



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023



*August 17, 1829 was the consecration  
of the congregation's third extant burial  
ground, the West 21st Street Cemetery,  
which was used until 1851.*

SUMMER  
2016

קיץ תשע"ו

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



1. From the Rabbi's Desk
2. Executive Director's Message
4. Announcements
7. Lectures and Special Events
9. A Reflection on HerringFest!
10. Women at Shearith Israel
11. Youth Programming
13. Culinary Corner
14. Services
20. Help Make It All Happen
22. Staff
24. Get Involved

# CONTENTS

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

### HONEY AT YAD MORDECHAI: A SHORT NOTE FROM ISRAEL

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik

*These words were written during Shearith Israel's trip to Israel over Pesah 5776.*



Today, several families from our synagogue visited Kibbutz Yad Mordechai. A central battle site in the Israeli War of Independence, the kibbutz is named for Mordechai Anielewicz, the leader of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt, and contains a museum with an extraordinary model of the Ghetto. At the same time, Yad Mordechai is now the largest producer of honey in the State of Israel. Our visit thus included what might seem several unrelated and incongruous experiences: visiting trenches defended by Israelis in 1948, studying the story of the Ghetto revolt, and learning about the science and art of raising bees and of producing various delicious forms of honey. Yet as our bus pulled away, I realized that these moments at the kibbutz actually complemented each other in an extraordinary way.

One of the few biblical stories involving bee honey takes place in the book of Judges, or *Shoftim*. The book describes how Samson, known for his superhuman strength, once succeeded in killing a lion with his bare hands. Later, we are told, Samson came upon the carcass of this lion, and saw that bees had built a honey hive within the carcass. Death teeming with life. He scooped up the honey, and as he ate, he pondered the

phenomenon he had found, and coined a riddle to describe what he had seen *mei-az yatsa matok*: from the fierce came forth the sweet. When we consider Samson's words, we realize that they capture the story of our people. Lion after lion, savage civilization after savage civilization, attempted to devour us, but even as each ended up on the ash heap of history, our ancestors resisted, rebuilt, and like bees, made hives in the forms of Jewish homes, and savored what was truly sweet: faith, family, and posterity.

Tasting honey at this kibbutz, then, perfectly captured our experience over this holiday. Many decades after the Warsaw Ghetto Revolt and the Israeli War of Independence, Jews in Israel must still battle fiercely for their safety and security. Yet to experience Israel is to be struck so often not by the fierce, but rather by the sweet, and perhaps most of all at this time of year, when one witnesses Jews of every background, from this country and around the world, filling the synagogues, parks and streets throughout the land, celebrating Pesah, the festival of our freedom, in an overwhelming experience of faith, family, nationhood and love. *Mei-az yatsa matok*, indeed.

*Meir Y. Soloveichik*



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## SYNAGOGUE SECURITY IN AN INSECURE WORLD

Barbara Reiss



We recently hosted Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, at an elegant and sold-out Shabbat luncheon. The Chief Rabbi engaged in a dialog with Rabbi Soloveichik on the question: Is there a Future for Jews in Europe?

Sadly, we have become accustomed to hearing of anti-Semitic incidents, some of them on horrific scales, in France, Belgium, Denmark, and elsewhere in Europe. With major incidents of Islamist terrorism, a growing and increasingly aggressive BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions) movement against Israel and her supporters, and heightened feelings of insecurity, some of us are asking about the future for Jews in America.

I am not suggesting that sizeable numbers of Jews are leaving the US (to the contrary, we have seen a sizeable uptick, for example, of French Jews immigrating to our shores) or that there is a sense of imminent peril. However, our community is most certainly grappling with implementing the right kinds of security measures that will keep us safe without converting our synagogues into unwelcoming fortresses. While the stakes are high, the solutions are not simple. Here in NY, each community determines what their

risks and vulnerabilities are. Then, with the aid of security professionals and borrowing some of the tried and true approaches from our more experienced counterparts in Europe and Israel, each community comes up with a plan that may involve structural and procedural enhancements, personnel modifications, and roles for volunteers.

In light of the security environment we are all adjusting to, we thought now would be an opportune time to tell you about some of the security enhancements we have implemented at Shearith Israel, much of which is invisible or barely discernible to you but should make an important difference:

### 1) New and improved security personnel

The summer before last we made the decision to switch security firms. We retained a firm that is highly regarded and has contracts with the Israeli consulate as well as other prominent area synagogues and day schools. We have been very pleased with the markedly improved professionalism of this firm.

### 2) Emergency preparedness training

Thanks to a substantial grant awarded to us by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, last summer our entire full time staff, including our clergy, administrative staff, facilities crew,

and toddler program team underwent an intensive training program customized for and delivered to us by Gleis Security Consulting, LLC. During this training we learned how to identify and mitigate risks, and were taught protocols for a range of critical incidents. Gleis Security also created a customized emergency manual for us and helped us identify safe rooms, lock down procedures and evacuation routes in the case, God forbid, of a disaster or critical incident.

