



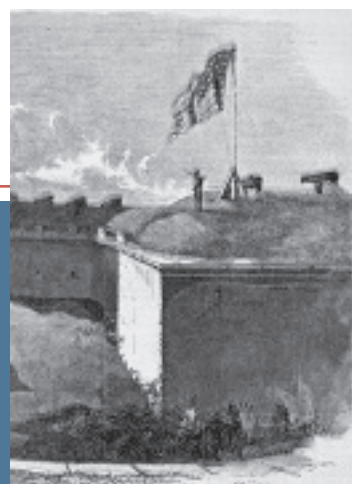
CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023

WINTER
2015

חורף תשע"ו

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



*On January 4, 1861, in answer to
President Abraham Lincoln's call to all
American congregations, Shearith Israel
conducted a special service to pray that a
civil war might be averted.*



The Bulletin

America's First Jewish Congregation

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Our building was designed with great taste by Louis Comfort Tiffany, who not only created the extraordinary glass windows but also planned the interior design and color scheme.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

TITUS' ARCH-RIVAL

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



The “triumphal arch” was an edifice invented by the Romans: a gate through which a general and his army entered a city, erected to commemorate his military victory. Perhaps the most

famous arch of all is to be found in Rome: Titus' arch depicts the triumphal return of the Temple's marauders, with soldiers hoisting aloft the vessels of the *Beit haMikdash*, including, most famously, the golden menorah.

This, however, was not the only entryway where a candelabra could be found after the Temple's destruction. The original *mitzvah* of Hanukkah was *maniah al petah beito*; one was meant to place the Hanukkah light not in the window, but rather at the door to one's home, on the outside, so that one's entryway would adorned with *mitzvot*—a *mezuzah* on the right, the sacred Hanukkah lamp on the left. Titus' arch's depiction of the *hurban* was meant to declare that the special Jewish relationship with their God was over. By kindling lights in their own entryways, the Jews proclaimed that contra Titus' arch, their status as chosen nation remained unchanged, and that their existence as a nation remained assured. Kindling lights outside a Jewish home proclaimed that Judaism could still survive, and ultimately endure, if every Jewish home was made into a tiny Temple, into a spiritual sanctuary, a place whose very entryway alerted all who entered that this was a dwelling of the Divine. The *mitzvah* of Hanukkah proclaimed that God may have been

exiled from His home, but He could take refuge in ours.

Over the centuries, the construction of triumphal arches by kings and Emperors continued throughout Europe. All are expressions of empire, manifestations of military might. Meanwhile, also over the centuries, the Jewish adornment of their own humble entrances continued as well; homes with *mezuzot*, with the light of Hanukkah, with the light of Judaism itself. As every one of those European empires ended up on the ash heap of history, it is it is the Jewish people that remains; as ancient Rome quite lies quite literally in ruins, the Jewish people has returned to its land and reversed much of what Titus' arch originally proclaimed. On Hanukkah we mark one of the central ways through which the Jewish people endured: humble, holy homes filled with *mitzvot*. This was the Jewish fortress throughout the centuries, an edifice so seemingly insignificant, but ultimately so extraordinary, that no empire could overcome it.



Meir Y. Soloveichik

ONE EXTRA CANDLE

Rabbi Dr. Richard Hidary, Distinguished Rabbinic Fellow



The Jewish community of Aleppo historically consisted of indigenous *Must'arabim* who lived there continuously since biblical times as well as many families of Sepharadim who came from the Spanish

or Portuguese exiles. Nowadays, there is little to distinguish the two groups except for last names because the practices and liturgies of each have blended together. However, there is one unusual Hanukkah custom that remains a litmus test for families of Sepharadi origin.

Even until today, some Syrian families light an extra candle on each night of Hanukkah. For example, on the first night when everyone else lights one candle for the *misvah* and a second for the *shamosh*, these Sepharadi families light a third candle on the side as an extra *shamosh*. On the eighth night, these members would have a total of ten wicks burning. Some of the family names whose members continue this custom are: Abadi, Attie, Baredes, Betesh, Cattan, Dweck, Franco, Haber, Harari, Labaton, Laniado, Lofes, Matalon, Mishaan, Mizrahi, Pinto, Safra, Shayo, Sutton, and Tawil.

Several reason for this practice have been documented. Hakham Abraham Ades in his book, *Derekh Eres*, writes that the Spanish Jews already had this practice before they arrived in Aleppo. These families were generally well-to-do and could afford having two candles lit every night of the winter. Lighting two candles on the first night of Hanukah would not succeed in distinguishing the Hanukah lights from those lit every other night. Therefore, in order to publicize the miracle, they added an extra candle besides the Hanukah.

A second possibility is that these Jews only began lighting the extra candle upon arriving in Aleppo. According to this legend, they arrived just before the Hanukkah holiday and were very grateful for their safe passage and their ability to escape persecution to a place of safety. To commemorate their good fortune, they took upon themselves to light an extra candle each year and publicize the continuing Providence from the times of the Greeks and up until their own generation.

Yet a third oft-repeated oral tradition explains that these Sephardic families began to light the extra candle many years after their arrival. When they first came to Aleppo, they were not accepted into the community by the indigenous *Must'arabim*. However, after many years they were finally accepted just before Hanukah and so the Sepharadim expressed their gratitude with an extra candle. In truth, even as late as 1930, the two communities continued to hold separate *minyanim* each following its own particular liturgy. However, ever since that auspicious Hanukah sometime in the sixteenth century, the Sephardim felt socially and religiously welcome in their new home.

