies Talmud Torah School (“PTTS”) this past spring. Before studying at Shearith Israel, they had attended a Jewish preschool, Jewish summer camp, and a weekly Hebrew School program at a Conservative synagogue. PTTS represented the next phase in their education: a twice weekly program of in-depth study of Jewish texts and the Hebrew language.

Unsurprisingly, the program proved to be excellent. Both boys have made tremendous progress in all areas of their Jewish education. The surprise was how much Louis and Rafi enjoyed PTTS! They loved Morah Neema and their Hebrew language specialist, Yona Glass, motivated and encouraged them. The boys reveled in the holiday celebrations and activities. They bonded with their PTTS classmates.

With the boys happily settled at PTTS, our family decided to join Shearith Israel as full members of the congregation. Many aspects of the Shearith Israel service were new to us. Nonetheless, we felt at home. We are, after all, Sephardic. Our roots are in Turkey, Algeria and France. We have met a number of other congregants with backgrounds very similar to our own. We are pleased that our boys are studying and worshipping in a Sephardic synagogue, just as their grandparents did as small children before World War II.

SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION

Friday, September 25 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sunday, September 27, | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Sisterhood’s decoration of the Congregation’s renowned Elias Room Succah has made it one of the most beautiful in New York City. Teens and adults, both women and men, are invited to help decorate in preparation for the Succot Festival. For more information, see Page 13.

WOMEN’S HAKAFOT

Monday night, October 5 | 7:00 pm
Little Synagogue

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

WOMEN’S SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat Mornings

By and for women, these services are an opportunity for women to lead prayer, read from the Torah and perform the mitzvot 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.

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.



YOETZET HALAKHA

We are proud to be a co-sponsor of the Manhattan Yoetzet Halakha Initiative. If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpaha (Family Purity), laws of Niddah or sexuality and women’s health, please contact our new Yoetzet Halakha, Ilana Gadish in confidence at nycyoetzet@gmail.com.

Ilana Gadish serves as the Yoetzet Halacha for a number of synagogues in Manhattan, and is a graduate of Nishmat’s U.S. Yoatzot Halacha Fellows program. Ilana also teaches Talmud and Tanakh at the Ramaz Upper School. Ilana received her M.A. in Biblical and Talmudic Interpretation at the Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies (GPATS) at Stern College for Women, where she also received her B.A. with a major in Judaic Studies and a minor in Biology. She spent a year studying at Midreshet Lindenbaum in Jerusalem, as well as two summers at the Drisha Institute. Ilana currently lives on the Upper West Side with her husband Moshe Peters.

IN MEMORIUM

SAUL LANIADO, Z”L

Reflections by Avery Neumark,
Trustee and Chair, Ritual Committee

This summer, Shearith Israel lost a good friend, member and trustee. Saul was involved in almost every aspect of synagogue life. He served as a long-time officer of the Hebra and knew every detail of our historic cemeteries and our present Beth Olam Cemetery. From searching for the finest silk tallitot for the congregation to trying to find the ideal sanctuary seat for each of our members, no detail was too small for his careful attention.

Most importantly, Saul was ever protective of the Shearith Israel traditions. At the same time that he was insistent on preserving our Minhag passed down from his ancestors, he was sensitive to the importance of cultivating the next generations of leaders in our community.

Saul was my mentor on the ritual committee for many years. It was on this committee that I really appreciated Saul's close relationship with



our ministers, hazanim and staff. Before any decisions were made, we would always consult Saul for his significant input. When Saul joined the Board, all the trustees appreciated his experience and advice.

At Saul's funeral, Rabbi Marc D. Angel summarized Saul's activities at Shearith Israel as those of "synagogue jew". Whether Saul was seen in his formal wear or in his seersucker suit or riding on his mobility scooter, he was our "Mr. Shearith Israel". During Saul's last days in the hospital, listening to the Shearith Israel liturgy brought a smile to his face.

On behalf of our entire community, we extend our deepest sympathies to Saul's cherished wife Helen, and beloved daughters Renee and Suki, and to his entire family and many friends.