### 3) Facility improvements

The bulk of the Homeland Security grant has enabled us to replace our CCTV security cameras and surveillance and security devices with state-of-the-art equipment. Our new emergency alert system activates blue strobe lights throughout strategic sites in the building and alerts police and security of a potential crisis. The surveillance equipment allows our staff to monitor our facility and the surrounding vicinity from multiple internal stations as well as remotely by smartphone.

We pray and hope that all of these measures serve as insurance and are not needed for an actual event. We also pray and hope for the safety and serenity of our fellow Jews and all peace loving people everywhere.

"...we learned how to identify and mitigate risks, and were taught protocols for a range of critical incidents."



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## CONGRATULATIONS

### *Mazal Tob to:*

Avi Cohen on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Nicole and David Cohen and to his grandparents, Naomi and Bentsi Cohen.

Jake Cohen on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Nicole and David Cohen and to his grandparents, Naomi and Bentsi Cohen.

Rachel Freilich on becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Rachel is the daughter of Drs. Stephanie and Jonathan Freilich, and the granddaughter of Estelle and Dr. Dennis Freilich.

Anne and Natalio Fridman on the birth of a granddaughter to their children, Gabby and David Fridman.

Our Yoetzet Halakha, Ilana Gadish and her husband Moshe Peters, on the birth of a daughter, Lila Pnina.

Leah Hurwich on her marriage to Eitan Adler. Leah is the daughter of Dr. Meryl Jaffe and Adam Hurwich. Eitan Adler is the nephew of Susan Neumark. Congratulations to the Hurwich and Adler families.

Gabriel Lipschutz on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Cecilia Michelson and Eduardo Lipschutz.

Tikva and Irwin Ostrega on the birth of a nephew, born to Hilary and Zion Shohet.

Benjamin Samborik on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Anna and Guennadi Samborik.

Carrie and Jeremy Schein on the recent birth of a son, Beckett Solomon (Shelomo). Congratulations to proud grandparents, Carla and Jonah Schein.

Judith and Joel Schreiber on the birth of a great-grandson to their grandchildren, Blima and Ben Weintraub.

Anna and Dov Zigler on the birth of a daughter, Sophia Ayalah Tziporah.

## HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

### *Special Achievements:*

Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm who was honored at the MJE annual dinner.

To our women's Megillat Esther readers: Jennifer Ash, Elizabeth Aufzien, Michelle Aufzien, Vicki Bengualid, Beth Goldman, Devorah Goldstein, Annette Gourgey, Ariel Haberman, Esther Hidary, Marjorie Lehman, Julia Levi, Rachael Meisels, Liz Ninyo, Lisa Rohde, Lina Sion, Lia Solomon, Layaliza Soloveichik, Suzanne Stern, and Julie Walpert.

To our Teen Girls' Shir Hashirim readers in New York: Yaara Kaplan, Elizabeth Corre, and Julia Levi.

To our Teen Girls' Shir Hashirim readers in Israel: Maayan Felig, Aliza Freilich, Naomi Freilich, Hadas Halevy, Tess Avital Solomon, and Lia Adielle Solomon.

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Terry Kassel and Paul Singer  
Anna and Dov Zigler

## CONDOLENCES

### *We extend sincere condolences to:*

Arlene Menachem on the passing of her brother, Mark Menachem.

Mitchell Presser on the passing of his mother, Rhoda Presser.

Gale Spira, on the passing of her brother, Philip (Feivy) Fuchs.

Rivka Wiznia on the passing of both her grandmothers, Selma Halper and Bertha Shoulson.

## IN APPRECIATION

Clifford and Minna Felig for sponsoring the Shir Hashirim reading.

Arthur and Joel Tenenholtz for sponsoring our Purim morning breakfast in memory of their father, Benjamin.

## Lecture/Class Sponsors:

Carol and Jeffrey Kaufman for sponsoring Rabbi Soloveichik's Tuesday Night Talmud classes.

Debbie and David Sable for sponsoring Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Hagadol Derasha in memory of Ambassador Yehuda Avner, author of *The Prime Ministers: An Intimate Narrative of Israeli Leadership* and *The Ambassador*, a novel, on the occasion of his first *nahala*.

Lester Schwalb for sponsoring a Tuesday Night Talmud class, in loving devotion to his wife Peggy.

Scott Shay for sponsoring Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon class in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik.

Cindy Trop for sponsoring Rabbi Soloveichik's women's class in memory of her father, Melech bar Ben Zion on the occasion of his 12th *yahrzeit*

## Kiddush Fund Sponsors:

Rae and Paul Beispeil in memory of Semah Franco and of Gabriel Aaron Franco.

Norman Benzaquen in memory of Maimun Olivar.

Doina and Dr. Lawrence Bryskin in memory of Doina's mother, Hermina Levi, on the occasion of her *yahrzeit* and in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik.