We may never be sure of the precise origins of this custom. Nevertheless, the families that practice it see it as a badge of pride of their glorious origins and their thankfulness in finding safety and peace after the upheaval of their communities in the Iberian Peninsula. In that sense it parallels the gratefulness that we all feel commemorating the Hasmonean success in the Land of Israel after a period of great persecution under the Seleucids. May this Hanukkah bring renewed prosperity and peace for our brethren in Israel and may the millions of refugees from the current turmoil in Syria find safety and security as well.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marcia and David Lavipour on the birth of a grandson, Zachary Hansen, born to Sarah and Scott Hansen.

Robin and Lawrence Lewitinn on the birth of a son, Marc Asher Victor Lewitinn. Congratulations to his grandparents, Marc and Ondine Lewitinn.

Carol and Mel Newman upon the bat mitzvah of their granddaughter, Ita Newman-Getzler, daughter of Amanda Newman and Joshua Getzler.

Harry Pomerantz on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents Yvette and Steven Pomerantz and to his grandparents Emil and Carol Pomerantz and Yvonne Cohen.

Program Director, Alana Shultz and Slava Rubin upon the birth of a baby boy.

Toby Zuckerberg on becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents Lloyd Zuckerberg and Charlotte Triefus and to his grandparents Roy and Barbara Zuckerberg.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Nina and Eliav Assouline
Dr. Nicholas Garo
Dr. Meryl Jaffe and Adam Hurwich
Ruthie Israeli
Roy Kirsh
Cecilia Michelson and Eduardo Lipschutz
Maurine McCabe
Anna and Guennadi Samborik
Meira and Joseph Scheiner

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Brenda and Alvi Abuaf on the birth of a grandson to their daughter Lauren Abuaf and Jason Behfarin.

Yehudit Robinson and Sam Daitch on the birth of a daughter, Miriam.

Dr. Roberta de Oliveira and Dr. Nicholas Garo on the birth of a son.

Melissa Epstein and Adam Jackson on the birth of a son, Gabriel Joseph.

Jessica and Roni Jesselson on the birth of a daughter, Layla Sienna Jesselson.

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HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

Special Achievements:

To our CSI marathoners: Francine Alfandary, Alex Levi, Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes, Sam Neumark, Amanda Schachter, Daniel Suckewer, and Phil Wagman.

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Bella Brenner on the passing of her mother, Lola Borg.

Estelle Freilich on the passing of her mother, Anna Feld.

Judy Grumet, on the passing of her father, Dr. Jacob L. Brener.

Joel Kazis on the passing of his mother, Rose Leah Kazis.

Arlene Menachem on the passing of her father, Jack Menachem.

David Sable on the passing of his mother, Elissa Sable.

Joshua Sauberman on the passing of his grandfather, Seymor Zauberman.

Dr. Morris Shamah on the passing of his mother, Norma Shamah.

Adele Tauber on the passing of her father, Herman Lieberman.



IN APPRECIATION

Class Sponsors:

Josh Eisen for sponsoring the fall semester of Bet Midrash.

The Julis Family for sponsoring the 2015-2016 season of Friday Night Lights.

Lewis Lipsey for sponsoring the fall semester of shabbat afternoon Pirkei Abot classes.

Joy Saleh and Bruce Roberts for sponsoring a series of four Bet Midrash classes.

Elaine Rubel for sponsoring a shabbat afternoon Pirkei Abot class.

Breakfast Sponsors:

Fiona Hallegua Amiel in memory of her father.

Chaim Katzap for sponsoring the 2015-2016 season of Tuesday Morning Breakfasts.

Ari Schottenstein in honor of his marriage.

Arthur and Joel Tenenholtz is in memory of their mother, Hannah Tenenholtz

Kiddush Fund Sponsors:

Norman Benzaquen

Gideon and Sharona Gordon

Laury Frieber, in honor of her son, Reuben A. Frieber's reading the Haftarah and in memory of her father, Arthur A. Frieber

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.

The Haberman Family in honor of Akiva's reading the haftarah on the anniversary on his bar mitzvah

Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang in honor of the anniversary of Noah's bar mitzvah

Laurel and Joel Marcus

Yvette and Steven Pomerantz in honor of Harry's Bar Mitzvah

Muriel and Alexander Seligson in honor of their son Jacob's reading of the haftarah and in honor of Rabbi Rohde's birthday

Charlotte Triefus and Lloyd Zuckerberg in honor of Toby's Bar Mitzvah

Kiddush Fund Contributors:

Arak Sponsors:

Simon Gerson
Steven Valenstein

Rabbi Soloveichik Shabbat Teshubah Derasha Lecture and Kiddush Luncheon:

Sponsors:

Nicole and Raanan Agus
Yasmine Ergas and Leonard Groopman
Jane & Reuben Leibowitz
Debbie and David Sable
The Solomon Family

Co-sponsors:

Raquel and Steve Herz
The Neumark Family

Supporters:

Anonymous
Rachel Donna and Ariel Amram Bengio
Sabra and Simon Gerson
Meralee and Sidney Schlusberg

Simhat Torah Dinner:

Constance Shapiro
The Solomon Family

Simhat Torah Ice Cream Extravaganza:

The Haberman Family

The Lustig Family

Hatanim Luncheon Sponsors

Major Sponsors:

Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman
Jodie Steinway and Ari Sherizen
The Solomon Family
Madelene and L. Stanton Towne

Sponsors:

Sam Cohen
Karen and Jack Daar
Rachel Brody and Michael Lustig
Rebecca Chaplan and David J. Nathan
Carla Salomon and Dr. Jonah Schein
Andrea Raab Sherman and
Rev. Philip L. Sherman
Carole Baker and David Solis-Cohen
Charlotte Treifus and Lloyd Zuckerberg

Supporters:

Harriet and Isaac Ainetchi
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Lisa and Saar Banin
Rachel and Jonathan Herlands
Michael Katz
Bruce Lederman
Dinah and Andrew Mendes
Barbara and Guy Reiss
Mildred Green Shinnar

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



SPECIAL EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

SPECIAL HANUKKAH LECTURE WITH PROFESSOR STEVEN FINE

Monday, December 7 | 7:00 pm

Join us for a guest lecture by Professor Steven Fine during Rabbi Hidary's Second Temple History class on December 7th as he presents a special Hanukkah lecture on the topic of "Coloring the Arch of Titus Menorah: Recent Discoveries in Rome."

