One example of the cherished, and unusual, ritual objects in our synagogue is our “Omer boards.” Devised and created before our first synagogue was built, the board facilitates the community’s counting the 49 days of the Omer, between Pesah and Shabuot.

With Portuguese abbreviations for the days and weeks that comprise the “Homer,” it is a reminder of a bygone era, of America’s earliest Jews, and also a reminder that we are continuing the very Jewish rituals that they faithfully continue to keep since arriving in America.

In today’s digital age, the board may seem unnecessary; I receive daily emails reminding me to count the Omer, and informing me the precise number that is required. But the age of this three-hundred year-old device is precisely the source of its magic. The counting of the Omer is all about marking continuity; and here we have a historical item that itself exquisitely embodies continuity. Year after year, starting on the second day of Pesah, the board’s dials would be turned to mark the passage of days – in the eighteenth century, the nineteenth, the twentieth, the twenty-first. Thus, as one stands in the sanctuary and counts, one is not merely linking Pesah to Shabuot; one is linking oneself to the Jewish past, to the tale of our community, and to the Jews that follow. In contrast to our iPhones, this board may seem simple – but it is in fact simply sublime.

As such, the Omer board embodies not only what the commandment to count is all about, but also what Shearith Israel’s legacy represents, and what it means to be a Jew. We are called to link past with present, and present to posterity. This remnant and reminder of our communal past has given me a new understanding of a verse in Psalms: “Teach us to count our days, so that we may acquire a wise heart.” An understanding of continuity is itself a source of wisdom. My recent pondering of the Omer board has made me more and more aware of the remarkable ties that bind us – which makes me all the more eager, in this trying time of separation, for the moment when we will merit to count the Omer together again.

FROM THE RABBI’S DESK
COUNTING DAYS AND GENERATIONS

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik
It was last Spring, on May 11, 2020, that an email I sent to the Congregation discussed the importance of the number ten in our history and lore. That week marked the tenth in a row that the scourge of COVID-19 forced our beloved Sanctuary to remain closed for Shabbat and weekday services. Blessedly, as of this writing, we are past those dark days. This Spring, we continue to face COVID-19 challenges, but as the pages of this Bulletin will attest, we as a community are functioning well, if still hobbled.

In Judaism, the importance of the number ten is never far from us. Now is the season leading up to the Passover story, including the Seder on Pesah night). The philosophical and religious questions raised by the repetition of heart-hardening are many. The relationship between these episodes and the role of free will has engaged Jewish thinkers for millennia. (And not just Jewish thinkers; see Michael Massing’s Fatal Discord: Erasmus, Luther, and the Fight for the Western Mind for a solid discussion of the pivotal role this very question played in the development of Catholic doctrine and the advent of Lutheranism, Calvinism, and Protestantism.)

Instead, what I humbly wish to observe derives from a powerful thought in Rabbi Rohde’s debar torah on Parashat Bo. My thought is that, every time Pharaoh’s heart hardened to a point where he refused to permit the Israelites freedom when he otherwise would have let them go—in each such case, not only did the Egyptians suffer from yet another plague; the Israelites, too, suffered. Their bondage continued, with all the difficulties and travails that entailed; worse, to the extent they had to continue to work in bondage, the work continued with rigor, i.e., without any of the provisioning of straw that Pharaoh earlier had determined to withhold from them. In short, in hardening Pharaoh’s heart, the Almighty was in part teaching the Israelites as well.

What can we learn from this? Here’s my try. The Torah’s use of “ten” in the plagues and in the heart-hardening references employs the Jewish symbol of completeness. As said last May, the number ten manifests the active presence of the Almighty in our lives, reacting to the positive role of community in shaping our own destiny. That the Torah uses 10 plagues is a signal that, however many the travails, whether 10, 100, 1000, millions, they are occurring to us as a community, they are in part a result of human agency and can be improved by human agency, and they are all explained by the same first cause. The Torah’s repetition of heart-hardening teaches us that, in connection with our efforts as a community to conquer adversity, the Almighty is the ultimate cause. The Lord permits suffering, as part of a plan that we see, at best, through a glass darkly (see my email to the Congregation of January 28, 2021 at shearithisrael.org/covid-leadership-updates, for why I think we can use that phrase without quoting Corinthians). The Lord just as much enables the culminating redemption, again as part of a plan we see only dimly. Same same. In each case the community qua community acts and is acted upon through human beings “under God.”

The story of the plagues and of Pharaoh’s heart-hardening gives us a way to see both the bad and the good from the same communal perspective of faith, faith in the Almighty and faith in ourselves. And it is that communal perspective of faith that seems so appropriate for us to embrace in assessing the inconveniences and yes, sufferings many of us are experiencing now. COVID-19 is a year old, plus. We are dealing with it as a community. To the extent next Pesah will not include a COVID-19 message, that, too, will be because we will have dealt with our one plague as a community, through faith in the Almighty and faith in ourselves.

Moadim L’simha, and Hag Kasher V’sameah.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS

Louis M. Solomon

HARDENED HEARTS, FAITH, AND STEELED WILLS

It was last Spring, on May 11, 2020, that an email I sent to the Congregation discussed the importance of the number ten in our history and lore. That week marked the tenth in a row that the scourge of COVID-19 forced our beloved Sanctuary to remain closed for Shabbat and weekday services. Blessedly, as of this writing, we are past those dark days. This Spring, we continue to face COVID-19 challenges, but as the pages of this Bulletin will attest, we as a community are functioning well, if still hobbled.