Min Hashamayim Tenuhamu

VISITING A SISTER SYNAGOGUE

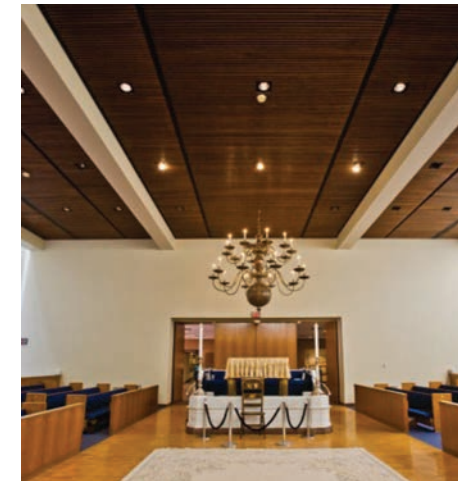
SHABBAT AT MIKVEH ISRAEL

Louis M. Solomon, Parnas

In May of last year, Rabbi Hidary and nearly 100 of our congregants and guests spent a Shabbat with our sister synagogue, Mikveh Israel, in Philadelphia. The Shabbaton was a great success, but Beth and I weren't able to attend. This past July 31-August 1, 2015, Beth and I had the pleasure of spending Shabbat with the Mikveh Israel community.

What a treat! Greeting us were warm, friendly congregants led by Rabbi Albert Gabbai and Parnas Lewis Berry. (I couldn't help but think about Mikveh Israel's support when our Congregation needed a temporary place for services in 1776, when New York fell to the British). Even with a little less-than-full attendance given the timing of our summer visit, there was still a full complement of Kabbalat Shabbat services, followed by a lovely communal dinner; Shabbat

morning services, followed by Shabbat lunch; and minhah followed by Seudat Shelishit that included a lively Torah session and discussion led by Rabbi Gabbai followed by Arbit.



What was truly energizing was to observe how our sister congregation has innovated in various ways to adapt to the needs and demands of its situation while at the same time remaining fully faithful to our common minhag.

The connection and commitment to our shared past was unmistakable and heart-warming. At the same time, Mikveh Israel is meeting the challenges of relevance,

budgets, and demography in ways that appear just right for them.

I hope all of us get a chance to visit Mikveh Israel sometime this year. Plans are also being made for another Shabbaton, perhaps this year in New York.

Kousa Mahasha is a typical Iraqi holiday dish, beloved because of its rich colors and flavors and use of native vegetables. Your guests will be impressed, but it is Tikva's favorite meat recipe for the holidays because it is deceptively simple to prepare.



KOUSA MAHASHA

By Tikva Ostrega

CULINARY CORNER

Mehshi means 'stuffed' in Arabic. Dolma, is the Turkish equivalent but we use the term Dolma for stuffed vine leaves only.

Makes 16 portions

INGREDIENTS

8 courgettes (zucchini)

The stuffing

1 pound of minced lamb or minced chicken breast or minced beef

1 onion, finely chopped

3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh mint

3 tablespoons finely chopped Italian parsley

1 tablespoon olive oil , if you are using minced chicken breasts use 3 tablespoons of olive oil (otherwise it will taste too dry)

Salt and pepper to taste

The sauce

1 small onion, finely chopped

2 large tomatoes, finely chopped

3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh mint

1 garlic clove, finely chopped

1 bay leaf

8 ounces of water

2 lemons, juiced

1 tablespoon sugar



Wash tops and cut off the tails of the courgettes. Cut in half to end up with 16 pieces but take care to not cut right through leaving one end closed. Using a corer, scoop out the flesh from center.

Set aside the cored courgettes and the scooped out flesh.

THE SAUCE

In a deep saucepan large enough to hold all the stuffed courgettes in a single layer, combine the scooped out flesh with the sauce ingredients, except for the sugar and the lemon juice. Bring to a boil then simmer for 15 minutes.