Steven Fine is the Dean Pinkhos Churgin Professor of Jewish History at Yeshiva University and Director of the Arch of Titus Project. His "The Menorah: From the Bible to the Apocalypse" will be published by Harvard University Press in 2016.

NEW MEMBERS HANUKKAH GATHERING

Tuesday Evening, December 8

**At the Home of Rabbi and Lyaliza Soloveichik
By Invitation**

Our community, especially our synagogue leadership, is very eager to get to know each and every new member and to make them feel at home at Shearith Israel. Several times throughout the year, sometimes on Shabbat, sometimes mid-week, we host gatherings, sometimes at the synagogue, sometimes in private homes, where new members can mingle with each other and our leadership. Our Hanukkah gathering at the Soloveichik home has become a wonderful and much anticipated tradition. Guests enjoy an array of traditional and modern takes on latkes and other treats, hear words of Torah by our rabbi and socialize in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

TU B'SHEBAT SEDER

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Sunday Night, January 24

It was on the hills of 17th century Galilee that the Sephardic mystics first began celebrating a *Tu B'shebat Seder* celebrating the various fruits of Eretz Yisrael and blessing God over four different types of wine. As they celebrated, they taught Torah about the holy land thereby strengthening the bonds between them and the heritage of their forefathers.

Join Rabbi Meir Soloveichik for an evening of toasting, eating and Torah learning. Special singing contribution will be made by our very own Rabbi Ira Rohde. Registration details to follow.

While the adults enjoy the *Tu B'Shebat seder*, our younger members will enjoy their own professionally led event in the Elias Room. In addition to a holiday repast and activities, Rabbi Soloveichik will entertain them with an exciting surprise performance. For details, see youth section on page 13.

MONTHLY SYNAGOGUE TOURS

Tours of Shearith Israel provide a unique opportunity for visitors and tourists to learn more about our congregation and view ritual objects dating back to the Colonial period. We are pleased to lead guests through our beautiful sacred spaces with enlightening facts about our proud history and unique traditions. Individuals and groups are welcome to attend a free, guided tour once a month led by a member of our clergy or a trained docent. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person although any amount is appreciated. Tours generally last 45 minutes. Go to shearithisrael.org/tours for more information.

JEWRY DUTY

The "Jewry Duty" initiative began last year in an effort to bolster minyan attendance and help prevent occasions of missing *minyan*. To that end – we have been pleased by the response. Your attendance is especially helpful to the mourners, encouraging to other *minyan* attendees, and, of course, spiritually valuable for each and every one of us. Even if you are unable to attend services regularly – we hope that a small commitment is within everyone's reach. Nearly all congregants living in Manhattan have been given an assigned date to attend services – this is your "Jewry Duty." We will send you a reminder in advance of your assigned date and we also post the weekly schedule on the Thursday email immediately preceding. We understand, of course, that the times and dates assigned may not work for everyone. If you are unable to attend on your "Summons" date – please don't get upset – we hope you will consider attending whenever it is convenient for you. If you'd like to commit to a different date, we'd appreciate you letting us know by contacting our shamash, Zachary Edinger. Your participation is valuable and we are most thankful for all of you who have participated and encourage all of you to participate whenever you are able.



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SHABBAT DINNERS AND LUNCHES

BRITISH INVASION SHABBAT DINNER

Friday Night, December 4 | Following Evening Services and Friday Night Lights
Featuring Zaki Cooper and Our Resident Anglophile, Rabbi Meir Soloveichik



Drawing on first-hand experience of working at Buckingham Palace, and using objects from his time working there, Zaki Cooper will describe the events of the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, when the Queen celebrated 60 years on the throne.

He will explain what the Royal Household does, and also the historic and contemporary links the monarchy has with the Jewish community and the United States. Delivered in the year the Queen becomes the longest reigning British monarch ever, the talk will shed some light on this historical institution.

Zaki Cooper worked in the Buckingham Palace press office from 2009 until 2012 with a special focus on the Diamond Jubilee. A communications professional, he has worked in a range of corporate and public service environments, including a spell in the Chief Rabbi's office from 2004 to 2006. He has a BA in Politics and Parliamentary.

British-themed menu will be served.

TEEN SHABBAT DINNER

Date to be determined | Following evening services

Our teens are organizing a special Shabbat event. Teens of the congregation and their friends are welcome to attend services, followed by a special, youth-oriented Friday Night Lights, and a Shabbat dinner with Rabbi Soloveichik.

YOUNG FAMILIES SHABBAT LUNCHEON

Saturday, February 6 | Following Morning Services

We've got a great group of young couples and families who enjoy getting together and inviting their friends to experience the best of Shearith Israel. Our committee is planning a family friendly Shabbat meal. To get involved and join the planning committee, email Barbara Reiss.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

LESS IS MORE Barbara Reiss



Less is more, or so the adage goes. We at Shearith Israel are blessed with an abundance of resources: exceptional clergy, an ethereal choir, hardworking staff, a breathtaking sanctuary, dedicated and capable leadership, a warm and diverse congregational community, a rich history, generous supporters and so on. Still, it is no lie to say that in recent times we are managing with less, specifically, no Community House and fewer programming professionals. Yet, not only are we managing, in some ways, we have been managing to do MORE with less.