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Moadim L’simha, and Hag Kasher V’sameah.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

YETZIAT CORONA: WHY THE PESAH STORY IS FOREVER FRESH

Barbara Reiss

Planning programs in January for the following Spring and Summer is always a challenge. But planning programs—or anything, for that matter—in January 2021 for the upcoming Spring and Summer took one part responsibility, one part creativity, and one part absurdity. As I write this, the vaccine is rolling out, slower and bumpier than hoped and the infection rates remain higher than hoped. Will the new season allow for any in-person programs or will it remain all Zoom all the time? Uncertainty is the only guarantee and plan we must as the Jewish calendar, Jewish time, as Rabbi Soloveichik often speaks about, marches on.

An annual highlight of this season is Pesah. It is expected that like last year, we will again be required to celebrate the holiday in unexotic settings in the company of very few, if any, companions. But we did it last year and again we shall remember, re-enact, and perhaps, more powerfully than ever, identify with yetziat mitzrayim. After all, what is yetziat mitzrayim? Literally, it can be defined as the exit from a narrow place. Our ancestors, enslaved in Ancient Egypt were undoubtedly and most severely constrained in a narrow place. Even in normal times, some of us experience the anguish of profound constraints (e.g., financial, physical disability, domestic abuse, addiction, etc.). But during this time of Corona, we are all living a narrower, constrained life. For many, the narrowness of the “corona lifestyle” is characterized by boredom (see Louis Solomon’s Leadership update, November 5, 2020, on “the Groundhog Day monotonous repetition of monotony”). Indeed, boredom is a punishment. What is it that makes solitary confinement one of the most dreaded punishments in prison (worse than co-existing with hardened inmates) but the brutality of boredom and isolation. While our beloved routines have been disrupted, thank God, with a wealth of virtual programming, do we have an excuse for boredom?

This will end. And while some of us have been coping better than others, it’s gone on long enough that we - like our ancestors who were freed from bondage - risk internalizing the “narrow” lifestyle. Will we wear makeup again? Will we go back to the gym? Will we resume “water-cooler” talk? Will we hug friends? I know we’re all looking forward to many of these normal activities from our “wider” lifestyle. But will it come naturally or will it take time to transition?

Our ancestors wandered the desert for 40 years before entering the Promised Land. Why did God take so long to guide us through a not very expansive tract of land? Because they needed a transition period from the narrow life to the expansive one. And so do we. We will plan programs that ease our transition back to normalcy. Eventually we will introduce in-person outdoor activities. Then smaller indoor programs. Eventually, we’ll have kiddush or meals together. But not right away. Let’s enjoy our programs and our community as much as we can, however we can. And then we’ll be ready.
NEW MEMBERS
We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:
Shawn Canter
Lucas Drill
Dr. Elon Granader
Barbara Guss

CONGRATULATIONS
Mazal Tov to:
Ceceil Mendal and Ariel Bengio, upon the birth of a baby boy.
Beth and Marc Bengualid upon the birth of their first granddaughter, born to their children, Elana and Jack Harary. Congratulations as well to grandfather, Henri Bengualid.
Naomi and Bentsi Cohen, upon their grandson, Daniel Lopes, becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to mother, Ronit Cohen, and his aunt and uncle, Nicole and David Cohen.
Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein upon the birth of twin granddaughters, Devorah and Chana Beila, born to their children, Rabbi Ariel and Elizabeth Edelstein.
Rose and Henry Edinger, on the birth of a great-grandson, born to Chana (née Edinger) and Jono Fuchs.
Judy and Joel Schreiber on the birth of a grandson, Noah Zion Uretsky.
Madelene and Stan Towne, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Julia Abigail Ting, born to Sara and Peter Ting.
Madelene and Stan Towne on the birth of a grandson, Arlo Amos Towne, born to their children, Dara and Adam Towne.

HAZAKIM U’BERUKHIM
Members with special achievements:
Aryeh Bourkoff upon being honored with the Alan C. Greenberg Young Leadership Award at UJA’s Wall Street (virtual) Dinner.
Our trustee, Oliver Stanton, who was an honoree at Chamah’s 33rd annual (virtual) dinner.

IN MEMORIAM
We mourn the loss of our member:
Nissim Aboodi
Dr. Raphael David
Herman P. Salomon

CONDOLENCES
We extend sincere condolences to:
Deena Aboodi, Debra Aboodi (and Steve Sasson), Michael Aboodi, and Oded Aboodi, upon the passing of Nissim Aboodi.
Mrs. Els Bendheim, Carla Schein, Jacob Salomon, and Aviva Sussman, upon the passing of their brother and uncle, Herman P. Salomon.
Yair Cohen, upon the passing of his brother, Sholomo Cohen.
Dr. Irene Rosner David, upon the passing of her husband, Dr. Raphael David.
James Kahn, upon the passing of his father, Mark Kahn.
Sherri Maxman, upon the passing of her father, Frank Steinfeld.
Dr. Craig Moskowitz, upon the passing of his father, Mark Moskowitz.

IN APPRECIATION
Special thanks to:
Our inexhaustible Parnas, clergy, administrative staff, maintenance workers, Board of Trustees, and volunteers for continuing to keep our community thriving even through these turbulent times.
Our COVID-19 Working Group who continue to meet regularly, studying the latest the data and trends and re-evaluating our policies and practices.
Our Daily Minyan-Makers, who have ensured that we maintain continual weekly services during this time. If you’d like to commit to a daily minyan (even one day a week can make a big difference!), contact Rev. Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

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.

