



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023

SPRING -  
SUMMER  
2021

אביב/קיץ תשפ"א

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



The Bulletin

*America's First Jewish Congregation*

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We expect that many of our programs will continue to be held virtually through the Spring/Summer. For prayer services, we offer indoor and outdoor (weather permitting) options in accordance with strict COVID safety measures and will continue for as long as the authorities and our COVID Working Group recommend we do so. As we are still in the midst of uncertainty, times, programs and venues are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please follow our emails and visit [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org).

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

### COUNTING DAYS AND GENERATIONS

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



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.

*Meir Y. Soloveichik*

# 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.

In Judaism, the importance of the number ten is never far from us. Now is the season for observing the festival of Passover, the holiday commemorating our birth as a Nation. Combining episodes found in several *parshiot* leading up to the Passover story, including *Vaera* and *Bo*, we read about the ten plagues that befell the Egyptians. By then, the Israelites had been enslaved in Egypt for close to 210 years. Slavery devolved to infanticide and threatened ethnic cleansing, and the Almighty, through the human agency of Moses, stepped in. The ten plagues visited upon the Egyptians are fundamental to the story and play a central role in our

Haggadah (not only the book but what we call the Seder on Pesah night).

Throughout that Torah's narrative (indeed, starting even earlier than *Vaera*), we are told that Pharaoh's heart was hardened, sometimes by the Almighty and sometimes, so far as the text suggests, by Pharaoh himself. The Torah tells us that this hardening of heart was one of the reasons Pharaoh would not let Israel leave servitude and Egypt. We are told about that heart hardening exactly ten times in Exodus, by my count. So that is another number ten, different from the number of plagues, since heart-hardening precedes the plagues and does not occur in each plague. Shortly after this, we have another "ten" – perhaps the most famous ten in all of civilization's history, the Ten Commandments.

Are there as many as 10 repetitions of actual events elsewhere in the Torah? A candidate might be the number of times the Israelites complain during their 40-year wandering in the wilderness. But I'm not going to count those. The short point is that there surely aren't many instances of so much emphasis being placed on a fact as there are

on Pharaoh's hardened heart. The Talmud teaches that number of repetitions matters in gauging the importance of a biblical edict or interdiction. At ten, the point being made in the discussion of the plagues must be profound.

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.) I cannot begin to add to what our Sages and thinkers have said about free will in this context.

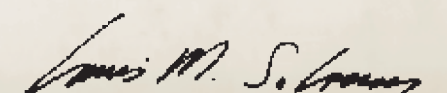
Instead, what I humbly wish to observe derives from a powerful thought in Rabbi Rohde's *debar torah* on *Parashat Bo*. My thought is that, every time Pharaoh's heart hardened to a point where he refused to permit the Israelites freedom when he otherwise would have let them go—in each such case, not only did the Egyptians suffer from yet another plague; the Israelites, too, suffered. Their bondage continued, with all the difficulties and travail 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 Egyptians, Israelites, and indeed the whole world a lesson, but that lesson fell hard on 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](https://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 Lsimha, and Hag Kasher V'sameah.





A



B



C



## AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL

ABOVE: Professional baker Allaya Fleischer displaying the homemade Sephardic Purim treats after her virtual tutorial class

**A. Matea and Reuben Frieber preserving Shearith Israel's Thanksgiving traditions, drinking hot cocoa while watching Rabbi Soloveichik's livestreamed Thanksgiving Address**

**B. Our youngest ones continue to enjoy the special musical appearances from Rabbi Rohde on Toddler Zoom**

**C. Artists of all ages enjoying Virtual Paint Night with professional artist Rena Maryles**

# 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.

Barbara Reiss



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Shawn Canter  
Lucas Drill  
Dr. Elon Granader  
Barbara Guss

## CONGRATULATIONS

***Mazal Tob to:***

Cecil 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 his 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 great grandson, born to their grandchildren, Carly and Sammy Schreiber Rausch.  
  
Aviva and Marvin Sussman, upon 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, Shelomo 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.

## 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, Greta Brun-Kestler.

Ivy Schildkraut, upon the passing of her mother, Herminia Medel.