I'd like to cite just a few examples of recent accomplishments that what we, as a community, can feel proud of and motivated by:

Sidewalk succah—This year, due to our construction, we expected to not erect our courtyard succah, which usually enables us to facilitate the mitzvah of dwelling in a succah for so many members and guests who enjoy meals together. After all, our stunning Elias Room succah is endless in its charms but limited in space. A few determined members, however, came up with the idea of building a large second succah right in front of our construction site. Admittedly, I was not an early supporter of this last minute idea but those committed few could not be deterred and the result was gorgeous. The sidewalk succah also enabled us to host an "Open Hut" for the neighboring buildings which elicited positive reactions and it was even attended by former Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messenger who praised us for our lovely message and gesture to the community. These are no small things.

Our youth programming—has carried on, despite our current staffing gaps. We have a wonderful Interim Hebrew School Principal, Yona Glass, who has handled the many start-of-year administrative tasks beautifully. Rabbi Morris came back in October to kick off the first day of school (and be *feted* at our gala) and Rabbi Soloveichik has stepped up his involvement in the school in our effort to better link the school to the synagogue and ensure that our unique tradition and liturgy is transmitted properly through our PTTS Hebrew School. Our Shabbat and holiday programs for youth got off to a good start. We are delighted to have retained a very strong youth group leadership team- a charming young married couple- Shayna and Gideon, who are leading the weekly groups while Lisa Rohde and our teen leaders keep the Jr. Congregation (as well as women's services) on track.

Shabbat Bereshit/Hatanim Luncheon—Perhaps more than any other, this event epitomized all that we stand for and all that we hope for. We hosted a beautiful sold-out luncheon in honor of Seth Haberman and Ari Sherizen. But aside from a packed room, the good cheer was palpable. The community came together to show appreciation to two models of dedication and generosity in a way that reflects the true nature of our community. The speeches were good but what made them even better was the occasional punctuation by the sounds of the many babies and children in the room. These are sounds that give us reason for hope and cause to rededicate ourselves to Shearith Israel, our spiritual home and congregational community.

These are the blessings that keep me motivated each day and I hope these and others inspire you to be your very best self and participant in our kehilla kodesh.



WEEKDAY CLASSES

THE BOOK OF KINGS

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

We will analyze the biblical Book of Kings using recent archeological findings and literary approaches that can help us bring this ancient drama to life.

SAADIA GAON'S BOOK OF BELIEFS AND OPINIONS

Sundays | 9:30 am | Sjimon Den Hollander

The Book of Beliefs and Opinions (completed 933 CE) was the first systematic presentation and philosophic foundation of the dogmas of Judaism.

BET MIDRASH

Mondays | 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

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

SECOND TEMPLE JEWISH HISTORY

Mondays | 7:00 pm | Rabbi Richard Hidary

Using primary sources, we will reconstruct the history of the Jews during the Second Temple, a period that witnessed the development of many aspects of Judaism as we know it today, such as the holidays of Purim and Hanukkah, the fast days, the canonization of Tanakh, and set the stage for the rise of Christianity and the Rabbis. But this period is also interesting for the variety

of forms of Judaism and groups of Jews that did not gain hegemony: Samaritans, Hellenists, Sadducees, Pharisees, Essenes, and the Dead Sea sect, among others. Each of these groups had to respond to and find a way to survive revolts and exiles, strong influences from foreign cultures, and internal strife while at the same time remaining committed to monotheism and the Biblical tradition. Why were some of these groups more successful than others? How is this period relevant for understanding our own identities and for evaluating the current state of Judaism and its future prospects?

BREAKOUT GROUPS:

Mondays | 8:00 pm

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

Phil Getz: Nefesh Ha-Hayyim by Rabbi Hayyim of Volozhin

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

Meira Wolkenfeld: Stories of the Babylonian Talmud

RAMBAM'S MISHNEH TORAH

Tuesdays | 7:45 am | Rabbi Richard Hidary

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

FEASTS AND FASTS: THE FESTIVALS IN JEWISH THOUGHT

A CLASS FOR WOMEN

Tuesdays | 9:00 am | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

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

TALMUD CLASS: TRACTATE ROSH HASHANA AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF JEWISH TIME

Tuesdays | 8:00 pm | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

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

SHABBAT LECTURES

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT

Fridays Following Evening Services | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

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

THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT

Shabbat day | One hour before minhah | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

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

KETER SHEM TOB

Following Shabbat Minhah | Rabbi Hidary

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



HANUKKAH FEST

Sunday, December 13 | 10:00 am

Shearith Israel Youth and PTTS invite our children for a festive program filled with waffles and Hanukkah fun!

TU B'SHEBAT YOUTH EVENT

Sunday Night, January 24

While the adults and teens enjoy a Tu B'Shebat seder, our younger members (up to age 12) will enjoy their own supervised event in the Elias Room. In addition to a holiday repast and activities, Rabbi Soloveichik will entertain them with an exciting surprise fruity juggling performance. Registration details to follow.

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 am – 11:30 am
For children ages 16-34 months. Parent or caregiver attendance required.

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

Spring 2016: Jan 4 – June 6
(No class 1/18, 2/15, 4/25, 4/27, 5/30)

2 Days:
Member: \$2240 | Non-Member: \$2680

1 Day:
Member: \$1200 | Non-Member: \$1420

POLONIES TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

For students 3 – 16 years of age

All ages meet on Sundays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Elementary school-aged children also meet on Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Our Hebrew School provides students with a substantive Jewish education in a positive and engaging environment. Students develop Hebrew language skills (reading, writing and comprehension); learn the major portions of the Tanakh, Jewish holiday rituals, Jewish history and how Jewish ideas inform our values in modern times.