Bruce Roberts, upon the passing of his mother, Flori Roberts.
Mrs. Lisa Rohde, upon the passing of her sister, Geeta Brun-Kestler.
Ivy Schildkraut, upon the passing of her mother, Herminia Medel.
Dr. Lu Steinberg, upon the passing of her father, Milton Steinberg.
Friday Night Lights:

Sponsors:

Anonymous
Joseph Blank, in memory of his grandfather, Yaakov Yosef b. Bezalel
Karyn Braka-Bogart, on the occasion of the nahala of her tzaddik, amazing grandfather, David Braka (David b. Shafika), President Emeritus of the Safra Synagogue, NY/turnberry
Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein, in memory of Chaim’s father, יעקב בן חיים יוסף, on the occasion of his nahala
Cindy Trop and Stuart Ellman
Faith Fogelman, in memory of her mother, Miriam Wazkin
Philippa Newfield and Phillip Gordon, in honor of their new great niece, Menucha Rachel Blau, and in memory of her great grandmother, Ruth Newfield, for whom she is named
Miriam and Shiah Grumet, in memory of Miriam’s parents, Rabbi Herman and Sari Lieber
Daina and Greg Gurevich, in memory of Andrew Burian
Riki and Meir Kreitman and Gail and Jeff Toll, in honor of the nahala of their beloved grandmother, מקירת חיה וביה, עם בר חיות
Liliane Marks, in memory of her husband, Neville Marks.
Carol and Ira Morrow, Frieda Klapperman, and Renee and Joel Klapperman, in memory of Rabbi Dr. Gilbert Klapperman, HaRav Gedaliah b. Elazar HaKohen
Hedda Rudoff, Sara and Ira Oltshin, and Simone and Mark Semer, in memory of Sheldon Rudoff, Shlomo b. Rafael
Debbie and David Sable, in memory of Natan Chaim Sable
Debbie and David Sable, in memory of Rabbi Jack Sable
Evelyn and Salomon Sassoon, on the occasion of the nahala of Evelyn’s father, Meir (Mike) Goldberger
Frieda and Isaac Schlesinger, in memory of Shlomo b. David Schlesinger
Judy and Joel Schreiber commemorating the 50th anniversary of the nahala of Blanche Schreiber a’h, Blima bas Avrohom Ha Levi
Avrumie Sieger, marking the nahala of Rabbi Menasseh b. Israel on 14 Kislev
Roselyn Weitzner, in memory of her father, Yaakov Zeev b. Elimelech Hacohen
Betsy and Stuart Zimbalist, Joelle and Bill Zimbalist, Debbie and Marty Wasserman, and Sheryl and Bruce Schainker, in memory of their dear parents, Bernadine and Al Zimbalist

Subscribers:

(Members of the Ma’ayan Society, listed here; full list can be found at shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays)

Marjorie Diener Blender
Robert Sidi

Contributors:

Anonymous
Anna Aronoiich
Carol Kiznes Baron
Jonathan Blank
Chani Eichel
Roslyn and Henry Falk
Rella Feldman
Steven Gelles
Judy and Marty Grumet, in memory of Ephraim Grumet
Barbara Guss
Dr. Elias and Marcia Herschmann
Carol and Steven Kallet
Dr. Gerald and Suzie Kirshenbaum, in honor of their grandson Shlomo Kroopnick’s engagement to Ariel Tsarfati in Israel
Rebecca L Michel
Barbara Rascoff, in memory of Roselle and Raymond Silberstein
Robyn Rice
Menucha and Noson Robeson
Beverly and Michael Rosenbaum
Meralee and Sidney Schlusselberg
Seymour Schulman
Ellen Altman Shaffrin
Sarah Stambler and Shlomo Bar-Ayal
Rhona Meisels Vandelman
Lou Weiss
Weiss Family
Miki and Michael Wieder
Robert Wolfson

— continued —
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS — continued —

Rabbi Soloveichik’s The Art of Torah Series:

Anonymous
Anonymous, in honor of Aviva and Marvin Susman, with deep gratitude
Anonymous, in honor of Lady Elaine Sacks, her children, and all those who recognize and enable greatness in others to flourish so we can benefit, and in memory of Leona and Rabbi Abe Mandelbaum, whose lives were dedicated to helping others
Robert S. April and his daughters, on the occasion of the nahala of Cindy Kass April (late wife and mother), and by him and all his children, on the nahala of Abraham April (father and grandfather)
The Benyunes Family, in memory of the nahala of Abraham’s father, Joseph de Benyunes, Yosef b. Avraham
Doina and Dr. Larry Bryskin, in memory of the nahala of Sam Bryskin, father of Larry Bryskin, and Ludovic Levi, father of Doina Bryskin
Judi and Alan Eisenman, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik
Rose Gerszberg, in memory of her husband, Shep Gerszberg, who would have relished Rabbi Soloveichik’s lectures
Michele and Ike Hershman, in honor of their children and grandchildren
Deborah and Arnie Kramer and Sharon and Anton Loew, in memory of their Pa, Melvin Moshe Kramer, a real hineini person
David Marks, in memory of his mother, Rachel bat Moshe Yaakov, on her nahala
David Marks, in memory of his father, Yaakov Natan ben Shlomo, on his nahala

Judy and Albert Milstein, in memory of William and Eda Bess Novick
Gail Propp and family, in celebration of the life of Ephie Propp - VaYehi; and he lived!
Zoya and Rima Raynes, in memory of Svetlana Raynes, on the occasion of her 1st nahala
Rebecca Schub, Danielle Durst Deluty, and Atara and Jonathan Deluty, in memory of Frances Durst Schub on the occasion of her 3rd nahala
Arlene and Steve Smith of the Young Israel of Scarsdale, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik
Gail and Jeff Toll, in memory of Esther Bela Bat Meyer
Marion and Billy Weiss, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Susan and Mark Wiesen, in honor of their granddaughter, Yakira Leora Wiesen, born to Yael and Raffi Wiesen. Mazal Tov to the first-time grandparents, Helene and Ze’ev Saban. Mazal tob to the great-grandmothers Messody Ohayon, Edith Rieder, and Cyla Wiesen.