Dr. Lu Steinberg, upon the passing of her father, Milton Steinberg.

## 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](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).



### 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 זוסף, on the occasion of his *nahala*

Cindy Trop and Stuart Ellman

Faith Fogelman, in memory of her mother, Miriam Watkin

Philippa Newfield and Phillip Gordon, in honor of their new great niece Menucha Rochel 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, אסתר ביילע בת רב מאיר ברוך הכהן

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

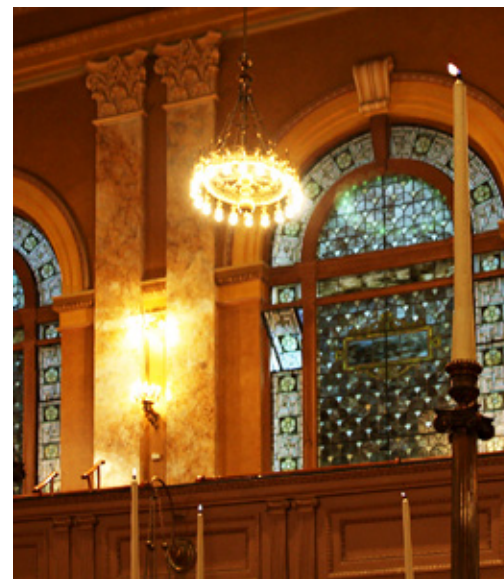
Carol and Ira Morrow, Frieda Klaperman, and Renee and Joel Klaperman, in memory of Rabbi Dr. Gilbert Klaperman, HaRav Gedaliah b. Elazar HaKohen

Hedda Rudoff, Sara and Ira Olshin, 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"l, 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:

(New subscribers and contributors listed here; full list can be found at [shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays](http://shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays))

Marjorie Diener Blender

Robert Sidi

#### Contributors:

Anonymous

Anna Aronoitch

Carol Kitzes 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 Schlusberg

Seymour Schulman

Ellen Altman Shaffren

Sarah Stambler and Shlomo Bar-Ayal

Rhona Meisels Vandelman

Lou Weiss

Weiss Family

Miki and Michael Wieder

Robert Wolfson

## Rabbi Soloveichik's *The Art of Torah* Series:

Anonymous

Anonymous, in honor of Aviva and Marvin Sussman, 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 *nahalot* 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 Ya'akov, on her *nahala*

David Marks, in memory of his father, Ya'akov 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 Tob to the first-time grandparents, Helene and Ze'ev Saban. Mazal tob to the great-grandmothers Messody Ohayon, Edith Rieder, and Cyla Wiesen.

Susan and Mark Wiesen, in honor of their granddaughter, Nili Tziona Wiesen, of Efrat, Israel, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

**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](mailto:srosenberg@shearithisrael.org) so we can share the news in our handouts and bulletins.



## 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](https://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists).

# HOLIDAYS

## 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.

### 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](mailto:irohde@shearithisrael.org).



## 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 [lrohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrohde-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.



# SPECIAL EVENTS



### 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 Meninger.

‘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 harmonic 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](http://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.



# WEEKLY JEWISH EDUCATION



Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander



Rev. Z. Edinger



Rabbi Ira Rohde

## 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@flatironre.com](mailto:sjimon@flatironre.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 Eliyahu Ben Haim and from Yeshiva University. He teaches Jewish literature at Hunter College. In addition, he does research on Islam's perception of Judaism and writes online articles in Arabic explaining Judaism to a Muslim audience.

## 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](mailto: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.



Liz Rios

## 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](https://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](https://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.

— continued —



## 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](https://shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays)!**

## 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.

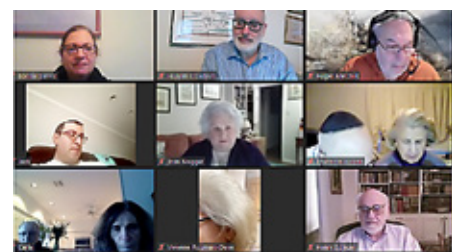
## VIRTUAL HASHCABA SERVICE AND MISHEBERAKH FOR THE ILL

Friday | Rev. Z. Edinger

**On Zoom | Refer to our emails for the link and time**

Our Shamash, Rev. Zachariah Edinger, will recite *Hashcabot* (memorial prayers) for those who had a *nahala* 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](mailto: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&P *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](https://shearithisrael.org/support-cc).