Nicole and David Cohen in honor of Avi and Jake becoming Benei Mitzvah.

The Julis family in memory of Maurice R. Julis.

Cecilia Michelson and the Shoshany Family in honor of Gabriel Lipschutz's bar mitzvah.

Anna and Guennadi Samborik in honor of Benjamin's Bar Mitzvah.

— continued —



### Kiddush Fund Contributors:

Anonymous in honor of the girl readers of Shir Hashirim

Carol and Alan Schechter in memory of Carol's father, Martin Dicker, Matityahu b. Koppel.

### Scotch and Arak Sponsors:

David Sable for sponsoring scotch and bourbon in honor of Shabbat Hagadol

### Young Families/Couples Mexican Fiesta Shabbat Luncheon

#### Sponsors

Jodie Steinway and Ari Sherizen

Dr. Rivka and Marc Wiznia

#### Supporters

Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman

Roberta De Oliveira and Nicholas Garo

### HerringFest!

#### Sponsors

Anonymous

Elias Buchwald

David P. Goldman

E.B. Cohen Insurance & Risk Management

Susan and Norman B. Javitt

Flaum Appetizing, Les Erber

Stephen Neuwirth

Susan and Marlon Portes

Pamela and George Rohr

Susan and Meyer Solny

The Solomon Family

Anna and Dov Zigler

### Professor Joseph Angel Lecture:

Kathryn Wallach

### Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis Luncheon

#### Underwriters

Anna and Dov Zigler and the Zigler and Schechter Families in honor of the birth of Sophia Ayalah Tziporah

Susan Wexner

#### Sponsors

Vivien and Muk Eisenmann

Alene Schneierson and Morris Krimolovsky

Jane and Reuben Leibowitz

The Solomon Family

#### Supporters

Lolly and Hertzie Bak

Ruth and Lawrence Kobrin

#### Contributor

David J. Nathan

### Baseball Game with Rabbi Hidary

#### Underwriter

John Lewin

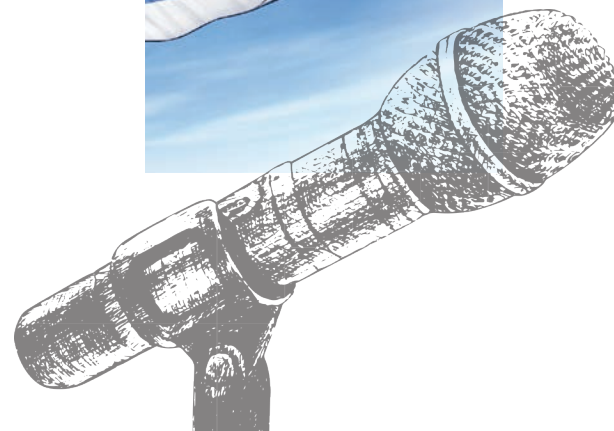
### Pre-Pesah Shabbat Dinner

Karen and Jack Daar

The Neumark Family

The Solomon Family

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



### YOM YERUSHALAYIM

**Sunday Morning, June 5**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

Following morning services, Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a special shiur in honor of Yom Yerushalayim.

### SHABU'OT PUBLIC LECTURE

**Saturday Night, June 11 | 11:30 pm**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a special public lecture entitled "The Top 10 Misunderstood words in Tanakh." After the talk, guests are encouraged to enjoy some cheesecake!

### THREE WEEKS SERIES: ALLEGORY, PHILOSOPHY, AND MYSTERY IN THE BOOK OF JOB

**Rabbi Richard Hidary**

**Job as Read by the Midrash**  
**Monday, August 1 | 7:00 pm**

**Job as Read by Maimonides**  
**Monday, August 8 | 7:00 pm**

**Job as Read by Modern Existentialists**  
**Tisha B'Ab, Sunday, August 14 | 6:00 pm**

The Book of Job offers the most sublime poetic statement about the deepest struggles with justice, suffering and human existence. This series analyzes this biblical book as interpreted over the course of centuries from the Talmudic sages, to the medieval philosophic tradition to modern writers in order bring forth the eternal relevance of this composition to our own contemporary challenges.

## TISHA B'AB LECTURE

Ereb Tisha B'Ab, Saturday, August 13  
Following the evening service  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Following the reading of Eikhah, Rabbi Soloveichik will speak on the topic "In the Shadow of the Arch: When Rome's Chief Rabbi Converted." Read more about our deeply moving Tisha B'Ab Services on page 14.

## TISHA B'AB FILM SCREENING

Sunday, August 14 | 4:30 pm  
Rabbi Richard Hidary

Join us Tisha B'ab day for a screening of *Oro Macht Frei* featured in last year's New York Sephardic Film Festival. *Oro Macht Frei* tells the story of the 9 month Nazi occupation of Rome (Sept 8, 1943 - June 4, 1944) through testimony, scholarship and archival footage. The film also examines the period of Mussolini's Racial Laws (1938-1945) as well as the Catholic Church's response to the round-up of the Roman Jews.