SHABBAT HAGADOL DERASHA
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Via Conference Call | March, date TBD
You won’t want to miss this derasha from Rabbi Soloveichik exploring how we can weave the lessons of this Festival of Freedom into our everyday lives.

TEEN GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN SHIR HASHIRIM READING
Wednesday, March 31 | 5:00 pm | On Zoom
Continuing in our COVID-19 tradition of Zoom Megillah readings, we invite the young women (post-Bat Mitzvah through 20s) of our congregation to read the Song of Songs. Full preparation and training provided. Newcomers welcome! For information and to participate, please contact Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde at irohde@shearithisrael.org.

PROGRAMMING NOTE REGARDING SCHEDULED EVENTS

Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, our scheduled events are subject to change, with some programs and details yet to be finalized based on future developments. However, we have a full slate of programs coming up, and we are certain that our rabbi, clergy, and synagogue societies will continue to offer a wide array of high-quality virtual programming throughout this time, as they have commendably and creatively done from the start.

For the latest programming updates, we encourage you to follow our newsletter emails which come out each Monday afternoon. If you have not yet signed up, please do so at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

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

PESAH

KASHERING YOUR KITCHEN FOR PESAH
Rabbi Ira Rohde | On Zoom
Saturday Night, March 13

Many of us are once again celebrating Pesah at home and could use a refresher on how to get our kitchens into shape. Have no fear, our resident mashgiah Rabbi Ira is here to demystify the process with a demonstration and Q&A.

PESAH LITURGY WITH REV. Z. EDINGER
Sunday, March 21 | On Zoom
Join our liturgical expert, Shamash and Assistant Hazzan Rev. Z. Edinger, to review the Passover prayers and familiarize yourself with our unique S&P customs and melodies.

HOLIDAYS

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SHABUOT

SHABUOT LECTURE
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Via Conference Call
May, date TBD

Bring your own cheesecake in the comfort of your home and enjoy this annual public lecture on the themes of the holiday.

GIRLS BOOK OF RUTH READING
Sunday, May 16 | 11:00 am | On Zoom

If COVID-19 restrictions are still in place, we will once again host this annual reading on Zoom. If you know a girl (any girl or woman through college age who can read Hebrew is welcome!) who would like to participate, and we would be delighted if she would, please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

THE THREE WEEKS & TISHA B’AB

SPECIAL THREE WEEKS LECTURE SERIES
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Via Conference Call
Dates TBD

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a lecture series in memory of Rev. Dr. Alan D. Corre & Mrs. Nita Corre. Rev. Corre served as hazzan in our sister synagogue, Congregation Mikveh Israel, and was a distinguished scholar of Hebrew, linguistics, and Jewish studies. The lectures by Rabbi Soloveichik draw on his scholarship.

ANNUAL TISHA B’AB LECTURE
Saturday Night, July 17 | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver his annual public lecture. Specific plans for in-person and/or virtual options are subject to the COVID-19 situation as we get closer to the date.

PROVIDENCE AND POLITICS: ZIONISM FROM HERZL TO BEGIN

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Via Conference Call
April - May

In lieu of our Spring Fundraiser gala, Rabbi Soloveichik will again treat us to a phenomenal multi-part marathon lecture series, with this year’s focus being on key Zionist figures and the miracle of the story of Israel.

Held on or around holidays that all fall between Pesah and Shabuot: Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, Yom HaAtzmaut, and Yom Yerushalayim

Stay tuned for dates and sponsorship details.
SUNDAY MATINEE
An Ongoing Series Sponsored by the Sisterhood of Congregation Shearith Israel
Sundays, March 14, April 18, May 16
2:00 pm | On Zoom
Along with a live Q&A with the filmmakers, each of these specially curated films explores how we transmit culture, identity and memory through time.

SESSION 5: OUR HEBREWS
Sunday, March 14 | 2:00 pm
This documentary will be followed by Q&A with the filmmaker, Naor Meningher.
‘Little Jerusalem’ is how the locals refer to the town of Pitigliano in southern Tuscany because of its striking resemblance to Israel’s ancient city. Through the medieval stone walls, the fascinating story of 400 years of harmonious co-existence between Jews and Christians is told for the first time, leading to the heroic acts done by the locals during the time of the Holocaust.

SESSION 6: NEAR NORMAL MAN
Sunday, April 18 | 2:00 pm
This presentation will be followed by Q&A with the filmmaker, Charlene Stern.
The first-hand account of Ben Stern, a Polish Jew who survives two ghettos, nine concentration camps, and two death marches. The Nazis identify him as one of the dangerous Jews of the Warsaw Ghetto. He emerges alive, only to face the Nazis again – 30 years later, this time in Skokie, Illinois. Ben decides he will not let them march in his adopted hometown and confronts his rabbi, who tells the survivors to “stay home, close the shades and let them pass.” What did he do then, and is still doing today, at 99 years of age?
Charlene Stern, a successful businesswoman and now an award-winning documentary filmmaker, is committed to sharing her remarkable father’s story with the world, now in more than 13 countries and growing.