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

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



### MEALS FOR MOURNERS AND NEW PARENTS

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

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

If you would prefer to cook and deliver your own home-cooked meals, or place food orders on your own rather than participate in *Caring Connection's* fund, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at [layaliza@gmail.com](mailto: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.



# PAELLA

by Laury Frieber

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.

*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](mailto:tikvaostrega@gmail.com). Please include a short backstory describing yourself and the food's significance to you.*

## CULINARY CORNER

### Ingredients:

- 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 cut 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 a 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!



**SERVICE TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE** Follow our emails to get the latest changes: [shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists](http://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists).

For our policies on attending services safely, please visit [shearithisrael.org/outdoor-minyan](http://shearithisrael.org/outdoor-minyan).

## SERVICES

### SHABBAT SERVICES

(All Service Times Subject to Change)

#### April 9th-10th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:11 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Shemini .....	Leviticus 9:1-11:47
Haftarah: II Samuel 6:1-19	
Bar Mitzvah .....	Jacob Yamen
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:15 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	7:30 pm
Habdalah .....	8:08 pm

#### April 16th-17th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:19 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Tazria-Metzora .....	Leviticus 12:1-15:33
Haftarah: II Kings 7:3-20	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:20 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	7:38 pm
Habdalah .....	8:16 pm

#### April 23rd-24th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:26 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Ahare Moth-Kedoshim	
Lev. 16:1-20:27	
Haftarah: Ezekiel 20:2-20	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:30 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	7:45 pm
Habdalah .....	8:24 pm

— continued —

April 30th-May 1st

1897-70th Street Consecration Anniversary

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:33 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Emor .....	Lev. 21:1-24:23
Haftarah: Ezekiel 44:15-31	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:35 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	7:52 pm
Habdalah .....	8:32 pm

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

May 7th-8th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:41 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Behar-Behukkothai .....	Lev. 25:1-end
Haftarah: Jeremiah 16:19-17:14	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:45 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:00 pm
Habdalah .....	8:40 pm

May 14th-15th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	7:47 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:30 am
Parashat Bemidbar .....	Numbers 1:1-4:20
Haftarah: Hosea 2:1-22	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:06 pm
Habdalah .....	8:47 pm

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	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	7:55 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:12 pm
Habdalah .....	8:54 pm

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 Behaalotekha .....	Numbers 8:1-12:16
Haftarah: Zachariah 2:14-4:7	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:18 pm
Habdalah .....	9:00 pm

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 Lekha .....	Numbers 13:1-15:41
Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:23 pm
Habdalah .....	9:05 pm

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 Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Korah .....	Numbers 16:1-18:3
Haftarah I Samuel 11:14-12:22	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:10 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:27 pm
Habdalah .....	9:09 pm

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 Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Hukkath .....	Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah Judges 11:1-33	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:15 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:30 pm
Habdalah .....	9:12 pm

June 25th-26th

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Balak .....	Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah: Micah 5:6-6:8	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:15 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:31 pm
Habdalah .....	9:13 pm

July 2nd-3rd

Shabbat Dibre

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset) .....	8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Pinehas .....	Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah: Jeremiah 1:1-2:3	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:15 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:31 pm
Habdalah .....	9:13 pm

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

July 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 Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Mattoth-Mase .....	Numbers 30:2-end
Haftarah: Jeremiah 2:4-28 and 4:1-2	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:27 pm
Habdalah .....	9:09 pm

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

July 20th-21st

Shabbat Hazon on Eve of the Fast of Ab

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:08 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Debarim.....	Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Haftarah, Isaiah 1:1-27 .....	Rabbi Ira Rohde
Saturday Afternoon Minhah .....	3:30 pm
Sat. Sunset (Fast Begins).....	8:25 pm
End of Shabbat.....	9:07 pm
Eve of Fast Arbit Service.....	9:25 pm

**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 haftaroth read in the 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.