To learn more and enroll your child for the 2015-2016 academic year today, go to shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool.

YOUTH ON SHABBAT

TOT SHABBAT

10:00 am – 12:30 pm | ages 0 – 4

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

YOUTH GROUPS AND JR. CONGREGATION

September – June

10:00 am until the end of services

Children ages 5 – 12 gather with our dynamic duo, Shayna Stein and Gideon Schon, for fun activities connected to the parashah of the week and other Jewish themes as well as raffle and prizes. At 10:30 am, the children are escorted to the Little Synagogue for Jr. Congregation, a lively participatory service.

TOPICS IN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY

Shabbat afternoons | High School students | Rabbi Richard Hidary

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

WELCOME OUR NEW YOUTH LEADERS SHAYNA AND GIDEON

Welcome to our new Youth Leaders Shayna and Gideon who have been leading our groups each shabbat since the start of this year. They recently got married, live on the Upper West Side and are excited to be part of the Shearith Israel family.

SHAYNA STEIN:

Shayna is from San Diego, CA and is a Stern College graduate. She has many years of youth leadership experience, having run the children's program for ages 3-11 at her local Chabad synagogue of UC, running groups more recently for 4-6 year olds at Lincoln Square Synagogue, and serving as a camp counselor at Gateways and the YMCA from ages 7-11. Additionally, Shayna worked at the Ramaz Hebrew School for a year-plus. Last, but not least, she brings over 10 years of babysitting experience for children of all ages.

GIDEON SCHON:

Gideon grew up in Riverdale and attended Ramaz, SAR and NYU. He grew up babysitting his younger cousins and family friends. He attended Camp Moshava for many years and was a counselor there for 2 years for boys ages 10-13. Gideon has tutored middle school through college age students for over seven years. Finally, Gideon has helped lead our youth groups in the past.



LOOKING BACK AT THE SHEARITH ISRAEL ANNUAL GALA: CELEBRATING PTTS

REMARKS BY HONOREE, LLOYD ZUCKERBERG

As some of you know we have just finished celebrating my son Toby's becoming a bar mitzvah. As a result of that experience, of just completing the cycle of the holidays, and of having Jewry Duty, a welcome addition to our traditions, I've been spending a LOT of time here. One thing that became evident is that this place is busy all day every day. When I told Rabbi Soloveichik, "it's like the NY Times - you never get a day off" - he said it was, except without the anti-Israel bias!

So let me begin by thanking Barbara Reiss and her entire team, especially Deborah, Diana, Sarah Sue, Maria, and the building staff for helping make this (and the bar mitzvah) so easy for Charlotte and me. I thank Jill Lamstein and her team from ABOVE AND BEYOND Caterers for their hard work in making this room so pretty. I also want to thank the trustees for bestowing this honor on our family. And a hearty congratulations to our co-honoree, Rabbi Morris. Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the PTTS and its students, and best wishes on your new adventure at Bevis Marks Congregation. I must now confess that my children's disinterest in Junior Congregation is probably my fault; I also never wanted to go to Junior Congregation - not when I was a junior and not now either. I always wanted to be with the grown-ups and I guess my children felt the same way.

What Shearith Israel means to me and my family:

I was sitting at my desk today trying to write these remarks, when an email arrived from JetBlue. It asked me to watch a short film that was all about

the difficulty of getting people to relax. My wife has taught me to believe that everything happens for a reason - so I kept watching the film thinking "why did this come to me now?" And I think it was because it made me realize that I and the rest of us who pray here are really lucky. Lucky because we can relax every week. We can sink into the meditative magic of services at this congregation. The physical space, our hazzanim, the choir, the decorum and dignity of our services, all coalesce to create something I've never found anywhere else. And to that end, I must express my sincere appreciation to Avery and his committee and to Zachary for their careful stewardship of our minhag.

I grew up in Lawrence, Long Island. When I was about 8, my grandfather Sam suggested I join him at Shabbat services and I did. It helped shape my Judaism, and I later realized I could go into any synagogue in the world and be a participant because of that repetition of weekly Sabbath services.

I loved going to synagogue with my grandfather and loved my synagogue, Congregation Beth Sholom in Lawrence. I loved Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, still a close friend, and Cantor Moshe Ehrlich, may he rest in peace, who sang with such soulfulness and subtlety. It all started well for me.

When my family moved to New York City, my father went looking for a synagogue to call home. He came to Shearith Israel and was most impressed with the beauty of the sanctuary, the warmth of the congregants, and the dignity of the service. Nobody talked about the stock market, or the baseball

games - people came to pray. "It is dignified," he kept telling me. He was right, and that is something that means a great deal to both Charlotte and me, as well. We joined when Charlotte and I became engaged in 1993.

I was and still am drawn first and foremost to the beauty of our sanctuary. I feel closer to God when I pray in such a magnificent space. I was honored when David Nathan invited me to be part of the committee that directed its restoration. That was not work; it was a labor of love. I marvel endlessly at what Arnold Brunner, the architect created, and which Steve Tilly restored.

Second, the members and the clergy are kind and generous. We seem to attract people who are humble, without pretense, and polite. Simply, they are ladies and gentlemen. This makes our congregation a welcome retreat from the world around us.

Finally, my children and my wife also enjoy being part of our congregation. This allows us to be a family here and anyone who has a family knows how nice that is. My older children's earlier years were with Rabbi Hayyim Angel who really connected with them, and Rabbi Soloveichik is also forming relationships with our children and has been extremely generous in teaching us in our home in a way that I know is doing us all a whole lot of good.