## SHABBAT LECTURES

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

One hour before minhah  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and much-cited maxim in Pirkei Abot actually hints at the extraordinary, and unique, life story and worldview of its rabbinic source. What's more, the chapters of Abot are joined in a structure that tells the story of the transmission of the Oral Law. We will see how studying the history of the rabbinic figures cited lends an entirely new understanding to these statements, and how Abot represents the diverse response of the rabbis to an age of crisis and transition that was, in many ways, not unlike our own.

## HIGH HOLIDAYS 5777

High Holidays are an exciting time at Shearith Israel. We celebrate with our friends and family in our magnificent sanctuary to the sounds of our mellifluous choir. Behind the scenes High Holiday preparations occur all year round! Please be on the lookout for emails and snail mail with instructions about how to opt-in and out of your seat, request additional seats as well as information about security, child care, and offerings information. We look forward to spending a beautiful season with you.

## A REFLECTION ON HERRINGFEST!

By Rob de Vos, NY Consul General of the Netherlands



I was very happy to join the HerringFest! on March 8th together with my lovely wife, Marion. It was a great event that celebrated both the shared cultural heritage as well as the friendship between the Netherlands and Congregation Shearith Israel.

And all symbolized by the herring!

Herring played an essential role in the history of the Netherlands. The flourishing herring fishing industry allowed the Netherlands to become one of the most powerful countries in the world in the 17th century, which led to the successful Dutch East Indian Company, with ships sailing from Mokum (Amsterdam's nickname) to everywhere in the world and later the West Indian Company that connected Old Amsterdam to New Amsterdam.

And, of course, in Jewish culture the herring also plays an important role. From the beginning, Jews were prominent in the Dutch herring trade, importing and transporting the fish from the Netherlands to Germany, Poland and Russia transforming it to a delicacy that occupies an honored position on the Jewish table.

During the incredibly festive event, I enjoyed the many variations of herring, the atmosphere and the speeches by Rabbi Soloveichik. It was fantastic how he stressed the strong ties between the Netherlands and the Congregation and I particularly enjoyed the way he used the social behavior of the herring shoal as a metaphor and example for the Congregation. I found this to be an original and powerful metaphor!







Ilana Gadish



Layaliza Soloveichik

## GIRLS' MEGILLAT RUTH READING

Shabu'ot, Monday, June 13 | 11:30 am

Following morning services, the girls of our synagogue will recite Megillat Ruth for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary. If your daughter 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).

## YOETZET HALAKHA

We are proud to be a co-sponsor of the Manhattan *Yoetzet Halakha* Initiative. If you have any questions regarding *Taharat Hamishpaha* (Family Purity), laws of *Niddah*, please contact our new *Yoetzet Halakha*, Ilana Gadish in confidence at [nycyoetzet@gmail.com](mailto:nycyoetzet@gmail.com).

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

## ONE-ON-ONE TOUR OF THE UWS MIKVAH

If you are interested in learning more about *Taharat Hamishpaha*, the Laws of Family Purity, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at [layaliza@gmail.com](mailto:layaliza@gmail.com) for a private tour of the facilities at the local UWS *Mikvah*. To maximize confidentiality, these one-on-one tours will take place at times when the *Mikvah* is closed to the public. Tours of other local *mikvaot* are also possible. Women only.



Shayna Stein and Gideon Schon:  
Our Shabbat Youth Leaders



## YOUNG COUPLES & FAMILIES INDOOR PICNIC

Saturday, July 9  
Following Shabbat Services

Who wants to fret over rain clouds or bother with insect repellant? After all, the best thing about picnicing is relaxing with friends and enjoyable casual picnic fare. Organized by our fabulous committee of young couples, this year's end-of-year picnic will be held at the synagogue, where we can enjoy our protected, park-facing Portico as well as the Elias Room. Fun activities for the kids and a rabbi's lecture for the adults will keep everyone happy. Watch your emails for registration details and sponsorship opportunities.

## HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Saturday, June 11  
Following Morning Services

Help us showcase the success and accomplishments of all our graduates. We want to list the PhDs, the rabbinic ordinations, the B.A.s, as well as the pre-school, middle school and high school graduates. Let us know if you, your child, or other synagogue member is graduating this year so we can list them in our scroll of honor.

In addition, we are seeking \$36 co-sponsors for our graduation Kiddush. Your \$36 contribution will earn you a customized mazal tob for your special graduate in the scroll of honor. For more information, visit [shearithisrael.org/graduation](http://shearithisrael.org/graduation).

## TODDLER SUMMER CAMP

**June 21st – August 18th | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30am**  
**For children aged 16 – 33 months. Adult caregiver presence is required.**

The Shearith Israel Toddler Program has been serving the community since the summer of 1999. Our space allows children to move around freely in the company of other children they spend time with on a regular basis. We have small wading pools outside on our “beach” when the weather is hot. There is time for play, craft projects, exercises, saying Berakhot (blessings), snack, stories, music and more. There is an opportunity for the caregivers to support the children’s activities and there are times when the teacher encourages them to sit on the side and observe while the children manage on their own.

We offer a one-day option but we strongly recommend two days which gives more continuity to the program; it allows the child to be more aware of educational themes that continue for several sessions and also to see familiar faces on a regular basis. Limited to 18 toddlers per session, now is the time to enroll. For questions and to enroll, go to [shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp](http://shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp).

## YEAR-ROUND WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

**September 7, 2016 – June 9, 2017 | Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:30am**  
**For ages 16 – 34 months. Adult caregiver presence is required.**

Loved our Summer Toddler program? Join us year-round at what parents are calling “the best kept secret on the Upper West Side!” For questions and to enroll, contact Barbara Reiss.

## THE SHEARITH ISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL: POLONIES TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

**For students aged 3-16 years old**  
**All classes meet on Sundays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**Elementary school-aged children also meet on Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**  
**Register for Fall 2016. Classes begin September 18.**

Our Hebrew School, the Polonies Talmud Torah School, has been educating our children for over 200 years, making it the oldest and most venerable institution of Jewish learning for youth in America. It provides children and teens, ages 3–16, with a comprehensive and substantive Jewish education in a positive and engaging environment. Our well educated, trained and enthusiastic staff create a dynamic and warm learning environment in which children are motivated to learn and grow. Students develop Hebrew language skills (reading, writing and comprehension), learn about all of the Jewish holidays and their rituals, the major portions of the Bible, Jewish history, and how Jewish ideas inform our values in modern times. We employ quality workbooks, including those specially created for our school, as well as informal religious experiences such as Purim and Succah celebrations, matza baking, group prayer in our colonial-era little synagogue, field trips, and more. For more information and to enroll, visit [shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool](http://shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool). For questions, contact Yona Glass.

Often garnished with mint and cucumber yogurt, it’s perfect for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Hope you enjoy it as much as my family does.



## Spinach b’Jiben

By Esther Hidary

Growing up in the Syrian Jewish community of Brooklyn, I was always surrounded by delicious food. My paternal and maternal grandmothers were next door neighbors and in both their houses I was sure to find freshly fried kibbeh, delicious lehmajin, sembusak, kaak and every other food I could wish for or imagine. Below is a staple dish cooked in every Sephardic home on “dairy” nights. This one is made with spinach but Jibens, like most quiches, can be made with artichokes, squash, mushrooms, or potatoes.

### Ingredients

3 egg whites  
 3 whole eggs  
 1 container cottage cheese (I use 1% whipped but anything is fine)  
 2 cups grated mozzarella cheese  
 2 boxes of chopped spinach (defrosted and drained)  
 1 large onion finely chopped  
 Salt and pepper

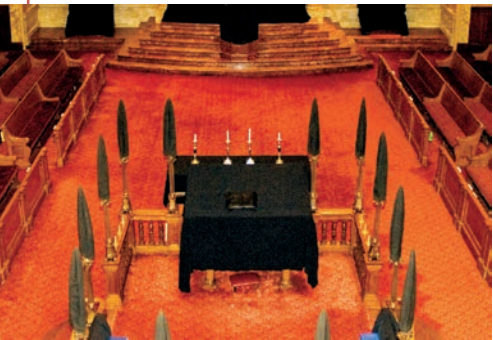
### Directions

In a shallow pan, sauté onion in a little olive oil. When translucent add spinach and sauté until all water evaporates. Season spinach with a bit of salt and pepper and leave to cool. In a separate bowl whip together eggs whites and whole eggs. Add cottage cheese and mozzarella. Add spinach. Mix all ingredients together and pour into a baking dish. Cook at 350 for an hour to an hour and fifteen minutes or until browned on top. Enjoy!



*If you would like to submit a recipe for a future bulletin, send it to Tikva Ostrega at [tikvaostrega@gmail.com](mailto:tikvaostrega@gmail.com). In addition to the recipe, please include a short back-story describing the origins of the dish and why it is special to you.*





## TISHA B'AB AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

**August 13-14, 2016**

Tisha B'Ab, the most solemn day of the Jewish calendar, commemorates the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in ancient Jerusalem. Over the years, this day has also come to remind us of other historic tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people. For Tisha B'Ab, the Reader's Desk and Holy Ark are draped in black. The evening and morning services are conducted from a special table—also draped in black—rather than from the Reader's Desk. The synagogue lights are dimmed, so that congregants follow services with small flashlights. The melodies of Tisha B'Ab are somber and deeply moving. The afternoon service on the day of Tisha B'Ab takes on an optimistic air. We focus on Isaiah's words of consolation to the Jewish people: Nahamu nahamu Ami, be comforted, be comforted My people. The Almighty has promised that Israel will be consoled and redeemed. The service closes with a crescendo of biblical verses, sung by the Hazzan and Congregation that speak of the restoration of Jerusalem and the redemption of the people of Israel. The fast day which had begun so somberly is now transformed by thoughts of consolation and redemption. Rabbi Meir Soloveichik will deliver a public lecture following the reading of Eikhah on the eve of Tisha B'Ab.

## DAILY SERVICES

### Mornings:

**Monday-Friday**, Shahrit ..... 7:15 am

**Sundays & Legal Holidays**, Shahrit ..... 8:00 am

### Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:

May 29th-July 28th, Minhah & Arbit.....6:45 pm

July 31st-Sep. 29th, Minhah & Arbit .....6:30 pm

## SHABBAT SERVICES

### June 3rd-4th

Friday Evening Services [Early\*] .....6:45 pm

Candles\* (18 min. before sunset) .....8:04 pm

Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am

Zemirot ..... Joseph A. Solomon

Parashat Behukkothai.....Leviticus 25:1-end

Haftarah ..... Noah Lang

Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

Bat Mitzvah.....Jenna Roberts

Seudah Shelishit & Class.....7:00 pm

Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....8:00 pm

Saturday Sunset .....8:23 pm

Habdalah.....9:05 pm

### June 10th-11th

#### Shabbat on the Eve of Shabuot

Friday Evening Services [Early\*] .....6:45 pm

Candles\* (18 min. before sunset) .....8:08 pm

Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am

Zemirot ..... Matthew Kaplan

Parashat Bemidbar..... Numbers 1:1-4:20

Haftarah, Hosea 2:1-22.....Noam Kaplan

Shabbat Minhah & Shabuot Arbit .....8:00 pm

Saturday Sunset .....8:27 pm

Shabbat Ends/Light Festival Candles .....9:09 pm

Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class..... 11:30 pm

(See **Festival of Shabuot** for further schedule)

\*Service attendees should light before Arbit.

### June 17th-18th

Friday Evening Services [Early\*] .....6:45 pm

Candles\* (18 min. before sunset) .....8:11 pm

Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am

Zemirot .....Zachary S. Edinger

Parashat Naso ..... Numbers 4:21-7:89

Haftarah .....Daniel Jonathan Tsesarsky

Judges 13:2-25

Bar Mitzvah.....Daniel Jonathan Tsesarsky

Seuda Shelishit & Class.....7:05 pm

Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....8:05 pm

Saturday Sunset .....8:30 pm

Habdalah.....9:12 pm

### June 24th-25th

Friday Evening Services [Early\*] .....6:45 pm

Candles\* (18 min. before sunset) .....8:13 pm

Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am

Zemirot .....Jacob Daar

Parashat Behaalotekha..... Numbers 8:1-12:16

Haftarah .....Jacob P. Seligson

Zachariah 2:14-4:7

Seuda Shelishit & Class.....7:05 pm

Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....8:05 pm

Saturday Sunset .....8:31 pm

Habdalah.....9:13 pm

### July 1st-2nd

Friday Evening Services [Early\*] .....6:45 pm

Candles\* (18 min. before sunset) .....8:13 pm

Saturday Morning Services..... 8:15-11:45 am

Zemirot ..... Sjimmon Den Hollander

Parashat Shelah Lekha..... Numbers 13:1-15:41

Haftarah .....Steven Beispel

Joshua 2:1-24

Seuda Shelishit & Class.....7:05 pm

Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....8:05 pm

Saturday Sunset .....8:31 pm

Habdalah.....9:13 pm

July 8th-9th

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	8:11 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Korah	Numbers 16:1-18:3
Haftarah	Jacob Aufzien I Samuel 11:14-12:22
Seuda Shelishit & Class	7:05 pm
Minhah & Arbit	8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:29 pm
Habdalah	9:11 pm

July 15th-16th

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	8:08 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Hukkath	Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah	Jesse Epstein Judges 11:1-33
Seuda Shelishit & Class	7:00 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:26 pm
Habdalah	9:07 pm

July 22nd-23rd

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	8:03 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Balak	Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah	Lewis Bateman Micah 5:6-6:8
Seuda Shelishit & Class	6:55 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	7:55 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:20 pm
Habdalah	9:02 pm

July 29th-30th  
Shabbat Dibre

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	7:57 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Pinehas	Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah	Zachary S. Edinger Jeremiah 1:1-2:3
Seuda Shelishit & Class	6:50 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:14 pm
Habdalah	8:55 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.

August 5th-6th  
Shabbat Shimu

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	7:49 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Mattoth-Mase	Numbers 30:2-end
Haftarah	Charles Gourgey Jeremiah 2:4-28 and 4:1-2
Seuda Shelishit & Class	6:40 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	7:40 pm
Saturday Sunset	8:06 pm
Habdalah	8:46 pm

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

August 12th-13th  
Shabbat Hazon

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	7:39 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Debarim	Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Haftarah	Rabbi Ira Rohde Isaiah 1:1-27
Saturday Afternoon Minhah	3:30 pm
Sat. Sunset (Fast Begins)	7:56 pm
End of Shabbat	8:35 pm
Eve of the Fast Arbit Service	9:00 pm

**Shabbat Hazon** refers to the opening “vision” of the Book of Isaiah, parallel to the opening prophetic vision of the book of Jeremiah which was read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the group of these three haftarot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read by the hazzan or some other scholar who is “well-versed in lamentation,” as it is at Congregation Shearith Israel. This year the 9th day of the Month of Ab falls on Shabbat, and the Fast is put off until the following day, so that this year Shabbat Hazon is the Eve of the Fast of Ab. 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 (7:56), concluding the Sabbath at 8:35 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 9:00 pm. The service begins with the hazzan reciting the single blessing “bore me’ore ha’esh” from the habdalah, over a candle. On Sunday evening, the fast should be concluded with the remainder of habdalah recited over a cup of grape juice or wine, without spices or a candle.

August 19th-20th  
Shabbat Nahamu

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	7:29 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Vaethanan	Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11
Haftarah	Jay Epelman Isaiah 40:1-26
Seuda Shelishit & Class	6:20 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	7:20 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:46 pm
Habdalah	8:24 pm

**Shabbat Nahamu:** The Fast of the 9th of Ab is followed by the seven Sabbaths preceding Rosh HaShanah at which special Haftarot of Consolation from the end of the Book of Isaiah are chanted. The first of these, immediately following Tisha BeAb, is called Shabbat Nahamu, referring to Isaiah Chapter 40’s famous opening words “Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people.”

August 26th-27th

Friday Evening Services [Early*]	6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)	7:19 pm
Saturday Morning Services	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Avery E. Neumark
Parashat Ekeb	Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25
Haftarah	Isaiah 49:14-51:3
Seuda Shelishit & Class	6:10 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit	7:10 pm
Saturday Sunset	7:35 pm
Habdalah	8:13 pm



FESTIVAL OF SHABUOT (Two-Day)

PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS

Saturday Eve, June 11th - Monday, June 13th

Shabbat on the Eve of Shabuot

Friday Eve, June 10th - Saturday, June 11th

(Full schedule listed under Shabbat Services)

Eve of the First Day of Shabuot

Saturday Evening, June 11th

Shabbat Minhah & Shabuot Arbit .....8:00 pm  
 Saturday Sunset .....8:27 pm  
 Shabbat Ends/Light Festival Candles .....9:09 pm  
 Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class..... 11:30 pm

First Day of Shabuot Morning

1818 - Crosby St. Consecration Anniversary

Sunday Morning, June 12th

Zemirot .....8:15 am  
 Shahrit & Hallel.....9:00 am  
 Taking Out Torah & Readings..... 9:50-10:45 am  
 Exodus 19:1-20:23 (The Ten Commandments)  
 Haftarah .....Ezekiel 1:1-28 & 3:12  
 Musaf & Sermon..... 10:45-11:25 am  
 Girls' Reading Book of Ruth..... 11:30-12:30 am

Eve of the Second Day of Shabuot

Sunday Evening, June 12th

Reading Intro & 1st Part of Azharot .....7:30 pm  
 Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....8:15 pm  
 Sunday Evening Sunset .....8:27 pm  
 Candle Lighting ..... after 8:55 pm

Second Day of Shabuot Morning

Monday Morning, June 13th

Zemirot .....8:15 am  
 Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf..... 9:00-11:50 am  
 Second Day of Shabuot Conclusion  
 Monday Evening, June 13th  
 Reading 2nd Part of Azharot .....7:30 pm  
 Minhah & Arbit.....8:15 pm  
 Sunday Evening Sunset .....8:28 pm  
 Sunday Evening Habdalah .....8:55 pm

FESTIVAL OF SHABUOT (Continued)

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 (lirohde-csi@yahoo.com) well in advance of the festival. The girls will read their portions at the end of Sunday Morning Services at 11:30 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 Sunday evening at 7:30, before Minhah. The second part, which enumerates the 365 negative Commandments, is read on Monday evening at 7:30, 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.

NATIONAL AND MINOR HOLIDAYS

Yom Yerushalayim

Jerusalem Reunification Day

Saturday Evening, June 4th  
 through Sunday, June 5th

Rosh Hodesh Sivan (One-Day)

Monday Evening, June 6th  
 through Tuesday, June 7th

(For Services see Daily Schedule)

American Independence Day

Fourth of July (Legal Holiday)

Monday, July 4th

Morning Service (Shahrit)..... 8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Tammuz (Two-Day)

Tuesday Evening, July 5th through  
 Wednesday & Thursday, July 6th & 7th

(For Services see Daily Schedule)

Fast of (the Seventeenth of) Tammuz  
 Shiba Asar BeTammuz (Observed)

Sunday, July 24th

Dawn (Fast Begins) .....4:05 am  
 Sunrise .....5:45 am  
 Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am  
 Minhah (men wear tefillin) .....7:30 pm  
 Sunset .....8:20 pm  
 End of Fast .....8:46 pm  
 The Fast of Tammuz commemorates the breach of the city walls of Jerusalem as well as the destruction of the first tablets of the Ten Commandments following the sin of the Golden Calf. Shabbat postpones it to Sunday.

Rosh Hodesh Ab (One-Day)

Thursday Evening, August 4th through  
 Friday, August 5th

(For Services see Daily Schedule)

NATIONAL AND MINOR HOLIDAYS  
 (Continued)

Fast of (the 9th of) Ab

Tisha BeAb (Observed)

Eve of the Fast, Saturday, August 13th

Saturday Afternoon Minhah .....3:30 pm  
 Saturday Evening Sunset (Fast Begins).....7:56 pm  
 End of Shabbat.....8:35 pm  
 Eve of the Fast Arbit Service.....9:00 pm

Tish`a BeAb Day, Sunday, August 14th

Morning Service .....8:00 am-12:15 pm  
 Sunday Minhah & Arbit.....7:00 pm  
 Sunday Evening Sunset .....7:55 pm  
 End of Fast & Habdalah (wine only).....8:20 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. Shabbat postpones the fast to Sunday this year.

5777/2016 FALL HOLIDAY PREVIEW

Rosh Hashanah, 5777

Sun. Eve., Oct. 2nd through  
 Mon. & Tue., Oct. 3rd & 4th

Shabbat Teshubah, 5777

Fri. Eve., Oct. 7th through Sat. Oct. 8th

Yom Kippur, 5777

Tue. Eve., Oct. 11th through Wed., Oct. 12th

First Two Days of Succot, 5777

Sun. Eve., Oct. 16th  
 through Mon. & Tue., Oct. 17th & 18th

Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot, 5777

Fri. Eve., Oct. 21st through Sat. Oct. 22nd

Shemini Hag Atseret, 5777

Sun. Eve., Oct. 23rd through Mon. Oct. 24th

Simhat Torah, 5777

Mon. Eve., Oct. 24th through Tue., Oct. 25th

Shabbat Bereshit (Shabbat Hatanim), 5777

Fri. Eve., Oct. 28th through Sat. Oct. 29th



Rabbi Soloveichick with  
Guest Speaker, Leon Wieseltier



# HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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

## GENERAL DONATIONS

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

## KIDDUSH FUND

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

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund is a charitable arm of our congregation. These funds are designated by our rabbis for members in need and communities in crisis. This past year, our funds have assisted a number of members as well as communities in Nepal recovering from the earthquake, and the Houston Jewish Community recovering from flooding.

## CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Help us strengthen educational initiatives at Shearith Israel by supporting a warm and inviting atmosphere to learn, debate, and grow together as a community. Sponsor food and refreshments for a class or semester of Bet Midrash, Tuesday morning women's class, Tuesday evening Talmud Shiur, Hebrew courses, Learners' Service, or Shabbat afternoon class. Or, contribute to sponsor an event, such as academic symposiums, lectures, and discussions with Jewish scholars from around the world and maintain our synagogue as a leader in contemporary Jewish dialogue.

## CARING CONNECTION

Financial contributions support efforts in proactively providing organized assistance to members of our community through times of need, one of Judaism's greatest Mitzvot. Caring Connection raises the funds needed to defray the costs of all it does. Not only does this vital assistance greatly aid the individual, it also strengthens and unifies our community and enhances our sense of responsibility for one another.

## SPONSOR SCOTCH AND ARAK

In addition to our weekly Kiddush sponsors and contributors we are now also accepting sponsors for the scotch and arak that we make available each week. To sponsor or contribute go to [shearithisrael.org/scotch-and-arak-sponsorships](http://shearithisrael.org/scotch-and-arak-sponsorships).

## BEQUESTS

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. For more information, please speak with our Executive Director, Barbara Reiss.

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENT

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

*To give and learn more, visit [shearithisrael.org/giving](http://shearithisrael.org/giving). Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.*





# STAFF

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## GENERAL INQUIRIES

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 www.shearithisrael.org

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 917-584-3787

Taharat Hamishpakha (Jewish Family Law)  
**Ilana Gadish**, 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](http://shearithisrael.org/membership).



# GET INVOLVED



We hope to see you soon! Here are a few great ways to stay connected and get more involved at Shearith Israel:

- Come to an event: Our full events calendar is available online
- Join our email list: Get weekly invites to our events and classes
- Take a class
- Make a donation
- Become a member
- Work with youth
- Help host or organize an event
- Join a committee
- Sponsor a kiddush
- Support our historic preservation projects
- Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc](http://www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc)