SESSION 7: THE NAME MY MOTHER GAVE ME
Sunday, May 16 | 2:00 pm, NY time
This presentation will be followed by Q&A with the filmmaker, Eli Tal-El.
We follow Ethiopian and Russian Israelis who meet at a leadership training program in Israel. Their year of learning culminates in a journey to Ethiopia, where the Ethiopian-born participants return to their native villages and confront their roots. In the highlands of the Ethiopian landscape, they discover the universality of their experiences and their shared commitment to their new home in Israel. How will this journey transform them and us?
Written, directed, and shot by Eli Tal-El.

BIKE RIDE AND CEMETERY CLEANUP DAY
Sunday, April 18 | 21st Street Cemetery
In honor of Earth Day (April 22), join our trustee and outdoors enthusiast, Seth Haberman, on a bike ride through Manhattan, down to join Rev. Z. Edinger in tending to one of our precious plots of earth, our 21st Street Cemetery. This cemetery was active from 1829-1851, before city ordinances forbade burials below 86th Street. Participants can register for the bike ride or the cleanup, or both. To learn more about this historic cemetery, visit shearithisrael.org/21-st-cemetery.

THIRD ANNUAL SMASH THE STIGMA EVENT
Presented by Shearith Israel’s Caring Connection
May 2021 | On Zoom
Held annually during Mental Health Awareness Month and co-sponsored by a consortium of UWS synagogues and Jewish institutions
Two years ago, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, we hosted a profoundly important and extremely well-received Smash the Stigma event, in which we opened a conversation on suicide and depression in the Jewish community. We continued that conversation last year over Zoom to another wide audience. This year, when mental health issues are compounded by COVID-19 and awareness is more important than ever, we will host our third installment this May. Stay tuned for registration details.

ANNUAL CHATHAM SQUARE MEMORIAL
Memorial Day, Monday, May 31
Chatham Square Cemetery,
Shearith Israel’s First Historic Cemetery
Rev. Z. Edinger will head down to Chatham Square Cemetery in Chinatown to honor members of our congregation who participated in the Revolutionary War. In our annual event, which this year will once again incorporate livestreaming and social distancing, join us as we place American flags at the graves of our twenty-two veteran congregants. The cemetery, active from 1682-1828, is located at 55 St. James Place, opposite Chatham Square.

TED COMET VIRTUAL TAPESTRY TOUR
May 4 | 1:00 pm | On Zoom
The Upper West Side apartment of our friend Ted Comet houses a phenomenal and unexpected collection: stunningly evocative tapestries created by his late wife, trauma expert, Dr. Shoshana Comet, illustrating the history of the Jewish people, our trials and tribulations throughout the ages – a true celebration of our survival. We invite you to join Mr. Comet, a sensitive and engaging raconteur, on a virtual tour through these illuminating pieces of handmade art.
The Guide to Duties of the Heart

Sundays | 8:45 am
Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander

Via Zoom - To receive the link, email Rabbi den Hollander at sjimon@flatironne.com

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 Elieyahu 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.

Daily Zoom: Book of Kings

Sunday-Thursday Mornings | 8:30 am
Rev. Z. Edinger & Rabbi Ira Rohde

Via Zoom - To receive the link, email Z. at zedinger@shearithisrael.org

The loyal members of our morning learning group have continued to meet on Zoom and cover ground as they work their way through the Prophets. All are welcome; just contact Z. Edinger.

Toddler Zoom with Liz and Special Guest, Rabbi Ira Rohde

Mondays and Wednesdays on Zoom | 10:00 am
Liz continues to be our toddler educator and entertainer extraordinaire in virtual format, mesmerizing our tots with stories, games, songs, show and tell, and more. On a regular basis, Rabbi Ira Rohde joins in with his accordion to share Jewish songs and spirit. Follow our emails to sign up.

The Art of Torah: The Parasha and the World’s Greatest Paintings

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Weekly, until Pesah

Conference Call

This class is free, but make sure to register at shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah

Rabbi Soloveichik’s new series is not your ordinary parasha class - but rather a guided weekly tour through the most iconic biblical art, as seen through his eyes and expertise.

If you would like to sponsor a session, please go to shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah.

Weekly Debar Torah

Rabbi Ira Rohde | Wednesday | 7:00 pm
On Zoom | Refer to our emails for the link

Every Wednesday evening, Rabbi Ira delivers a debar torah on the weekly parasha. The written text of the debar torah is distributed in our Thursday newsletter.

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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
2020-2021 season sponsored by the
Julis-Rabinowitz family
Via Conference Call | 7:30 pm | Thursdays
or Fridays before Shabbat
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

More time at home (and sadly, less time at Synagogue) has enabled many more of us to enjoy Friday Night Lights beyond the “season.” Rabbi Soloveichik has masterfully continued his beloved Friday Night Lights lectures nonstop, via conference call, for hundreds of listeners each week. Now that Fridays have grown shorter, these wonderful talks will take place on Thursday nights. When Fridays are long enough, we may transition back to a Friday pre-Shabbat schedule.

Don’t forget to register at shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays!

VIRTUAL HASHCABA SERVICE AND MISHEBERAKH FOR THE ILL
Friday | Rev. Z. Edinger
On Zoom | Refer to our emails for the link and time

Our Shamash, Rev. Zachariah Edinger, will recite Hashkabot (memorial prayers) for those who had a nushuva this past week. We will also offer prayers for those who are ill. These prayers will be recited in the Main Sanctuary and will last about 5-10 minutes.