But I firmly believe we are serving something far larger than ourselves. As such, we are stewards of our congregation and have an obligation to protect it and nurture it, while we seek ways in which it can do the same for us. From my English wife, I have learned the British land ethic - the land isn't exactly yours; you are its caretaker for the time in which you have the privilege of living on it.

Shearith Israel was here before all of us and it will be here after we are not. When we make changes, they

must be for a purpose other than just what we want. They must be made with an eye towards how these changes enhance the institution itself - the physical, the spiritual, and the communal qualities of this majestic congregation.

And this must carry through not only to the aesthetic face we present to the world, something I am very interested in, but also to how we adapt to our era in terms of our minhag and other ways we go about the daily business of synagogue life. For once we lose something, it's very hard to get back. Isn't it easier to lose a cherished possession than to find it?

Our services, melodies, and traditions take time to appreciate. They are a constant in a bustling world. Like an artichoke, you peel away the leaves, getting a taste with each one before you get to the heart. But once you get there, you realize it was well worth the wait. It is our responsibility to teach our children and our new members - that tolerance, dignity, decorum, beauty, music, Bendigamos, all of these are part of our inheritance - they were given to us by prior generations - and we must be explicit in teaching these qualities, so rare in Jewish life today, to our descendants and our fellow congregants, that they must work to ensure that these things remain part of what Shearith Israel offers to the world. Minhag hamakom - the "custom of the place" - introduced to me in a recent sermon, keeps calling out to me.

On the Shabbat of my bar-mitzvah, I read parashat Terumah, which describes the construction of the Mishkan, or Tabernacle. On that day, Rabbi Klaperman told me to build my life out of the finest things I could find, as the Mishkan was made out of the finest materials available to the Jews. I have never forgotten that advice. I believe that this holy place, Shearith Israel, fits very well into that admonition. I am proud that it is my spiritual home. Thank you for participating in this evening.

REMARKS BY HONOREE, CHARLOTTE TRIEFUS

I echo Lloyd's thank-you's to all the amazing people whose dedication makes Shearith Israel run day-in and day-out.

I have had a dream since our first child, Hannah, began Hebrew school here about 15 years ago. Luckily, it coalesced for me this morning so this is my opportunity to share my dream with all of you.

Our son Toby is studying New York history, so this past weekend we visited Hamilton Grange on 141st Street. For homework, he wrote a letter to the esteemed founding father and Mrs. Hamilton, thanking them for a lovely dinner as if he had visited them back in 1797.

This morning I opened The Historical Atlas of New York City and read a paragraph on the arrival of 27 Jews (that's what it said) in New Amsterdam, their being allowed to stay, and their purchase of their first burial ground outside the city wall and another in 1682 south of Chatham Square. It said they opened the first Hebrew School in 1728 and dedicated a synagogue on Mill Street in 1730.

The first Hebrew School opened in 1728. That Hebrew school, which later became the Polonies Talmud Torah School, is what we are celebrating tonight, and it is where our three children learned to read Hebrew.

What Toby had not realized when he did his homework was that if Toby lived in Mr. Hamilton's time, he would have received his religious instruction from the very same Hebrew school he currently attends, an amazing connection to the past.

We at Shearith Israel can reach back into history over a span of more than 300 years and know



exactly where our forefathers studied and prayed; we learn to pray in this same congregation, learn how to sing in many of their tunes. It is this long tradition which is the foundation of my three wishes, my dream, for the PTTS going forward:

First, I envision that the curriculum be expanded to

include more of the history of our congregation and of our prize possessions. For example: teach the stories behind our Torah bells; the millstones; the Torah scrolls, the different synagogue buildings, and the portraits. Perhaps a yearly field trip to Chatham Square and the other cemeteries will give the students a sense of our history, enhancing their education and ultimately their dedication to Shearith Israel as they grow older.

Second, teach each class one or two of our prayers and hymns, learning the words and our tunes, so that by the end of their years at PTTS, they will be very comfortable in our Shabbat service, as they will know at least 7-10 prayers. Sorry, Ira, if this adds to your already heavy schedule!

Lastly, teach the older boys to put on tefillin and teach all the older children the kaddish and other essential prayers of the basic service that they will need in order to be a fully participating adult member of the congregation.

This is my dream for the future of the PTTS. I have faith that adding these learning opportunities will enhance the foundation so solidly made by Rabbi Morris and will prepare the students for a lifetime as knowledgeable, engaged participants in the Shearith Israel community, upholding the legacy of the Polonies Talmud Torah School.

Thank you.

REMARKS BY RABBI SHALOM MORRIS

I'm deeply moved by Rabbi Hidary's words of tribute, and by Shearith Israel's decision to honor me at this year's Gala. I remarked to my new kahal in London that I finally feel like a Jew, as for the first time in my life I'm an immigrant! While we always call Israel home, since the time of Abraham, our people have been mobile, seeking opportunities and refuge, wherever they may be found. Perhaps no group of Jews did that more than the Sephardim, with their scattering following the Spanish Expulsion, even embarking west to the New World. Inspiringly, wherever they went they established new Jewish communities with unwavering zeal.

I'm incredibly honored for the opportunity to be the rabbi of Shearith Israel's 'Alma Mater' congregation in London, as Bevis Marks Synagogue was once called in the 1840s by the then Parnas of Shearith Israel. I'm reminded of the task given to Abraham to go to a new land. Famously, God did not tell Abraham to simply 'go to', but also to 'go from.' We do not live our lives in a vacuum, solely in the present. Who we are is a coalescence of where we come from and of our previous experiences.