July 23rd-24th

Shabbat Nahamu

Friday Evening Services .....	6:45 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:03 pm
Saturday Morning Outside Service .....	8:45 am
Saturday Morning Inside Services .....	9:30 am
Parashat Vaethanan.....	Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11
Haftarah, Isaiah 40:1-26	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:20 pm
Habdalah.....	9:01 pm

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

July 30th-31st

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
Parashat Ekeb .....	Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25
Haftarah, Isaiah 49:14-51:3	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	7:55 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	8:13 pm
Habdalah.....	8:54 pm

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
Parashat Reeh .....	Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17
Haftarah: .....	Isaiah 54:11-55:5; I Samuel 20:18&42
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
Parashat 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
Parashat Ki Tetse.....	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
Parashat Ki Tabo .....	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
Parashat 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

HOLIDAYS

Yom HaShoah (Observed)  
Holocaust Remembrance Day

Wednesday Evening, April 7th  
through Thursday, April 8th

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

Sun., Mon. Tue. Evening Services .....	6:30 pm
Mon. Morning Shahrit Hallel, Musaf.....	7:15 am
Tue. Morning Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf.....	7:15 am

Yom Ha`Atzma`ut (Observed)  
Israeli Independence Day

Wednesday Evening, April 14th  
through Thursday, April 15th

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

Rosh Hodesh Sivan (One-Day)  
Tuesday Evening, May 11th  
through Wednesday, May 12th

Tue. & Wed. Evening Services .....	6:30 pm
Wed. Morning Shahrit Hallel, Musaf .....	7:15 am

SHABUOT FESTIVAL  
(Two-Day Observance)

PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS  
Sunday Eve, May 16th - Tuesday, May 18th  
Eve of the First Day of Shabuot

Sunday Evening, May 16th	
Minhah & Arbit.....	7:45 pm
Eve of First Day Candle Lighting.....	7:49 pm
Sunday Sunset .....	8:07 pm
Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class.....	11:00 pm

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
(The Ten Commandments) & Num. 28:26-31	
Haftarah .....	Ezekiel 1:1-28 & 3:12
Girls’ Reading Book of Ruth.....	11:00 am-12:00 pm

SHABUOT FESTIVAL (CONT'D)

*Eve of the Second Day of Shabuot*  
**Monday Evening, May 17th**  
 Reading Intro & 1st Part of Azharot .....7:15 pm  
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....7:45 pm  
 Monday Evening Sunset .....8:08 pm  
 Eve of 2nd Day Candle Lighting .....after 8:34 pm

*Second Day of Shabuot Morning*  
**Tuesday Morning, May 18th**  
 Tuesday Morning Outside Service ..... 8:45 am  
 Tuesday Morning Inside Services ..... 9:30 am

*Second Day of Shabuot Conclusion*  
**Tuesday Evening, May 18th**  
 Reading 2nd Part of Azharot .....7:15 pm  
 Minhah & Arbit.....7:45 pm  
 Monday Evening Sunset .....8:11 pm  
 Monday Evening Habdalah .....8:38 pm

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

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

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

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

**Rosh Hodesh Tammuz (Two-Day)**  
**Wednesday Evening, June 9th through Thursday & Friday, June 10th & 11th**  
 Wed. & Thu. Evening Services .....6:45 pm  
 Thu. Morning Shahrit Hallel, Musaf ..... 7:15 am  
 Fri. Morning Shahrit Hallel, Musaf ..... 7:15 am

**Fast of (the Seventeenth of) Tammuz**  
**Shib`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)

**Fast of (the 9th of) Ab**  
**Tisha BeAb**  
**Eve of the Fast, Saturday Eve, July 17th**  
 Saturday Afternoon Minhah .....3:30 pm  
 Saturday Evening Sunset (Fast Begins).....8:25 pm  
 End of Shabbat.....9:07 pm  
 Eve of the Fast Arbit Service.....9:25 pm

**Tish`a BeAb Day, Sunday, July 18th**  
 Morning Service..... 8:00 am  
 Sunday Minhah & Arbit.....7:45 pm  
 Sunday Evening Sunset .....8:24 pm  
 End of Fast & Habdalah (wine only) .....8:51 pm

**The Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab**, three weeks after the Fast of Tammuz, commemorates the breaching of the Temple Mount fortifications and the dates of destruction of both the First and Second Temples. This year the 9th day of the Month of Ab falls on Sunday, with the Eve of the Fast falling on Shabbat Hazon. Saturday afternoon Minhah is held early at 3:30 pm, so that all may go home to eat their Third Meal at suppertime and begin their fast by sunset (8:25), 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.

**Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)**  
**Saturday Evening, August 7th through Sunday & Monday, August 8th & 9th**  
 Saturday Eve Minhah & Arbit.....7:50 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** Minha 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.

## 5782/2021 FALL HOLIDAY PREVIEW

### 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

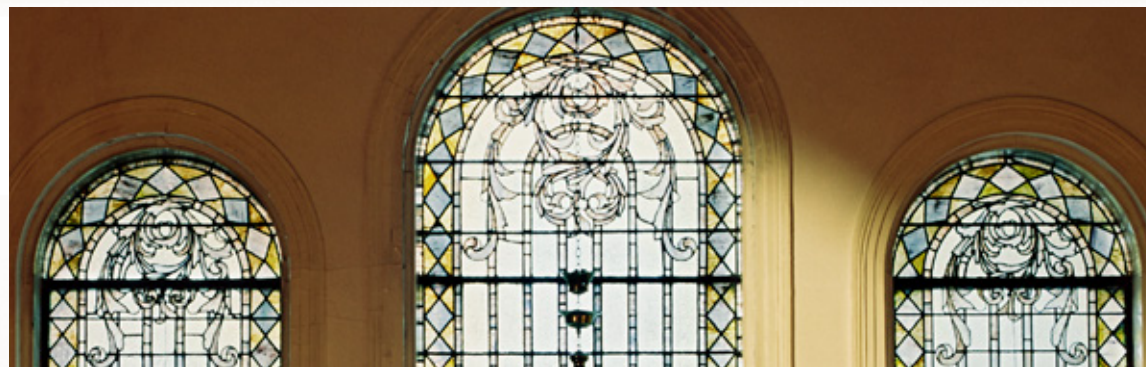
Mon. Eve., Sep. 27th through Tue. Sep. 28th

### Simhat Torah

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



# 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.

## 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](https://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](https://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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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Michael P. Lustig, Segan  
Dr. Victoria R. Bengualid  
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Michael Katz  
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Peter Neustadter, Honorary Parnas  
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David Sable  
Oliver Stanton  
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Alvin Deutsch, Honorary Parnas  
Arthur A. Goldberg  
Jonathan de Sola Mendes  
L. Gilles Sion  
Ralph J. Sutton  
Roy J. Zuckerberg

## GENERAL INQUIRIES

**T:** 212-873-0300 | **F:** 815-301-3820  
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Lifecycle and Pastoral Matters  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik** 212-873-0300 x206  
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Funeral Arrangements  
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zedinger@shearithisrael.org

Taharat Hamishpakha (Jewish Family Law)  
**Shiffy Friedman**, Yoetzet Halakha  
nycyoetzet@gmail.com, 646-598-1080

## 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.



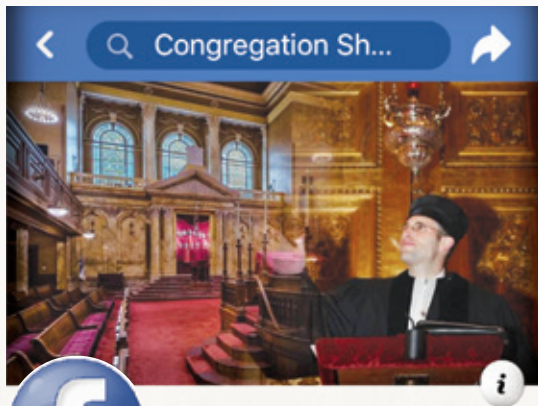


## JOIN OUR EMAIL LISTS

### *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 [shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists](https://shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists)

## 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](https://www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc).

## 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](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).