If you would like to add the name of someone who is ill, or would like more information, please email Z Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

VIRTUAL HABDALA SERVICE
Saturday Night | Rev. Z. Edinger
On Zoom | Refer to our emails for the link and time

You are invited to join in while Z. Edinger recites Habdala according to the S&Ps nusakh for his family. Habdala should be recited individually in one’s own home, but please join us if you wish to feel a part of this communal activity. These prayers will be recited slowly for any who wish to recite it together and learn our nusakh.

HESED IN TIMES OF CORONA

CARING CONNECTION
Caring Connection 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 “Smash the Stigma” panels on suicide and depression.

During these past months, Caring Connection has been instrumental in providing emotional and practical support to those in our community, from check-in calls to grocery shopping for those who are high-risk or under quarantine. If you would like to support their COVID-19 work with a donation, please do so at shearithisrael.org/support-cc.

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 like 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.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Listeners are invited to show their appreciation to Rabbi Soloveichik and our Congregation in the following ways:

SESSION SPONSOR | $250 Select the session(s) you wish to sponsor and if you like, dedicate the session(s) in honor or in memory of someone special. Session sponsors are announced at the beginning of the lecture, and are listed on that session’s source sheet, our website, and in the upcoming seasonal Bulletin.

CONTRIBUTOR | $100 Make a one-time contribution (as often as you like!). Contributors will be listed on our website and in the upcoming seasonal Bulletin.

1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION | $18 a MONTH Show your commitment with a convenient monthly subscription. Pay for the entire year or set up automatic monthly payments. Subscribers will also be listed on our website and in the upcoming seasonal bulletin.

Visit the webpage to register, sponsor, contribute, or subscribe.

VIRTUAL HABDALA SERVICE
Saturday Night | Rev. Z. Edinger
On Zoom | Refer to our emails for the link and time

You are invited to join in while Z. Edinger recites Habdala according to the S&P’s nusakh for his family. Habdala should be recited individually in one’s own home, but please join us if you wish to feel a part of this communal activity. These prayers will be recited slowly for any who wish to recite it together and learn our nusakh.

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 Hadid Va’Amot provides mourners and their family with their shiva 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 like 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.
Laury always had a nose for the lovely aroma of saffron from her mother’s kitchen and is happy to offer this recipe for the famously saffron-infused rice-based entree Paella, which retains the delicious aspects of the quintessentially Spanish dish while eschewing the non-kosher seafood elements.

By Laury Frieber

Paella

Laury Frieber has been a member of Shearith Israel for nearly thirty years and is the proud parent of twins, Reuben and Matea, who recently celebrated their B’nei Mitzvah at the synagogue. It is quite fitting that Laury found a home at the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue as she was actually born in Spain. Her father, a mechanical engineer who was talented at picking up languages, took a job there in the late 1950’s on a lark. At that time, the Inquisition laws restricting the practice of Judaism in Spain were actually still in place and Laury recalls her parents’ story of attending a secret Pesah seder where they had to give a special password through the peephole at the door to be admitted inside.

Ingridents:
- ½ teaspoon saffron, steeped in 3 tablespoons warm water
- 3-4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large yellow onion, very thinly sliced
- 2 red bell peppers, sliced into strips
- 2 large cloves minced garlic
- 1 ½ cups frozen green beans, thawed
- 28-oz. can diced Italian tomatoes with the juice
- 1 ½ teaspoons paprika
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 ½ cups Arborio rice
- 3 ½ cups vegetable broth
- ½ teaspoon salt or to taste
- 1 can artichoke hearts in water, quartered
- 1 cup frozen green peas, thawed
- 2 kosher sausages, sliced into round disks

Instructions
Heat olive oil over medium heat in a wide skillet and add onions and bell pepper, cook until just tender.
Add garlic, green beans, tomatoes and bay leaves. Cook, stirring frequently, for about 10 minutes.
Add the rice, broth, saffron infusion and salt. When adding the rice, push the vegetables aside and add 1/2 cup or so at a time so that the rice rests at the bottom of the pan and is covered by the liquid.
Bring to a boil and then simmer at medium low for 15 minutes. Do not stir the rice, but keep it covered with liquid, adding a bit more broth if necessary.
Distribute the peas, artichokes and sausage on top, cook for about 5 more minutes.
Turn off heat, cover and let steam for 10-15 minutes. Remove bay leaves and serve!

If you would like to submit a recipe for a future bulletin, or a review of a kosher cookbook or restaurant, send it to Tikva Ostrega at tikvaostrega@gmail.com. Please include a short backstory describing yourself and the food’s significance to you.
May 7th-8th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 7:41 pm
Saturday Minah & Arib ............................................. 7:40 pm
Saturday Sunset ..................................................... 8:00 pm
Habdalah .......................................................... 8:40 pm
Parashat Behah-Behulikothai .............................. Lev. 25:1-end
Haftarah: Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

May 14th-15th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 7:47 pm
Saturday Minah & Arib ............................................. 7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset ..................................................... 8:06 pm
Habdalah .......................................................... 8:47 pm
Parashat Bemidbar ................................................. Numbers 1:1-4:20
Haftarah: Hosea 2:1-22

May 21st-22nd
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 7:53 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Naso ......................................................... Numbers 4:21-7:89
Haftarah: Judges 13:2-25