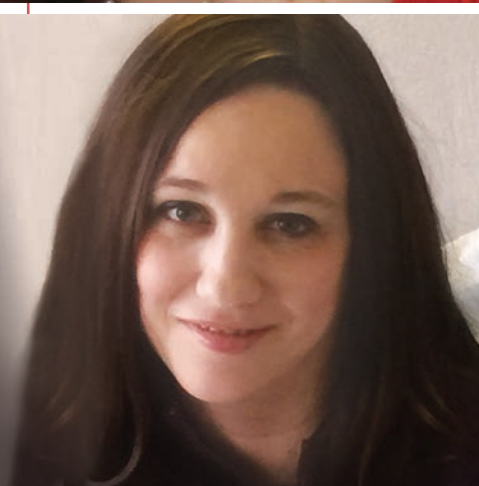
What was the experience that most shaped Abraham in Haran? The Torah relates that Abraham took his belongings, but also the souls that he made in Haran. This is a reference to the relationships he fostered along the way, and to his influence in the places that he travelled.



More than anything, I cherish the relationships I made at Shearith Israel, and the 'souls' I helped to grow in the Polonies Talmud Torah School and in the Beginners' Service. It is a privilege to work so closely with others as they explore the meaning of their lives, and the role of Judaism in their life decisions. It is the worldview of the Spanish & Portuguese Jews

that makes their legacy increasingly relevant and essential to our people. They understood that Torah is a blueprint for living in this world, not an escape from it. This principle guides the students and members of the global S&P community, and always attracts newcomers to it.

Following my first Shabbat at Shearith Israel, the head of the ritual committee welcomed me to 'the switch hitter club,' a reference to baseball and to the many Jews of non S&P background that have chosen to embrace it. While other S&P synagogues continue to function on both sides of the Atlantic, Shearith Israel is arguably the most vibrantly S&P congregation today. I'm grateful to everyone at Shearith Israel who over the years took the time to welcome me, teach me, and make me feel at home in the S&P. As I embark on a new chapter in my life, now with the London branch of the S&P, I hold dear my years at Shearith Israel. I hope to always maintain that feeling of extended family with Shearith Israel, and look forward to welcoming you to Bevis Marks Synagogue on your next visit to London.



WOMEN AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

WOMEN'S SHABBAT SERVICES

Some Shabbat Mornings

By and for women, these services are an opportunity for women to lead prayer, read from the Torah and perform the rituals associated with the day's services. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate momentous occasions – such as a girl becoming a bat mitzvah or a bride before her wedding – in the context of our service. To participate and for more information, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com. The next one is January 30th.

YOETZET HALAKHA

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

Ilana Gadish serves as the Yoetzet 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 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.

7 LAYER IRISH HAMIN FOR TU B'SHEBAT

Brian Maccaba

Traditionally served on the Shabbat near Tu B'Shebat when we read in the Torah about Pharaoh and the Exodus from Egypt, This recipe took 2nd prize at last Spring's Chulent/Hamin/Adafina/Stew Cook-off. The Maccaba family recently made aliyah. We wish Brian, Chava and their children much happiness as well as safety and tranquility in this wonderful new chapter of their lives.

INGREDIENTS

Meat: one entrecôte or cowboy steak on the bone; 1 lb stewing beef; packet of marrow bones

Dried Fruit: chopped dates, dried apricots, pears, prunes and cranberries

Vegetables: chopped leeks and onions; small cubed carrots, celery and butternut squash;

red pearl onions; quartered small red potatoes, fresh garlic

Grains: half pound of Farro

Beans: One can each of black beans, garbanzo and red pinto.

Spices: chipotle pepper, ancho pepper, sweet paprika, cardamon, cloves, cinnamon sugar, salt and pepper

Liquid: quarter bottle of Jameson Irish whiskey, 12 fluid oz bottle of Guinness stout, 12 fluid oz water (refill Guinness bottle).

There is NO oil, nor tomato paste or sauces; and no pre-cooking, sauteeing etc.

METHOD

Place 7 layers in crockpot as follows:

Layer 1: Onion, celery and butternut squash (reserve some extra for layer 6)

Layer 2 : Bone of steak and chopped steak meat, covered in spices

Layer 3: Leeks and Carrots (reserve some for layer 5)

Layer 4: Stewing beef and spices (reserve some spices for layer 6)

Layer 5: Chopped fruit, more carrots and leeks

Layer 6: Farro and marrow bones, with spices, onion, celery and squash, and two dozen red pearl onions. More spices, and sliced 6 cloves of garlic.

Layer 7: Beans

Pour whiskey, Guinness and water into pot. Switch on pot, high for few hours, then low. Next day: Enjoy!

If you would like to submit a recipe, send it to Tikva Ostrega at 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.



SERVICES

SHABBAT SERVICES

December 4th-5th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:10 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Vayesheb.....	Genesis 37:1-40:23
Haftarah Amos 2:6-3:8	Jacob Z. Neumark
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:28 pm
Habdalah.....	4:55 pm

December 11th-12th

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh-Hanukkah

6 Hanukkah Candles & Eve of Shabbat	
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:10 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:10-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Mikkets-Rosh Hodesh-Hanukkah	
Gen 41:1-44:17; Num 28:9-15 & Num 7:42-47	
Haftarah	Jacob P. Seligson
Zachariah 2:14-4:7;	
Isaiah 6:1&23; I Samuel 20:18&42	
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:29 pm
Habdalah & 7 Hanukkah Candles	4:55 pm

December 18th-19th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:12 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Vayiggash.....	Genesis 44:18-47:27
Haftarah Ezekiel 37:15-28	Samuel E Neumark
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:31 pm
Habdalah.....	4:57 pm