Meanwhile mix the stuffing ingredients and loosely stuff the courgettes.

Arrange the stuffed courgettes in the simmering sauce, adding more hot water if necessary to cover them half-way. Boil for 3 minutes, then reduce to a simmer, cover and cook for 15 to 20 minutes.

Mix the sugar with the lemon juice and pour over courgettes.

Taste to adjust the flavor. Cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes.

Serve hot with rice.

ABOUT TIKVA

Tikva Ostrega is a devoted Shearith Israel member and was recently voted in as an Elector, a privilege bestowed to our most committed members.

Tikva was born in Israel, the eldest of six siblings with family ancestry that can be traced back to the early 1600s in Iraq. She emigrated to the US from England in 1989 and it has been our great fortune that she, together with her husband Irwin, immersed themselves in our community.

We are also pleased to announce that Tikva has agreed to coordinate our quarterly Culinary Corner starting in our Spring 2016 edition. Don't be surprised if Tikva asks you to submit a treasured family recipe, a kosher restaurant review or your favorite purveyor of specialty foods or ingredients.

If you would like to submit a recipe, send it to Sarah Sue Landau at slandau@shearithisrael.org. In addition to the recipe, please include a short back-story describing the origins of the dish and why it is special to you.

SHABBAT SERVICES

September 4th-5th

Candle Lighting	7:06 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	7:24 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:45 pm
Zemirot, led by Sjimon Den Hollander.....	8:30 am
Shahrit	9:10 am
Torah Reading	Ki Tabo Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Haftarah	Jack Shlomo Isaiah 60:1-22
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	5:55 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:55 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	7:22 pm
Habdalah.....	7:59 pm

September 11th-12th

CONSECRATION ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1860 NINETEENTH STREET SYNAGOGUE	
Candle Lighting	6:54 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	7:12 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:45 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Nitsabim Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
Haftarah	Akiva R. Haberman Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	7:10 pm
Habdalah.....	7:46 pm

September 25th-26th

Candle Lighting	6:30 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	6:48 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:30 pm
Zemirot, led by Matthew Kaplan.....	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Haazinu Deuteronomy 32:1-52

Haftarah	Joseph A. Solomon II Samuel 22:1-51
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	5:20 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:20 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	6:47 pm
Habdalah.....	7:21 pm

October 16th-17th

Candle Lighting	5:56 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	6:14 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	6:00 pm
Zemirot, led by Jacob Daar	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Noah Genesis 6:9-11:32
Haftarah	Toby Gideon Zuckerberg Isaiah 54:1-10
Bar Mitzvah.....	Toby Gideon Zuckerberg
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:45 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	6:13 pm
Habdalah.....	6:44 pm

October 23rd-24th

Candle Lighting	5:46 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	6:04 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	5:45 pm
Zemirot, led by Sjimon Den Hollander.....	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Lekh-Lekha Genesis 12:1-17:27
Haftarah	Harry Ezra Pomerantz Isaiah 40:27-41:16
Bar Mitzvah.....	Harry Ezra Pomerantz
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	6:03 pm
Habdalah.....	6:33 pm

October 30th-31st

Candle Lighting	5:37 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	5:55 pm

Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	5:45 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Vayera Genesis 18:1-22:24
Haftarah	Reuben A. Frieber II Kings 4:1
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	5:54 pm
Habdalah.....	6:23 pm

November 6th-7th

Candle Lighting	4:29 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	4:47 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:30 pm
Zemirot, led by Matthew Kaplan.....	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Haye Sarah Genesis 23:1-25:18
Haftarah	Jake Nussbaum I Kings 1:1-31
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:20 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:20 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	4:46 pm
Habdalah.....	5:15 pm

November 13th-14th

Candle Lighting	4:22 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	4:40 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:30 pm
Zemirot, led by Joseph A. Solomon	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading	Toledoth Genesis 25:19-28:9
Haftarah	Malachi 1:1-2:7
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	4:39 pm
Habdalah.....	5:07 pm

November 20th-21st

Candle Lighting	4:16 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	4:34 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:15 pm
Zemirot, led by Adam Jackson.....	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading.....	Vayetse Genesis 28:10-32:3
Haftarah	Bernard Turiel Hosea 11:7-12:12
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:10 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	4:34 pm
Habdalah.....	5:01 pm

November 27th-28th

Candle Lighting	4:12 pm
Friday Evening Sunset	4:30 pm
Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:15 pm
Zemirot, led by Jacob Daar	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Torah Reading.....	Vayishlah Genesis 32:4-36:43
Haftarah	Elliot Freilich Book of Obadiah (Entire Book)
Seudah Shelishit & Class.....	3:15 pm
Saturday Evening Minhah & Arbit.....	4:05 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset	4:30 pm
Habdalah.....	4:57 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS

Labor Day Legal Holiday

Monday, September 7th	
Morning Service.....	8:00 am
Minhah/Arbit	6:30 pm

Rosh Hodesh Heshvan: Two-Day

Monday Evening, October 12th through	
Tuesday & Wednesday, October 13th & 14th.	
Services follow regular schedule.	

Rosh Hodesh Kislev: Two-Day

Wednesday Evening, November 11th through Thursday & Friday, November 12th & 13th . Services follow regular schedule.

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26th
 Shahrit 7:45 am
 Evening Service (Arbit only) 6:30 pm

DAILY SERVICES

Mornings (Shahrit):

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

Evenings (Minhah & Arbit)

August 2nd - September 24th 6:30 pm
 September 30th- October 8th 6:15 pm
 October 11th- October 22nd 6:00 pm
 October 25th- October 29th 5:45 pm

Evenings (Arbit only)

November 1st, 2015-February 18th, 2016 6:30 pm

**HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES
 5776/2015**

Rosh HaShanah, New Year 5776

ROSH HASHANAH PREPARATION

Sunday Morning, September 13th

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

FIRST DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH

Eve of the First Day,

Sunday Evening, September 13th

Sunday Evening Candle Lighting 6:51 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:45 pm
 Sunday Evening Sunset 7:09 pm

First Day Morning,

Monday, September 14th

Zemirot 7:45 am
 Shahrit 8:35 am

Special Prayers &
 Taking out Sifrei Torah 9:35 am
 Torah Reading & Haftarah 9:50 am
 Offerings 10:30 am
 `Et Sha`arei Ratson & Shofar Service .. 10:40 am
 Ashrei and Returning Sifrei Torah 11:05 am
 Musaf 11:20 am
 Sermon 12:20 pm
 Adon `Olam &
 Service Conclusion 12:40-12:45 pm

SECOND DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH

Eve of the Second Day,

Monday Evening, September 14th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:45 pm
 Monday Evening Sunset 7:07 pm
 Monday Evening Candle Lighting 7:30 pm

Second Day Morning,

Tuesday, September 15th

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

Conclusion of Second Day,

Tuesday Evening, September 15th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:45 pm
 Tuesday Evening Sunset 7:05 pm
 Tuesday Evening Habdalah 7:28 pm

Fast of Gedaliah

Wednesday, September 16th

Fast Begins (Dawn) 5:15 am
 Wednesday Morning Sunrise 6:37 am
 Wednesday Morning Shahrit 7:15 am

Fast Day Evening Minhah & Arbit
 (men don tefillin) 6:15 pm
 Wednesday Evening Sunset 7:04 pm
 Wednesday Evening End of Fast 7:26 pm

Shabbat Teshubah

EVE OF SHABBAT TESHUBAH

Friday Evening, September 18th

Friday Evening Candle Lighting .before 6:42 pm
 Friday Evening Services
 (Minhah & Arbit) 6:45 pm
 Friday Evening Sunset 7:00 pm

SHABBAT TESHUBAH DAY

Saturday Morning, September 19th

Zemirot, led by Adam Jackson 8:15 am
 Shahrit 9:00 am
 Torah Service 9:45-10:30 am
 Parashah Vayelekh
 Deuteronomy 31:1-30
 Haftarah Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik
 Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20

Saturday Evening, September 19th

Seudah Shelishit & Class 5:30 pm
 Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit 6:30 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset 6:59 pm
 Habdalah 7:33 pm

Yom Kippur, The Day of Atonement

Eve of Yom Kippur,

Tuesday Morning, September 22nd

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

EVE OF YOM KIPPUR

Eve of the Fast,

Tuesday Evening, September 22nd

Tuesday Evening
 Candle Lighting at or before 6:35 pm
 Tuesday Evening Kal Nidrei Service 6:30 pm

Begin Fasting before
 Tuesday Evening Sunset, 6:53 pm
 Sermon & Tuesday Evening
 Arbit Service 7:00-9:00 pm

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Wednesday, September 23rd,

Daytime Services

Zemirot 8:30 am
 Shahrit 9:30 am
 Torah Service 11:25 am
 Midday Sermon 12:20 pm
 Musaf 12:40 pm
 Minhah 3:25 pm
 Perpetual Hashcobot & Offerings 5:25 pm
 Sermon before Ne`ilah 6:00 pm
 Ne`ilah 6:15 pm
 Sunset 6:52 pm
 Shofar, Arbit & Habdalah 7:24 pm

FESTIVAL SERVICES

Succot, The Festival of Tabernacles

EVE OF THE FIRST DAY OF SUCCOT

Sunday Evening, September 27th

Candle Lighting 6:27 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) 6:30 pm
 Sunset 6:45 pm
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah 7:15 pm

FIRST DAY OF SUCCOT

Monday Morning, September 28th

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

EVE OF THE SECOND DAY OF SUCCOT

Monday Evening, September 28th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)6:30 pm
 Sunset6:43 pm
 Candle Lighting after 7:05 pm
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah7:30 pm

SECOND DAY OF SUCCOT

Tuesday Morning, September 29th

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

Tuesday Evening, September 29th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)6:30 pm
 Sunset6:42 pm
 Habdalah, End of Yom Tob.....7:03 pm

Hol HaMoed Succot

INTERMEDIATE WEEKDAYS

Mornings: September 30th, October 1st, & October 2nd

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

Evenings: September 30th & October 1st

Wednesday & Thursday:
 Minhah & Arbit Services6:15 pm

Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot

EVE OF SHABBAT HOL HAMOED

Friday Evening, October 2nd

Candle Lightingbefore 6:19 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)6:15 pm
 Friday Evening Sunset6:37 pm
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah7:15 pm

SHABBAT HOL HAMOED DAY

Saturday Morning, October 3rd

Zemirot8:15 am
 Shahrit & Hallel 9:00 am
 Torah Service 10:00 am
 Offerings, Musaf, &
 Shabbat Hoshaana..... 10:45-11:30 am
 Service Conclusion &
 Sermon 11:30 am-12:00 pm
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah 12:00 pm

Saturday Afternoon, October 3rd

Seudah Shelishit & Class,
 Elias Room Succah5:15 pm
 Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit6:15 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset6:35 pm
 Habdalah, end of Shabbat.....7:08 pm

Hosha`ana Rabba (Grand Hosanna)

EVE OF HOSHA`ANA RABBAH

Saturday Evening, October 3rd

Mishmarah-Tikkun and
 Rabbi's Lecture Class in Succah.....9:00 pm

HOSHA`ANA RABBAH DAY

Sunday Morning, October 4th

Zemirot, led by Avery E. Neumark..... 8:00 am
 Shahrit & Hallel 8:45 am
 Torah Service 9:15 am
 Musaf, Hoshaanot, Shofar,
 Selihot..... 9:35-10:15 am
 Service Conclusion 10:15-10:30 am
 Breakfast in Elias Room Succah 10:30 am

Shemini Hag `Atseret

EVE OF SHEMINI HAG `ATSERET

Sunday Evening, October 4th

Candle Lighting6:15 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)6:15 pm
 Sunset6:33 pm
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah7:15 pm

SHEMINI HAG `ATSERET DAY

Monday Morning, October 5th

Zemirot 8:15 am
 Shahrit & Hallel 9:00 am
 Torah Service 9:50 am
 Musaf with Tikkun HaGeshem
 (Prayer for Rain) 10:40-11:20 am
 Service Conclusion & Sermon .. 11:20-11:45 am
 Kiddush in Elias Room Succah 11:50 am

Simhat Torah (Rejoicing of the Law)

EVE OF SIMHAT TORAH

Monday Evening, October 5th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit),
 with Tenu Shebahah6:15 pm
 Sunset6:32 pm
 Candle Lighting after 6:53 pm
 Hakafof & Children's Celebration in
 Main Synagogue7:00 pm
 Parallel Women's Hakafof in
 Little Synagogue7:00 pm

SIMHAT TORAH DAY

Tuesday Morning, October 6th

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

Tuesday Evening, October 6th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit)6:15 pm
 Sunset6:30 pm
 Habdalah, End of Festival6:51 pm

Shabbat Bereshit, the First Parashah

EVE OF SHABBAT BERESHIT

Friday Evening, October 9th

Candle Lightingbefore 6:07 pm
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit),
 with Tenu Shebahah6:15 pm
 Friday Evening Sunset6:25 pm

SHABBAT BERESHIT DAY

Saturday Morning, October 10th

Zemirot 8:15 am
 Shahrit 9:00 am
 Torah Service, with
 Honors for Hatanim 9:45-10:40 am
 Parashah..... Bereshith
 Genesis 1:1-6:8
 Haftarah
 Isaiah 42:5-21; 61:10; 62:5

Saturday Evening, October 10th

Seudah Shelishit & Class.....5:00 pm
 Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit6:00 pm
 Saturday Evening Sunset6:24 pm
 Habdalah, End of Shabbat6:56 pm



HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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

GENERAL DONATIONS

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

KIDDUSH FUND

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

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 as well as communities in Nepal recovering from the earthquake, and the Houston Jewish Community recovering from flooding.

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 food and refreshments for a class or semester of Bet Midrash, Tuesday morning women's class, Tuesday evening Talmud Shiur, Hebrew courses, Learners' Service, 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. Not only does this vital assistance greatly aid the individual, it also strengthens and unifies our community and enhances our sense of responsibility for one another.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENT

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

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



STAFF

- Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik** Rabbi
msoloveichik@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x206
- Rabbi Dr. Richard Hidary** Distinguished Rabbinic Fellow
rhidary@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x239
- Rabbi Dr. Marc D. Angel** Rabbi Emeritus
mangel@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x205
- Barbara Reiss** Executive Director
breiss@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x215
- Rabbi Ira Rohde** Hazzan
irohde@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x217
- Reverend Philip L. Sherman** Associate Hazzan
cantorsherman@gmail.com
- Leon Hyman** Choirmaster
- Adam Hyman** Associate Choirmaster
- Zachary S. Edinger** Shamash
zedinger@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x216
- Maria Caputo** Office Manager
mcaputo@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x230
- Sarah Sue Landau** Communications Associate
slandau@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x225
- Diana Landau** Executive Assistant
dlandau@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x221
- John Quinones** Facilities Manager
jquinones@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x223
- Ruth Yasky** Financial Associate
ryasky@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x228

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Edward Misrahi
Jack Rudin
Ronald P. Stanton
Roy J. Zuckerberg

GENERAL INQUIRIES

T: 212-873-0300 | F: 815-301-3820
info@shearithisrael.org
www.shearithisrael.org

Lifecycle and Pastoral Matters
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik 212-873-0300 x206
Rabbi Richard Hidary 212-873-0300 x239

Funeral Arrangements
Zachary S. Edinger 212-873-0300 x216
917-584-3787

Taharat Hamishpakha (Jewish Family Law)
Ilana Gadish, Yoetzet Halakha
nycyoetzet@gmail.com

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.