May 28th-29th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 7:59 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Behalotketha ........................................... Numbers 8:11-12:16
Haftarah: Zachariah 2:14-4:7

June 4th-5th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:04 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Shelah Lekhah ........................................ Numbers 13:1-15:41
Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24

June 11th-12th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:09 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Korah ....................................................... Numbers 16:1-18:3
Haftarah I Samuel 11:14-12:22

June 18th-19th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:12 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Hukath ...................................................... Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah Judges 11:1-33

June 25th-26th
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:15 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Balak ......................................................... Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah: Micah 5:6-6:8

July 2nd-3rd
Shabbat Dibre
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:15 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Pinchas ................................................... Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah: Jeremiah 1:2-3

July 9th-10th
Shabbat Shimu-Rosh Hodesh Menahem Ab
Friday Evening Services ........................................... 6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ................................ 8:11 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service ....................... 8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service ......................... 9:30 am
Parashat Mattroth-Mase .......................................... Numbers 30:2-end
Haftarah: Jeremiah 2:4-28 and 4:1-2

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

July 20th-21st
Shabbat Hazon on Eve of the Fast of Ab
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:56 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Devarim
Haftarah, Isaiah 49:14-51:3
Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Shabbat Hazon refers to the opening "vision" of the Book of Isaiah, paralleling the opening prophetic visions of the book of Jeremiah read during the preceding two weeks. This is the last of the group of three haftarot read in special Three-Week cantillation. Shabbat Hazon always falls on the Shabbat preceding the Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab, but this year the 9th of Ab falls on Sunday, so the Saturday of Shabbat Hazon is the Eve of the Fast, which begins at sunset on Saturday Evening.

HOLIDAYS
Yom Ha’Shoah (Observed)
Holocaust Remembrance Day
Wednesday Evening, April 7th through Thursday, April 8th

Rosh Hodesh Iyar (Two-Day)
Monday, April 11th through Tuesday, April 12th & 13th

Yom Ha’Atzma’ut (Observed)
Israel Independence Day
Wednesday Evening, April 14th through Thursday, April 15th

— continued —

July 23rd-24th
Shabbat Nahamu
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:30 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Vaetchanan
Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11
Haftarah, Isaiah 55:6
Shabbat Nahamu, referring to Isaiah Chapter 40’s famous opening words “Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people.”

August 6th-7th
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:48 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Reeh
Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17
Saturday Minhah & Arbit ..................................7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset...........................................8:05 pm
Habdalah ...................................................8:45 pm

August 13th-14th
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:38 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Shofetim
Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12-52:12
Saturday Minhah, Arbit, & Selihot .........................7:40 pm
Saturday Sunset...........................................7:55 pm
Habdalah ...................................................8:34 pm

August 20th-21st
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:28 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Ki Tisee
Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10
Saturday Minhah, Arbit, & Selihot .........................7:30 pm
Saturday Sunset...........................................7:45 pm
Habdalah ...................................................8:23 pm

August 27th-28th
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:18 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Ki Tavo
Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-22
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot .........................7:20 pm
Saturday Sunset...........................................7:34 pm
Habdalah ...................................................8:12 pm

September 3rd-4th
1860 - 19th St. Consecration Anniversary
Friday Evening Services........................................6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............................7:06 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Parashah Nitsabim
Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot .........................7:05 pm
Saturday Sunset...........................................7:23 pm
Habdalah ...................................................7:59 pm

LAG LA’OMER
1897-70th Street Consecration Anniversary
Thursday Evening, April 29th through Friday, April 30th

YOM YERUSHALAYIM
Jerusalem Reunification Day
Sunday Evening, May 9th through Monday, May 10th

ROSCH HODESH SIVAN (ONE-DAY)
Tuesday Evening, May 11th through Wednesday, May 12th

EVE OF THE FIRST DAY OF SHABUOT
Sunday, May 16th - Tuesday, May 18th

SHABUOT FESTIVAL
(Two-Day Observance)
PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS
Sunday, May 23rd

SAMHAYIM
Two-Day Observance

First Day of Shabuot Morning
1834 - Crosby St. Consecration Anniversary
Monday Morning, May 17th

Monday Morning Outside Service .................8:45 am
Monday Morning Inside Services .................9:30 am
Torah Readings ........................................Exodus 19:1-20:23
(Exegetical comments) & Num. 28:26-31
Habdalah ...................................................6:30 pm
Girls’ Reading Book of Ruth .........................11:00 am-12:00 pm

— continued —
Tuesday Evening, May 18th
Tuesday Morning, May 18th
Monday Evening, May 17th

advance of the festival. The girls will read their portions to take part, or their parents, should please contact the cantillation system for the Book of Ruth. Girls wishing according to the congregation's unique traditional which they carefully rehearse, learning to chant them as acceptance of the Torah, in this case by Ruth as a is traditionally read on Shabuot, The Book of Ruth and traditionally commemorates the Revelation at Sinai between the beginnings of the barley and wheat harvests, Shabuot, The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost concluding the first week of the Omer, it is held early at 3:30 pm, so that all may go home to eat their Third Meal at suppertime and begin their fast by sunset (8:25), concluding Sabbath (at 9:07 by reciting “barukh hamabdil ben kodesh lehol”) and returning to the synagogue for the Motza’e Shabbat/Fast of Ab Arbit Service, which is called for 9:25 pm. The service begins on this occasion with the hazzan reciting the blessing “bore me’ore ha’esh.” On Sunday evening, the fast is concluded with habdalah over a cup of wine, without spices and without a candle.