December 25th-26th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:16 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Vayhi	Genesis 47:28-end
Haftarah I Kings 2:1-12	Noam Kaplan
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	4:10 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:34 pm
Habdalah.....	5:01 pm

January 1st-2nd

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:21 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Shemoth.....	Exodus 1:1-6:1
Haftarah Jeremiah 1:1-2:3.....	Avery E. Neumark
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:15 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:40 pm
Habdalah.....	5:08 pm

January 8th-9th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Vaera.....	Exodus 6:2-9:35
Haftarah Ezekiel 28:25-29:21	
Bar Mitzvah.....	Aharon Soloveichik
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:20 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:46 pm
Habdalah.....	5:13 pm

January 15th-16th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:35 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Bo.....	Exodus 10:1-13:16
Haftarah Jeremiah 46:13-28	Joseph T. Eisen
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:30 pm
Saturday Sunset	4:54 pm
Habdalah.....	5:21 pm

January 22nd-23rd

Shabbat Shirah	
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:43 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	4:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Zachary S. Edinger
Parashat Beshallah-Shirah.....	Exodus 13:17-17:16
(Reading of the “Shirah” - Song of the Red Sea)	
Haftarah Judges 5:1-31	Louis Alexandre Berg
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:35 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:35 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:02 pm
Habdalah.....	5:30 pm

January 29th-30th

Shabbat Yithro	
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	4:51 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Yithro	Exodus 18:1-20:23
(Reading of the Ten Commandments)	
Haftarah Isaiah 6:1-13	Joseph A. Solomon
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:45 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:45 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:10 pm
Habdalah.....	5:39 pm

February 5th-6th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:00 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Mishpatim.....	Exodus 21:1-24:18
Haftarah	Benjamin Samborik
Jeremiah 34:8-22 and 33:25-26	
Bar Mitzvah.....	Benjamin Samborik
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	3:55 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	4:55 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:19 pm
Habdalah.....	5:48 pm

February 12th-13th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:08 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Jacob Daar
Parashat Terumah.....	Exodus 25:1-27:19
Haftarah I Kings 5:26-6:13.....	Adam F. Jackson
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	4:00 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:00 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:28 pm
Habdalah.....	5:58 pm

February 19th-20th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:17 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Tetsavveh	Exodus 27:20-30:10
Haftarah	Alexander Freilich
Ezekiel 43:10-27	
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	4:10 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:10 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:36 pm
Habdalah.....	6:07 pm

February 26th-27th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:23 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.....	8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot	Avery E. Neumark
Parashat Ki Tissa.....	Exodus 30:11-34:35
Haftarah I Kings 18:20-39.....	Hillel D. Neumark
Seuda Shelishit & Class.....	4:20 pm
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:20 pm
Saturday Sunset	5:44 pm
Habdalah.....	6:16 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS

Hanukkah Holiday

Sunday Eve, Dec. 6th & Monday: Dec. 7th through Monday, Dec. 14th:

1st Hanukkah Candle (Eve of Hanukkah)

Sunday Evening, December 6th

After Sunset.....4:28 pm

Sixth & Seventh Days of Hanukkah and Rosh Hodesh Tebeth (Two-Day)

Friday Evening, December 11th through

Saturday and Sunday, December 12th & 13th:

Services Follow Shabbat & Sunday schedule

Friday: 6 Hanukkah+Shabbat Candles.....4:10 pm

Sat.: Habdalah+7 Hanukkah Candles.....4:55 pm

Fast of Tebeth

Tuesday, December 22nd

Dawn (Fast Begins) 5:58 am

Morning Service..... 7:15 am

Sunrise..... 7:17 am

Evening Minhah & Arbit.....3:45 pm

Sunset4:32 pm

End of Fast4:52 pm

Year-End & New Year Legal Holidays

Fridays, December 25th & January 1st

Morning Service..... 8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Shebat (One-Day)

Sunday Evening, January 10th through

Monday, January 11th

Martin Luther King Legal Holiday

Monday, January 18th

Morning Service..... 8:00 am

Hamisha Asar (Tu) BiShebat

Sunday Evening , January 24th through

Monday, January 25th

Rosh Hodesh Adar I (Two-Day)

Monday Evening, February 8th through

Tuesday & Wednesday, Feb. 9th & 10th

Presidents' Day Legal Holiday

Monday, February 16th

Morning Service..... 8:00 am

DAILY SERVICES

Mornings:

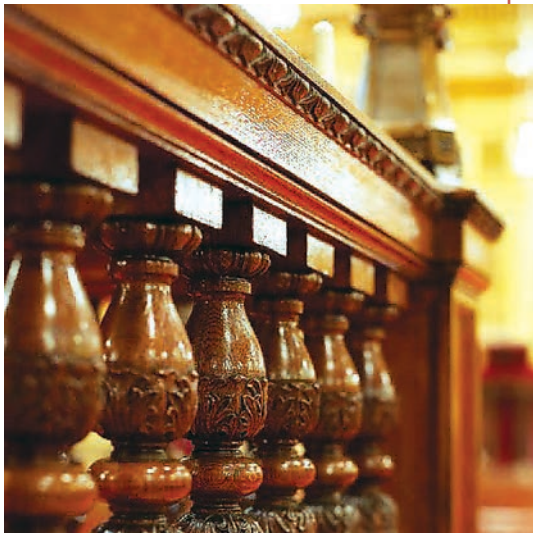
Sunday Shahrit 8:00 am

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

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:

Nov. 1st-Feb. 18th, Arbit Only.....6:30 pm

Feb. 21st-Mar. 3rd, Minhah & Arbit.....5:30 pm





HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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

GENERAL DONATIONS

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

KIDDUSH FUND

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

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

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

CARING CONNECTION

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

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENT

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

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



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