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

The Book of Ruth is traditionally read on Shabuot, since it deals with both the Israelite grain harvest at this time of year, which this festival marks, as well as acceptance of the Torah, in this case by Ruth as a faithful convert. The younger girls of the congregation who take part are pre-assigned a few verses each, which they carefully rehearse, learning to chant them according to the congregation’s unique traditional cantillation system for the Book of Ruth. Girls wishing to take part, or their parents, should please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde (Birohde-Cs@yahoo.com) well in advance of the festival. The girls will read their portions at the end of Sunday Morning Services at 11:00 am.

The poem is chanted by the men and boys of the congregation to the Spanish & Portuguese traditional Shabuot melody in round-robin style, with each participant leading two lines at a time.

Memorial Day Legal Holiday
Monday, May 31st Morning Service (Shahrit) 8:00 am

Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab Tisha BeAb
Eve of the Fast, Saturday Eve, July 17th Morning Service 8:00 am
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Menahem Ab (One-Day) Friday Evening, July 9th through Saturday July 10th (Follows Shabbat Schedule)

Fast of the Seventeenth of Tammuz Shib’a a’asar BeTammuz Sunday, June 27th Dawn (Fast Begins) 3:38 am
Sunrise 5:27 am
Morning Service (Shahrit) 8:00 am
Minhah (men wear tefillin) 7:45 pm
Sunset 8:31 pm
End of Fast 8:59 pm
The Fast of Tammuz commemorates the breach of the city walls of Jerusalem and the destruction of the first Ten Commandments Tablets following the sin of the Golden Calf.

American Independence Day Fourth of July (Legal Holiday) Sunday, July 4th Morning Service (Shahrit) 8:00 am

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Menahem Ab (One-Day) Friday Evening, July 9th through Saturday July 10th (Follows Shabbat Schedule)

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Saturday Evening, August 7th through Sunday & Monday, August 8th & 9th Saturday Eve Minhah & Arbit 7:15 pm
Sunday Morn Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf 8:00 am
Sunday Eve Minhah & Arbit 6:30 pm
Monday Morn Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf 7:15 am
Monday Eve Minhah, Arbit & *Selihot 6:30 pm
*Selihot: Weeknights from Aug. 9th-Sep. 13th. During the month before the High Holy Days, Sephardim add the special penitential Selihot Prayers. Our congregation’s custom is to recite an abridged version daily after Arbit beginning on the Eve of the 2nd of Elul, Monday Evening, August 9th.

DAILY SERVICES
Mornings: Sundays & Legal Holidays Shahrit 8:00 am
Mondays & Thursdays Shahrit 7:15 am
Minor Jewish Holidays Shahrit 7:15 am
No Regular Shahrit Minyanim on Other Days except by Special Request

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:
March 14th-June 3rd, Minhah & Arbit 6:30 pm
June 6th-July 22nd, Minhah & Arbit 6:45 pm
July 25th-Aug. 8th, Minhah & Arbit 6:30 pm
Aug 9th-Sep 13th, Minhah Arbit *Selihot 6:30 pm
*Selihot: from Aug. 9th-Sep. 13th, during the month before the High Holy Days, Sephardim add the special penitential Selihot Prayers. Our congregation’s custom is to recite an abridged version daily after Arbit, from the Eve of the 2nd of Elul, Monday Evening, August 9th, and continuing every night until Sep. 13th, excluding Friday nights and the Eve of Rosh HaShanah.

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Rosh Hashanah
Mon. Eve., Sep. 6th through Tue. & Wed., Sep. 7th & 8th

Shabbat Teshubah
Fri. Eve., Sep. 10th through Sat. Sep. 11th

Yom Kippur
Wed. Eve., Sep. 15th through Thu., Sep. 16th

First Two Days of Succot
Mon. Eve., Sep. 20th through Tue. & Wed., Sep. 21st & 22nd

Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot
Fri. Eve., Sep. 24th through Sat. Sep. 25th

Shemini Hag Atseret
Mon. Eve., Sep. 27th through Tue. Sep. 28th

Simhat Torah
Tue. Eve., Sep. 28th through Wed., Sep. 29th
Shabbat Bereishit (Shabbat Hatanim), 5782
Fri. Eve., Oct. 1st through Sat. Oct. 2nd

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.

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
The Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund is a charitable arm of our congregation. These funds are designated by our rabbi for members in need, communities in crisis, and important causes nearby and in Israel. A special Coronavirus Relief Fund has been formed as part of the overall Discretionary Fund, and can be donated to directly at shearithisrael.org/covid-hesed.

CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS
Even more than before the pandemic, with the benefit of virtual technology, Shearith Israel has firmly established itself around the globe as a go-to destination for intellectual and spiritual stimulation. Help ensure our depth and reach by sponsoring a virtual class, a lecture series, Morning Zoom Learning, or sponsor, contribute, and subscribe to Friday Night Lights...Now on Thursdays.

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, and grocery shopping for those in quarantine. 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 – and more than ever – 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.
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.
JOIN OUR EMAIL LISTS

_Don’t Miss an Update_

Sign up for any or all of our email lists! In this time of social distancing, keeping up with our latest programming via email is the best way to be sure you won’t miss anything! Visit shearthisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists

JOIN US FOR MINYAN

Become one of our elite team of Minyan-Makers, who have ensured that we maintain continual weekly services during this time. If you’d like to commit to a daily minyan (even one day a week can make a big difference!), contact Rev. Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

STAY CONNECTED

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

*Share your experience*

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](http://www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc).