



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023

WINTER  
2020

חורף תשפ"א

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



The Bulletin

*America's First Jewish Congregation*

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By now, virtual programming has become the “new normal”. While we look forward to the day when our programs can resume in person, no doubt some degree of virtual programming – with its comfort-from-our-homes convenience and its ability to transcend geographical distance – will endure. Inside you will find a range of upcoming virtual events. Please keep in mind that while we are still in the midst of uncertainty, times, programs and venues are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, follow our emails and visit [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org).

ON THE COVER: Hanukkah Lamp c. 1730, recently at the White House for use at the official White House Hanukkah Celebration

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

### HANUKKAH'S HERO AND SHEARITH ISRAEL'S LIGHT

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



One of my favorite ritual objects at Shearith Israel is our *hanukiya*. Brought over by from Amsterdam, kindled by our community since 1730, it contains centuries of memories and meaning for such a little lamp. It proclaims both literally and symbolically the dedication of Jews to preserving the light of faith brought from the Old World to the New.

To ponder our *hanukiya* is to be reminded of those with the courage to safeguard the luminous soul of Judaism when it was not easy to do so. Rabbi Jack Sable, father of our trustee David Sable, once suggested that the unsung hero of the Hanukkah story is the unnamed individual who had the foresight and the faith to hide one small flask of oil as the Temple was taken. We tend to focus on Jewish soldiers that captured the Temple, found that last flask, and allowed the Menorah to blaze forth once again; but who had the presence of mind to prepare for that moment in a time of crisis? We readily celebrate when the sacred radiance of Judaism suffuses all one sees; it is an astonishing expression of hope to maintain one's faith in more difficult times.

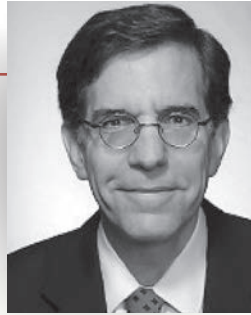
In 1730, thousands of miles away from their brethren, our predecessors had the courage to proclaim that Judaism lives in the New World. In this trying year, what a privilege it will be to kindle our sacred lamp and allow the faith of those who have come before to shine again.

*Meir Y. Soloveichik*



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS

Louis M. Solomon



## FINDING CONGREGATIONAL UNITY IN PAVING PARADISE

In our previous Bulletin, I referenced some stories from the end of Tractate Shabbat. I'm drawn to one story in the next Talmudic Tractate that daily learners of the Talmud are now studying, Tractate Eruvin. Tractate Eruvin discusses how households and communities come together by contributing to a common collection of food, thereby unifying themselves and thus enabling activities on Shabbat that would otherwise be prohibited. The Talmud discusses acts to achieve unity in the small unit, say for a family; acts to achieve unity in a larger setting, say in a cluster of adjacent houses; and acts to achieve unity in the broader community. The discussion, both in the Talmud and by subsequent commentators, cannot help but remind us of the fundamental value our religion places on achieving and maintaining unity.

On page 82 of Tractate Eruvin, the Talmud discusses the amount that each person or household needs to contribute to be an integral part of the unified group. The Talmud states that the person or household needs to contribute a

"whole" amount, as for example a whole challah. Importantly, one opinion states, the respective sizes of the donations may vary; each just needs to be of whole items.

Most congregants know the hapless story of our efforts to replace our old and failing community house on the lot adjacent to our Synagogue. For years, we had to fight a small subset of our neighbors for the right to build another community facility on the site, a fight that started in City administrative agencies and then spilled into the courts. We won all the many wars including the court litigations, which took years more. The litigations finally ended in 2019.

And then along came COVID-19. In large part due to the brilliance and perseverance of our health care providers, we will weather this pandemic infinitely better than we would otherwise. Still, there has been sad and tragic loss. And this modern plague has had lasting and dislocating economic and fiscal effects on real estate development timing and costs, on real estate prices and values, on just about everything

relevant to our building and development project. The fallout has more than imperiled our dreams for 8 West 70th Street.

Yet, simultaneously with those heavy, sometimes stinging negatives has come a Heaven-sent positive: What our community needs now is outdoor space. What the vacant construction site is, is outdoor space—literally a paved paradise (my debt to Joni Mitchell for that reference was paid in an email I sent you in October). When a construction site, the adjacent lot was not usable outdoor space, yet now we can turn it into usable outdoor space.

As I reported in my weekly update of October 2020, the Board of Trustees approved a plan to remove the existing rubble and construction fence and in its place compact the soil and install footings, a new chain link fence, gravel topping (a/k/a paving), lighting, heaters, and a commercial grade tent. Preparations have been proceeding apace. The space when finished should serve us for 2-5 years. It will enable us to meet our critical needs for outdoor space

now, will offer flexible uses beyond the current crisis, and will pave the way (so to speak) for what we will do with the property after that.

To make this project happen requires the financial support of congregants and friends. I know I've asked you for support before. No doubt special needs will arise again. My plea to you is that, if you haven't already given, or if you have but are moved by this project, please give a whole amount, whatever that means for you. I don't mean round numbers. Give an amount that approximates the whole or full value of what our Synagogue, its ministers and programs, its friends and companions, its people of all generations, mean to you. If you do that we will get there. One unified congregation in our paved paradise.

Remember: Stay safe sane and solvent! Happy winter to all.

To learn more, or to donate to this important initiative, please visit [shearithisrael.org/paved-paradise](https://shearithisrael.org/paved-paradise).





Reuben, Laury, and Matea Frierber



Honorary Trustee,  
Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONGRATULATIONS

### *Mazal Tob to:*

Esme and Roger Berg upon their grandson, Samuel, becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Samuel is the son of Virginie and Jonathan Berg.

Charlie Bieler, upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Ruth and Philip Bieler.

Laurie and Dr. Eli Bryk, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Nicole Dove (Davida Esther), born to their children, Caroline and Jordan Bryk.

Reuben Frierber upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his mother, Laury, and his sister, Matea.

Benjamin Herschman, upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to his parents, Laura and Robert Herschman, and grandparents, Dana and Michael Werner.

Ira Kalfus for being honored as this year's *Hatan Maftir* at the Jewish Center.

Ruth and Larry Kobrin, upon the marriage of their granddaughter, Yaira, daughter of Michelle and Rabbi Jeffrey Kobrin, to Solomon Weiner, son of Tikvah and Aryeh Weiner of Teaneck.

Jack Linhart, upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his parents, Dr. Leora Mogilner and Richard Linhart.

Honorary Trustee, Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes, upon celebrating his 100th birthday. Muchos anos!

Alyse and Joshua Rozenberg on the birth of a son. Congratulations to the grandparents, Susan and Avery Neumark, and great-grandfather Melvin Neumark.

Martine and Jack Schenker, upon their grandson Max Gabriel Schenker (Moshe Gavriel), becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Barbara and Sassoon Shahmoon, upon the birth of a granddaughter, born to their children, Sarah (Boumendil) and David Shahmoon.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro, on the marriage of their granddaughter, Rachel Shapiro, daughter of Monica and Sandy Shapiro, to Natan Bienstock, son of Sara and Mark Bienstock.

## HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

### *Members with special achievements:*

Noah Lang, on completing the United States Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, in Quantico, VA.

The healthcare workers of our community, who have been doing heroic work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our daily morning study group, upon completing Kings I. This small group of dedicated attendees has been slowly and steadily making its way through the Prophets. Keep up the good work and Tizku leMitzvot!

## IN MEMORIAM

### *We mourn the loss of our members:*

Dr. Richard Amelar  
Isaac Cohen

### **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.*

## CONDOLENCES

### **We extend sincere condolences to:**

Alice Amelar, upon the passing of her husband, Dr Richard Amelar.

Jessica Amelar, upon the passing of her father, Dr. Richard Amelar.

Emma Gordon Blass, upon the passing of her mother, Loraine Gordon.

James Cohen, upon the passing of his father, Isaac Cohen.

Manny Gross, upon the passing of his brother, Harry Gross.

Dr. Martin Grumet, upon the passing of his father, Ephraim Grumet.

Andre Guenoun, upon the passing of his mother, Yolande Guenoun.

Ruthie Israeli, upon the passing of her mother, Phyllis Israeli.

Joel Marcus, upon the passing of his mother, Esther Marcus.

Theresia Rodrigues Pereira, upon the passing of her brother, Albert Gomes de Mesquita.

John Quinones, our Building Manager, upon the passing of his father, John Quinones, Sr.

Esther and Bill Schulder, upon the passing of their nephew, Aryeh Kushner.

Suzy Sokol, upon the passing of her mother, Mali Kamali.



IN APPRECIATION

Special thanks to:

Our indefatigable Parnas, clergy, administrative staff, maintenance workers, Board of Trustees, and volunteers for keeping our community flourishing even through these turbulent times.

Our Daily Minyan-Makers, who have ensured that we maintain continual weekly services during this time. If you'd like to commit to a daily minyan (even one day a week can make a big difference!), contact Rev. Z. Edinger at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).

Friday Night Lights Sponsors:

Anonymous

Dr. Robert April, in honor of the nahala of his mother, Belle April z”l

Faith Fogelman, in memory of her father, Theodore Watkin

Mona and Stephen Klaber, in honor of Jackie and Andrew Klaber’s anniversary

Aren Gottlieb and Ram Roth, in honor of Ma and Pa, Joan and Michael Gottlieb

Evelyn and Salomon Sassoon, in honor of the nahala of Rahmo Sassoon

Linda and Howard Sterling, in memory of Linda’s father, Eliazer b. Fagel v’Avaraham

Friday Night Lights...Now on Thursdays

Sponsors:

Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein, לע”י נעמי זיסל בת שלמה זלמן, ופרל גולדה בת שלמה יצחק

Judy and Robert Friedman, in memory of Edward Feiner, אליהו בן יעקב

Juan Mesa-Freydell

Judy and Marty Grumet, in memory of Ephraim Grumet

The Klaber Family, in memory of Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Jane Shiff, in memory of her father, Nathan Renick O”BM, Nissin Shalom b. Pinches Zelig v’ Shprintza

Subscribers:

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Rebecca and Israel Rivkin

Sara and Richie Schlussel

Gershon Segal

Morris Shoretz, in memory of Rochie Shoretz

The Solomon Family

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Dr. Margo Woll

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Robyn and Eric Frohmann

Elaine Hochberg

Gerald Hollander

Hana and Brian Katz

Kogan Family, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Janet and Michael Neustein, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Janet and Michael Neustein, in memory of former Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z”l

Mark Perkins

Dr. David Present

Rima Raynes, in honor of the Raynes-Friedman Family

Henry Rieser

Rebecca and Israel Rivkin, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveitchick

Sandra Rose

Florence and Reuven Rosen

Randee and Ken Rubenstein

Dr. Morris Stampfer

Martha Steinmetz, in memory of Nachman b. Yehuda Aryeh

Susan Wallach

Andrea Weiss, in memory of Hans and Lala Diestel of Hong Kong

Daily Morning Zoom Sponsors:

A friend of Shearith Israel

Lewis Bateman, in memory of his mother, Caryl Cohn Bateman (Chaya bat Moshe)

Shabbat Teshuba Derasha Sponsors:

Nicole and Raanan Agus, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik

Debbie and David Sable, on the occasion of the nahala of David’s mother, Elissa Sable

Co-Sponsors:

Carol and Alan Schechter, in memory of Alan’s mother, Yitta Bat Yitzchak Shmuel, on the occasion of her nahala on the second day of Rosh HaShana

The Solomon Family

Contributors:

Ruth and Larry Kobrin

Rebecca and Israel Rivkin, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichick

Barbara Herlands Smith

Rabbi Soloveichik’s High Holidays Series:

Nicole and Raanan Agus

Succot and Shemini Atseret Kiddush Sponsors:

The Shearith Israel Sisterhood

Lewis Bateman, in memory of his mother, Caryl Cohn Bateman (Chaya bat Moshe)

Barbara Herlands Smith and Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands in observance of the nahala of their adored brother, James O. Herlands.

**Succah Sponsors:**

The Shearith Israel Sisterhood  
 Jessica Amelar  
 Lewis Bateman, in memory of his mother,  
 Caryl Cohn Bateman (Chaya bat Moshe)  
 The Daar Family  
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 Florie and Benson Jerusalemi  
 Janegail and James Kahn  
 Linda and Morris Shamah  
 Suchu and Meyer Solny  
 Susan Wind  
 Hoshaana Rabba Lecture Sponsors:  
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 Nicole and Raanan Agus

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

Anonymous, in honor of the honorable  
 Dr. Rabbi Meir Soloveichik  
  
 Suzanne and Norman Javitt, in honor of  
 the birthday of Jonathan Javitt, living in  
 Zichron Yakov, Israel  
  
 Jerry Kestenbaum and Family  
  
 Laura Rubin, in honor of Rabbi  
 Soloveichik  
  
 Jane Shiff, in memory of her father,  
 Nathan Renick O"BM, Nissin Shalom b.  
 Pinches Zelig v' Shprintza  
  
 Martine and Jack Schenker, in memory  
 of Martine's father, Henri Krenik (Tzvi  
 Hersh b. Shalom), on the occasion of his  
 upcoming *nahala*  
  
 Martine and Jack Schenker, in honor of  
 Barbara Reiss, for the terrific job she is  
 doing for our congregation

**Hatanim Celebration Sponsors:**

**Onyx Page:**

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 The Lustig-Brody Family  
 The Solomon Family  
 The Stanton Family

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Henri Bengualid and the Bengualid  
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 Madelene and Stan Towne

**Silver Page:**

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 Avi and Samuel  
 Nehama, Benjamin, and Zachariah  
 Edinger  
 Rose and Henry Edinger  
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 Family  
 Lauren and Ezra Merkin  
 Rebecca Chaplan and David Nathan  
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 Judy and Dr. Joseph Pollak and Nicole  
 and Dr. Michael Pollak  
 Debbie and David Sable

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 Ivy and Dr. Marvin Schildkraut and  
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 David Lerner  
 Liliane Marks  
 Dinah and Andrew Mendes  
 Francine Alfandary and Laurent  
 Nahon and Louis and Rafi Nahon  
 Hayyim Obadyah  
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 The Wiznia Family

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Anonymous, Bonnie Barest, Lewis  
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 Ruthie Israeli, Steve and Jiya Kowarsky,  
 Judy Kramer, Rabbi M Licht, Rochelle  
 and Eugene Major, Joshua de Sola  
 Mendes, Mira Mizrahi, Jack Obadia,  
 Patricia and Shaul Rabinowitz, Rima  
 Raynes, Rita Rodin, Joan Roth

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





**Bonnie Barest**  
Deputy Executive Director

## THE 5781 HATANIM CELEBRATION: THE VIRTUAL EVENT

ואני ברב חסדך אבא ביתך. אשתחווה אל-היכל קדשך ביראתך

*"Because of your great kindness, I come into your house  
and bow down in awe before your holy sanctuary."*

David De Sola Pool, *Book of Prayers According to the Custom of the  
Spanish and Portuguese Jews*, Page 1 (English adapted)



On November 1st, Congregation Shearith Israel upheld its longstanding tradition of honoring the new Hatan Torah and Hatan Bereshit, although this year's hatanim, Dr. Henry Edinger, and Rabbi Dr. Meir Soloveichik, were feted in a new way – in compliance with COVID-19 pandemic regulations- with a virtual event. Our Hatanim, their spouses, and a scant few family members, along with our Parnas, Louis Solomon and Hazan Rabbi Ira Rohde, joined live from the Main Sanctuary, while over 150 individuals and families attended via Zoom.

Louis Solomon paid tribute to the Hatanim and their wives for their "leadership in services" and their "leadership in service". Rabbi Rohde then regaled our Hatanim with the melodious Tenu Shebaha.

Henry shared his journey of how he came to join and love Shearith Israel, thanks go to his wonderful wife, Rose, whose family has served the congregation for generations. Rose shared many great childhood memories in her remarks. And they are both so proud that the tradition is being carried forward by their son, Reverend Zachary Edinger, our dedicated Sexton/ Assistant Hazan.

Henry recounted that the prayer quoted above truly expressed his feelings, and while he didn't always recite this prayer, now as he entered the synagogue for the first time since Purim, it took on new meaning. Rose concurred and exclaimed that the Synagogue "still has its awe, radiance and warmth."

Rabbi Soloveichik lightheartedly shared his sartorial dilemma for the occasion, should he don the minister's canonicals or the hatan's morning suit. Since, according to Shearith Israel's Constitution, the role of Hatan supersedes Rabbi, he chose the morning suit, and quipped, "I do feel pretty amazing". He expounded on two unique moments during the pandemic when he was in the sanctuary – basically alone: his livestreamed lecture on "The Lonely Man of Faith" and the livestreamed recitation of the Kal Nidre on Kippur eve. Both, he said, were quite moving – he might have been alone, but he wasn't lonely. He expressed gratitude for being part of something larger than oneself – "a covenantal connection".

Layalza Soloveichik shared the significance of the roles of Hatan Torah and Hatan Bereshit. Torah represents our faith and tradition, and Bereshit, beginnings, renewal and spiritual rebirth. She said, "Torah is a way to begin anew. We look forward to more new beginnings, and all being back together in Shearith Israel, our spiritual home, soon."

Lou closed the formal part of the program by expressing his gratitude to all - congregants, clergy, staff and our COVID Working Group - who make our services and programs happen.

The celebration concluded with Zoom participants chiming in with their toasts, congratulations, and blessings, and finally, a voluminous scroll of virtual greetings for our Hatanim. The Congregation expresses our gratitude to all those who generously contributed. Hazakim u'berukhim to Dr. Henry Edinger and Rabbi Dr. Meir Soloveichik!



## HANUKKAH

### HANUKKAH LECTURE SERIES

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Dates TBD

This multi-part series leading up to and culminating on Hanukkah itself will guide you through the themes of the holiday with a completely fresh approach.

### LIVESTREAM HANUKKAH LIGHTING

**First Night of Hanukkah**  
Thursday, December 10

Join us in celebrating light overcoming darkness as we livestream our Hanukkah lighting ceremony directly into your homes. Light along with us, sing our songs, and celebrate our resilience over adversity.



## TU B'SHEBAT

### "FANTASTIC FRUITS AND HOW TO COOK THEM"

*A Tu B'Shebat Cooking Class with Rabbi Ira Rohde*

Wednesday, January 27 | 7:30 pm

In honor of *Tu B'Shebat*, join Rabbi Ira Rohde and special guests as he rediscovers overlooked and forgotten foods of Ancient Israel. These were formerly staples of the diet in the Holy Land and much of the Mediterranean for thousands of years, but have suffered neglect and are unfamiliar to many in the West. While none of these fruits grows on what is technically classified as a "tree," they certainly rivaled tree-crops in importance. Hence we have chosen to celebrate them on this agricultural holiday which traditionally salutes the fruits peculiarly native to the Holy Land. Some of these ancient staples have slowly been staging a bit of a comeback as "health-foods" in recent years. We will combine recipe information/demonstration along with background culinary history. We will also add more-familiar Israeli fruits and nuts for dessert.



## PURIM

### SISTERHOOD MISHLOAH MANOT PROJECT

Do you want to send *Mishloah Manot* to your friends and fellow congregants for Purim? At a time when we miss and appreciate each other more than ever, take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to send special Purim greetings and to reach out to our Shearith Israel community and beyond. There will also be a COVID-safe pickup at the synagogue for those who order packages.

This project supports the Sisterhood's many important activities in our synagogue. Please stay tuned for more information about how to participate.

### MARVELOUS PURIM PASTRY BAKING WITH ALLAYA FLEISCHER

February, Date TBD | On Zoom

In a follow-up to her "Marvelous Hallah Baking Class," join Shearith Israel's resident professional baker, Allaya Fleischer of *Stuff You Knead*, as she teaches us how to make scrumptiously delicious Purim pastries. Advance registration will ensure you get the ingredient list, so that you can shop ahead of time and have the necessary ingredients on hand.



*Allaya Fleischer leads a hallah baking class on Zoom*

### LIVESTREAM MEGILLAH READING

**Purim Evening**  
Thursday, February 25 | On Zoom

Our in-person services may still be at limited capacity on Purim, but there's nothing stopping us from enjoying a communal reading via livestream. Stay tuned on how to tune in.

### VIRTUAL WOMEN'S MEGILLAH READING

**Purim Morning**  
Friday, February 26 | On Zoom

Women are encouraged to join our unique women's reading, now in its 32nd year! As with our Book of Ruth and *Shir HaShirim* readings, this reading will also be done virtually, enabling safe participation from women and girls near and far. Novices, no need to feel intimidated; we are happy to train you to read a part, large or small. To sign up for this year's reading, please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at [lirohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lirohde-csi@yahoo.com).



# SPECIAL EVENTS



Jennifer Ash at Chatham Square Cemetery Clean-Up event



## PROGRAMMING NOTE:

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

For the latest programming updates, we encourage you to follow our newsletter emails. If you have not yet signed up, you may do so at [shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists](https://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists).

## GRAND(PARENT)-CHILD LEARNING

3 Sessions | Saturday Nights:  
December 19, January 9, February 13

Led by Rabbi Soloveichik, Rabbi Rohde, and Rev. Edinger

Spending quality time with grandchildren, once a commonplace joy, has become increasingly difficult, especially in these socially-distanced times. But we've also learned how technology can bridge barriers. To that end, this year we especially encourage grandparents to share Torah and family time with their grandchildren during these 3 Saturday night sessions, each led by a different member of our clergy. Parents are of course welcome as well for this multi-generational bonding opportunity, as we pass on our traditions m'dor l'dor.

Stay tuned for registration details.

## SUNDAY MATINEE SERIES

Sponsored by the  
*Sisterhood of Congregation Shearith Israel*

A series of video presentations including a live Q&A with the filmmakers and artists

Part 2: Sunday, December 20 | 11:00 am | On Zoom

Part 3: Sunday, January 10 | 2:00 pm | On Zoom

Stuck in the house? Tired of Netflix? Looking for some thought-provoking films to enjoy with old friends and new? Each of these specially curated films will explore how we transmit culture, identity and memory now and through time. Part 1 took place in November, but we have 2 more great matinees coming up!

Presentation #2: David Moss' "Illuminating Souls—A Life in Jewish Art"

David Moss considers himself a "mitzvah beautifier." He works in diverse media, including calligraphy, illumination, papercuts, sculpture, wood, prints, artist books, architecture, pottery, drama, educational programming, and others. He is responsible for the revival of the hand-illustrated *ketubah*, created "The Moss Haggadah," and collaborated on the "Tree of Life Shtender." His works are exhibited at or in the permanent collections of British Museum, Harvard's Widener Library, Israel Museum, Library of Congress, among many others and is included in many private collections.



Presentation #3: Vivienne Roumani-Denn's "Out of Print," followed by a Q&A with the Director, Shearith Israel member, Vivienne Roumani-Denn

Narrated by Meryl Streep, this film explores our extraordinary transformation as we moved from the preeminence of the written word to the digital age and the profound effect it has had on how we learn and live. The documentary is directed by Vivienne Roumani-Denn and features interviews with Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, former Authors Guild President Scott Turow, the late Ray Bradbury, and other leaders in tech, publishing, libraries, education, and cognitive science.

## TED COMET VIRTUAL TAPESTRY TOUR

Date TBD | On Zoom

The Upper West Side apartment of our friend Ted Comet houses a phenomenal and unexpected collection: stunningly evocative tapestries created by his late wife, trauma expert, Dr. Shoshana Comet, illustrating the history of the Jewish people, our trials and tribulations throughout the ages – a true celebration of our survival. We invite you to join Mr. Comet, a sensitive and engaging raconteur, on a virtual tour through these illuminating pieces of handmade art.

Stay tuned for details.



## OUT OF PRINT







## PAINT NIGHT

with **Rena Maryles**

**Saturday Night, January 16 | On Zoom**

Join us for a virtual night of colorful creativity with professional artist and art instructor Rena Maryles, who has been painting and teaching for over 25 years. Her commissioned pieces have sold to clients across the US and Israel. Her works can be viewed on her Instagram page, @renaspallette.

Paint Night will enable all participants to work on one specific painting with Rena's guidance on technique and flair, and Rena encourages her pupils to embrace their own style and make the painting their own. You will leave with a work of art you can truly take pride in!

This event will require advance registration and fee (\$30 for members, \$35 for non-members), which includes pre-packed kits from Rena with all necessary materials (which will be available for pickup at the synagogue). Follow our emails for upcoming details.

## TORAHS THROUGH TIME

*Presented by our Segan,  
Michael Lustig*

**Wednesday, January 13 | 2:00 pm  
On Zoom**

The Torah is at the heart of our tradition. Over our centuries-long history, we have accumulated 49 Torah scrolls, each with its own unique story. Collectively, these scrolls bear witness to the long history and the diverse origins of our congregants who hail from communities all over the Ashkenazi and Sephardi world, and the growth of the Jewish community in North America. Our *Sefarim* are living memorials to Jewish communities destroyed by persecution and Holocaust, and they are evidence of the rebirth of our people in the modern State of Israel. They testify to our origins in the Portuguese community in Amsterdam and our strong connection there throughout our 365+ year history.

Join us for an interactive presentation of three of these historic *Sifrei Torah*. Participation is limited to 20. Follow our emails for registration details.

## YOETZET HALAKHA

**Events TBD**

As part of a consortium of local synagogues that retains a *Yoetzet Halakha*, our *Yoetzet*, Shiffy Friedman is available to answer any questions regarding *Taharat Hamishpakha* (Jewish Family Law) laws of *Niddah*, sexuality, and women's health. Shearith Israel contributes several thousand dollars each year to provide this confidential service. You can donate to support this important initiative, or contact Shiffy in confidence at [nycyoetzet@gmail.com](mailto:nycyoetzet@gmail.com)



Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander



Rev. Z. Edinger



Rabbi Ira Rohde

## THE GUIDE TO DUTIES OF THE HEART

**Sundays | 8:45 am  
Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander**

**Via Zoom | To receive the link, email Rabbi den Hollander at [sjimon@flatironre.com](mailto:sjimon@flatironre.com)**

While *The Guide to the Duties of the Heart* (completed around 1075 CE) is sometimes called the first work of Jewish ethics, it aims to guide us towards a spiritual dedication, taught within a philosophical outlook that has similarities with both Saadiah Gaon and Maimonides. Besides philosophical concepts, Bahya ibn Paquda frequently uses stories and concepts from Sufism (Islamic mysticism) to stir in us a spiritual mindfulness and to deepen our love of God.

Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander was born in the Netherlands. He received his Master's degree in Arabic and Islamology from the University of Leiden. After subsequently earning a Bachelor's degree in education, he taught Comparative Religion at Ichthus Teachers' College in Rotterdam. More recently, Rabbi den Hollander received *semikha* from Rabbi Eliyahu Ben Haim and from Yeshiva University. He teaches Jewish literature at Hunter College. In addition, he does research on Islam's perception of Judaism and writes online articles in Arabic explaining Judaism to a Muslim audience.

## DAILY ZOOM: BOOK OF KINGS

**Sunday – Thursday Mornings  
Rev. Z. Edinger and Rabbi Ira Rohde**

**Via Zoom | To receive the link, email Z. at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org)**

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



## TODDLER ZOOM WITH LIZ

**Mondays and Wednesdays on Zoom | 10:00 am**

Liz continues to be our toddler educator and entertainer extraordinaire in virtual format, mesmerizing our tots with stories, games, songs, show and tell, and more. Follow our emails to sign up.

## THE ART OF TORAH: THE PARASHA AND THE WORLD'S GREATEST PAINTINGS

**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Weekly Conference Call**

**This class is free, but make sure to register at [shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah](https://shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah)**

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

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Visit [shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah](https://shearithisrael.org/art-of-torah):

#### Session Sponsor | \$360

Session sponsors will be mentioned on the date of the session of their choice, and are listed on that week's source sheet, as well as our seasonal bulletin.

#### Season Sponsor (until Pesah) | \$3600

Season Sponsors will be listed on the source sheet each week (and in the Bulletin), and they **will be invited to join Rabbi Soloveichik for a private biblical art tour at the Met.**

## WEEKLY DEBAR TORAH

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

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



Liz Rios



## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS... NOW ON THURSDAYS

*2020-2021 season sponsored by the Julis-Rabinowitz family*

**Thursdays | 7:30 pm | Via Conference Call  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

More time at home (and sadly, less time at Synagogue) has enabled many more of us to enjoy Friday Night Lights beyond the "season." Rabbi Soloveichik has masterfully continued his beloved Friday Night Lights lectures nonstop, via conference call, for hundreds of listeners each week. Now that Fridays have grown shorter, these wonderful talks will take place on Thursday nights, transitioning us into a Shabbat mindset even earlier.

**Don't forget to register at [shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays](https://shearithisrael.org/fnl-thursdays)!**

### NEW SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are offering new ways for our listeners to show their appreciation to Rabbi Soloveichik and our Congregation:

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

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

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

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



## VIRTUAL HASHCABA SERVICE AND MISHEBERAKH FOR THE ILL

**Friday | Rev. Z. Edinger**

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

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

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

## VIRTUAL HABDALA SERVICE

**Saturday Night | Rev. Z. Edinger**

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

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



## WELCOMING A NEIGHBOR: MANHATTAN DAY SCHOOL *and* SHEARITH ISRAEL

Bonnie Barest  
Deputy Executive Director

“Teach Your Children Well”\*  
ושננתם לבניך



*V'shinantam l'vanekha....*As we recite the *Sh'ma* twice daily, we recall the importance of “teaching our children again and again the words of the Torah.”

This very unusual fall, as Manhattan Day School was faced with a shortage of the expanded space requirements needed to accommodate all of their students with proper social distancing in their W. 75th Street building, Congregation Shearith Israel's Board of Trustees unanimously and enthusiastically responded in the affirmative to Head of School, Ms. Raizi Chechik to open our doors to MDS' middle schoolers. We embraced our responsibility to be a good community partner and help make this *mitzvah* a reality.

We welcomed MDS' 7th and 8th graders to hold classes throughout our building. Adrienne Mittan, Executive Director, made sure the classrooms were set up as COVID-safe spaces, overseeing the delivery of HEPA filters, school desks with shields, whiteboards (to avoid paper) and hand sanitizing dispensers (with special thanks to our great facilities team, John Quinones, Miguel Santiago, and Olivo Lopez for their assistance).

On September 8, 2020, the first day of school, Rabbi Rosenfeld, Head of the Middle School, rolled out the red carpet (literally!) for the students. Jason, the MDS security guard, was there to ensure everyone is well protected

*We embraced our responsibility to be a good community partner and help make this mitzvah a reality.*



(and continues to be there everyday). Students were thrilled to be back in school (how often do you hear that?) and their parents, even more so. Reuben and Matea Frieber, two of our congregants, were especially excited to be attending school in their own synagogue. The boys took over Levy Auditorium and girls moved into Fidanque, our youth space. Even our sacred sanctuary is now used every school day as a safe and inspiring space for Judaic study. Rabbis and teachers found new ways to work with the students, and thanks to MDS IT professional, Elisha Hus, the WiFi was upgraded to allow everyone to efficiently use their iPads. To provide a breath of fresh air and a time to safely remove

masks, lunchtime is held on our Portico (and also serves as an iconic backdrop for the 8th grade.)

Our historic building is providing a great community service when otherwise, and sadly, remaining substantially underutilized during the weekdays. And those of us who do spend time in the building love hearing the halls filled with the sounds of tefillot and children's laughter.

We're so proud to be doing our part to ensure a vibrant future for students of Torah, and are very appreciative of Ms. Chechik's expression of gratitude: “May the Torah learned by our students in your sanctuary be a source of blessing for your entire congregation.”



# HESED

## IN TIMES OF CORONA

### CARING CONNECTION

Caring Connection trains community members as sensitive volunteers, enabling them to proactively help others through times of need, one of Judaism's greatest mitzvot. This vital assistance greatly aids the individual, and also strengthens and unifies our community, enhancing our sense of responsibility for one another. This group of volunteers responds to a variety of situations, both in times of difficulty, such as illness or mourning, and times of joy, such as the exciting and often overwhelming challenges accompanying the arrival of a new baby.

Our volunteers coordinate meals to those in need; arrange visits and phone calls to the elderly, homebound, and recuperating; and even provide transport or wheelchair assistance to those who wish to attend synagogue services or events. *Caring Connection* also facilitates and organizes important communal conversations, raising awareness on mental health issues, such as our "Smash the Stigma" panels on suicide and depression.

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

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

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



### MEALS FOR MOURNERS AND NEW PARENTS

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

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

If you would prefer to cook and deliver your own home-cooked meals, or place food orders on your own rather than participate in *Caring Connection's* fund, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at [layaliza@gmail.com](mailto:layaliza@gmail.com) beforehand. Layaliza is our congregation's volunteer coordinator for meals for new parents, and she makes every effort to ensure that the family's preferences and requests are accommodated and that duplication of efforts are avoided.

Using skinless dark-meat, this marinated chicken is healthy, easy to prepare, and simply delicious. And pairing with tri-color quinoa creates a meal that is light yet very satisfying.



## GONDHI AFGHAN MEATBALLS

by Malka Aaron

Malka Aaron was born in Israel. Her husband, Jacob, was born in Afghanistan, and they have been married for 55 years. They have three accomplished daughters, Gila, Tina, and Jessica, and five grandchildren, four boys and one girl. They arrived in America shortly after they married, and lived in Jamaica Estates, Queens. Along with a few families from Afghanistan, they started their own synagogue, Anshi Sholom, which held services in a basement, before moving into a house and ultimately its own building. Jacob was president of that synagogue for five years; it was an exciting experience! The Aarons moved to the West Side several years ago to be closer to their grandchildren, and joined Shearith Israel, which they now consider to be their second home.

## CULINARY CORNER

### Ingredients:

#### Mix together:

one pound ground meat  
one pound ground chicken breast  
one shredded cauliflower  
one cup of sushi rice  
1 egg  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
1 tablespoon salt  
1 teaspoon black pepper  
1/2 teaspoon turmeric  
1/2 cup of breadcrumbs

#### In a separate dish combine:

1 cup marinara sauce  
1 bag frozen peas  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper  
1/2 teaspoon turmeric  
juice from 1 lemon  
2 cups of water

### Instructions

Place the sauce and peas mixture on the bottom of a baking dish.

Form meatballs from the meat mixture and place the balls on top of the peas and sauce.

(Optional: add potatoes and carrots)

Cover the dish and bake at 350 degrees for 1 1/2 hours. Enjoy!

*If you would like to submit a recipe for a future bulletin, or a review of a kosher cookbook or restaurant, either in NYC or around the world, send it to Tikva Ostrega at [tikvaostrega@gmail.com](mailto:tikvaostrega@gmail.com). In addition to the recipe or review, please include a short backstory describing yourself, your connection to Shearith Israel, and the food's significance to you.*



# SERVICES

**PLEASE NOTE: SERVICE TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOLLOW OUR EMAILS TO GET THE LATEST CHANGES: SHEARITHISRAEL.ORG/JOIN-OUR-EMAIL-LISTS.**

## DAILY SERVICES

- Mornings, Sundays:**  
Shahrit..... 8:00 am
- Mornings, Mondays & Thursdays:**  
Shahrit..... 7:15 am
- Mornings:  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays,  
By Special Demand Only**  
Shahrit..... 7:15 am
- Evenings, Sundays:**  
Nov. 22nd-Dec. 27th, Minha & Arbit ..... 4:15 pm  
January 3rd & 10th, Minha & Arbit ..... 4:30 pm  
January 17th & 24th, Minha & Arbit ..... 4:45 pm  
Jan. 31st & Feb. 7th, Minha & Arbit ..... 5:00 pm  
February 14th & 21st, Minha & Arbit ..... 5:15 pm  
Feb. 28th & Mar. 7th, Minha & Arbit ..... 5:30 pm  
March 14th & 21st, Minha & Arbit ..... 6:30 pm
- Evenings, Monday-Thursday:**  
Nov. 2nd-Mar. 11th, Arbit Only ..... 6:30 pm  
March 14th-June 3rd, Minha & Arbit ..... 6:30 pm

## SHABBAT SERVICES

- December 4th-5th**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:10 pm  
Friday Evening Service ..... 4:15 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Vayishlah ..... Genesis 32:4-36:43  
Haftarah: Book of Obadiah  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:10 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:28 pm  
Habdalah..... 4:55 pm

- December 11th-12th Shabbat Hanukkah**  
Light 2 Hanukkah Candles & Eve of Shabbat  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:10 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:15 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Vayesheb-Hanukkah  
Genesis 37:1-40:23 & Numbers 7:18-23  
Haftarah: Zachariah 2:14-4:7  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:10 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:29 pm  
Habdalah & 3 Hanukkah Candles ..... 4:55 pm

- December 18th-19th**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:12 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:15 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Mikkets ..... Genesis 41:1-44:17  
Haftarah: I Kings 3:15-4:1  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:15 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:31 pm  
Habdalah..... 4:57 pm



- December 25th-26th**  
**Friday Eve Dec. 25th End of Fast of Tebeth**  
Minhah (with tefillin) & Shabbat Arbit..... 4:00 pm  
Eve of Shabbat Candle Lighting ..... 4:16 pm  
End of Fast at Sunset..... 4:34 pm  
**Shabbat Morning Saturday, December 26th**  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Vayiggash..... Genesis 44:18-47:27  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15-28  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:20 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:35 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:01 pm

- January 1st-2nd**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:21 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:30 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Vayhi ..... Genesis 47:28-end  
Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:25 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:40 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:07 pm

- January 8th-9th**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:28 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:30 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Shemoth..... Exodus 1:1-6:1  
Haftarah: Jeremiah 1:1-2:3  
Minhah & Arbit..... 4:30 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:47 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:14 pm

- January 15th-16th**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:35 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:45 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Vaera..... Exodus 6:2-9:35  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21  
Minhah & Arbit..... 4:40 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 4:55 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:22 pm

- January 22nd-23rd**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:44 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:45 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Bo..... Exodus 10:1-13:6  
Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 4:45 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 5:03 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:31 pm

- January 29th-30th Shabbat Shirah**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 4:52 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 5:00 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Beshallah-Shirah..... Exodus 13:17-17:16  
(Reading of the Shirah - Song of the Red Sea)  
Haftarah: Judges 5:1-31  
Minhah & Arbit..... 4:55 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 5:11 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:40 pm  
**Shabbat Shirah** takes its name from the “Song (Heb. ‘Shirah’) of the Sea,” chanted in the middle of the narrative of the crossing of the Red Sea, the text of the Parashat Beshallah Torah Reading.

- February 5th-6th Shabbat Yithro**  
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..... 5:01 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 5:00 pm  
Saturday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided  
Parashat Yithro ..... Exodus 18:1-20:23  
(Reading of the Ten Commandments)  
Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-13  
Saturday Minhah & Arbit..... 5:05 pm  
Saturday Sunset ..... 5:16 pm  
Habdalah..... 5:49 pm  
**Shabbat Yithro’s** Torah reading begins with the story of Moses being joined by his father-in-law Jethro (Heb. “Yithro”) after the defeat of the Egyptians at the Red Sea, and is noteworthy for the encampment at the foot of Sinai and the Ten Commandments, which follow.



February 12th-13th

Shabbat Shekalim – 2nd Day Rosh Hodesh

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:09 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:15 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Mishpatim-Shekalim-Rosh Hodesh	
Exodus 21:1-24:18 & 30:11-16; Num..28:9-15	
Haftarah ..... II Kings 11:17-12:17; Isaiah 66:1 & 23	
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:15 pm
Saturday Sunset.....	5:29 pm
Habdalah.....	5:59 pm

**Shabbat Shekalim:** During Temple times the payment of a poll tax of half a shekel by every Jew was called for on the first day of the twelfth month (Adar). Exodus 30:11-16 was added as a reminder on the Sabbath preceding. This is the first of four Sabbaths with additional Torah readings and special haftarot which are scheduled in preparation for Passover.

February 19th-20th Shabbat Zakhor

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:18 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:15 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Terumah-Zakhor	
Exodus 25:1-27:19 & Deuteronomy 25:17-19	
Haftarah I Samuel 15:1-34 .....	Mark Aaron
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:20 pm
Saturday Sunset.....	5:37 pm
Habdalah.....	6:08 pm

**Shabbat Zakhor/Mi Khamokha**, is the Sabbath preceding Purim. Judah HaLevy’s poem, “Mi Khamokha” is read Saturday at 9:00 am. Deut. 25:17-19, beginning “Zakhor ‘Remember [Amalek],” is added to the regular Parashah reading,” because Haman was presumed a descendant of the tribe of Amalek, the first “annihilators” of Israel!

February 26th-27th Shabbat Purim Shushan Purim Mushullash Jerusalem Triple Purim

Eve of Shabbat Candle Lighting .....	5:26 pm
Sunset & End of Purim.....	5:44 pm
Purim Minhah & Friday Eve Arbit.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Tetsavveh .....	Exodus 27:20-30:10
Haftarah: Ezekiel 43:10-27	
Minhah & Arbit.....	5:30 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	5:45 pm
Habdalah.....	6:17 pm

(See Purim Services for Notes & Explanation)

March 5th-6th Shabbat Parah

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:34 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Ki Tissa-Parah	
Exodus 30:11-34:35; Numbers 19:1-22	
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16-36	
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	5:35 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset .....	5:53 pm
Habdalah.....	6:26 pm

**Shabbat Parah:** Ritual cleanliness was required preparation for the obligatory Paschal lamb sacrifice. Hence, in the month before Passover, we publicly read Numbers Ch. 19, the law concerning the ashes of the Red Heifer [Heb. “Parah Adumah”]

March 12th-13th Shabbat HaHodesh

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	5:42 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	5:45 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Vayaqhel-Pequde-Hahodesh	
Exodus 35-end & Exodus 12:1-20	
Haftarah:	
Ezekiel 45:18-46:15; I Samuel 20:18 & 42	
Saturday Minhah/Rosh Hodesh Arbit .....	5:45 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	6:01 pm
Habdalah.....	6:34 pm

**Move the Clock Ahead Saturday Night!**

**Shabbat Hahodesh** derives its name from the special reading of the Torah, Exodus 12:1-20. This is the “portion about the month” referring to the special consecration of Nisan, the month of Pesah. In 5781, **Shabbat Hahodesh** occurs the day before **Rosh Hodesh** itself, so we add two verses from the **Mahar Hodesh** haftarah.

March 19th-20th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:49 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Service.....	Times To be Decided
Parashat Vayikra .....	Leviticus 1:1-5:26
Haftarah .....	Isaiah 43:21-44:23
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....	6:50 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	7:08 pm
Habdalah.....	7:43 pm

March 26rd-27th Shabbat HaGadol 1818 -2nd Mill St. Consecration Anniversary

(See Passover Festival for Full Schedule)  
**Shabbat HaGadol, the “Sabbath of the Great [One]”** is the designation used for the Sabbath just preceding Passover, which was the occasion for a “great” sage of rank to exhort the assembled congregation concerning the upcoming Passover Festival. At Shearith Israel, this Shabbat is also observed as the anniversary of the consecration of its 2nd Mill St. Synagogue Building, which was completed and officially dedicated just in time for Passover 1818. This year, Shabbat HaGadol falls on the Eve of Passover, and there are special rules for Shabbat and Passover observances, so refer to the Passover Festival Schedule for full instructions.

HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

Hanukkah Holiday

Thursday Evening, December 10th & Friday, December 11th through Friday, December 18th:

**1st Evening: 1 Hanukkah Candle (Eve of Hanukkah)**

Thursday Evening, December 10th

Light 1 Candle After Sunset.....	4:28 pm
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....	6:30 pm

**1st Morning of Hanukkah**

Friday Morning, December 11th

Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....	7:15 am
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**2nd Evening: 2 Hanukkah Candles & Eve of Shabbat Hanukkah**

Friday Evening, December 11th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....	4:15 pm
Light 2 Hanukkah Candles & Eve of Shabbat	
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	by 4:10 pm
Sunset .....	4:28 pm

**2nd Morning of Hanukkah & Shabbat Hanukkah Daytime**

Saturday Morning, December 12th

Parashat Vayesheb-Hanukkah

Saturday Morning Inside Service .....	9:00-11:00 am
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(See *Shabbat Hanukkah* in Shabbat Listings for Shabbat Observances)

**Habdalah & 3 Hanukkah Candles on Motza’e Shabbat, 3rd Evening**

Saturday Evening, December 12th

Shabbat Minhah & Hanukkah Arbit .....	4:15 pm
Saturday Sunset .....	4:29 pm
Habdalah & 3 Hanukkah Candles .....	after 4:55 pm

**3rd Morning of Hanukkah**

Sunday Morning, December 13th

Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....	8:00 am
4th Evening: 4 Hanukkah Candles	
Sunday Evening, December 13th	
Evening Service (Minha & Arbit) .....	4:15 pm
Light 4 Candles After Sunset .....	4:29 pm

4th Morning of Hanukkah

Monday Morning, December 14th  
Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....7:15 am

5th Evening: 5 Hanukkah Candles

Monday Evening, December 14th  
Light 5 Candles After Sunset .....4:29 pm  
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....6:30 pm

5th Morning of Hanukkah

Tuesday Morning, December 15th  
Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....7:15 am

6th Evening: 6 Hanukkah Candles & Eve of Rosh Hodesh Tebet (One-Day)

Tuesday Evening, December 15th  
Light 6 Candles After Sunset .....4:29 pm  
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....6:30 pm

6th Morning of Hanukkah & Rosh Hodesh Tebet (One-Day)

Wednesday Morning, December 16th  
Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Readings, Musaf .....7:15 am

7th Evening: 7 Hanukkah Candles

Wednesday Evening, December 16th  
Light 7 Candles After Sunset .....4:30 pm  
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....6:30 pm

7th Morning of Hanukkah

Thursday Morning, December 17th  
Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....7:15 am

8th Evening: 8 Hanukkah Candles

Thursday Evening, December 17th  
Candles Lit After Sunset .....4:30 pm  
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....6:30 pm

8th Morning of Hanukkah

Friday Morning, December 18th  
Shahrit, Hallel, Torah Reading.....7:15 am

**Hanukkah** commemorates the Jewish re-consecration of the Second Temple by the Hasmonean Maccabees after its desecration under the Seleucid Greek King Antiochus Epiphanes. On the eve of each day, an ascending number of candles are lit, in commemoration of the miracle of the single ritually-pure cruse of oil which sufficed to light the Temple's candelabrum for eight days.

Rosh Hodesh Tebet (One-Day):

The 6th Day of Hanukkah

Tuesday Evening, December 15th through  
Wednesday, December 16th  
(See Hanukkah Schedule)

Fast of (Tenth of) Tebeth  
(`Asarah beTebeth) and the  
December 25th Legal Holiday  
on the Eve of Shabbat

Friday Morning, December 25th  
Dawn (Fast Begins) .....5:50 am  
Sunrise.....7:18 am  
Morning Service.....8:00 am  
Friday Eve, Eve of Shabbat, December 25th  
Minhah (with tefillin) & Shabbat Arbit.....4:00 pm  
Eve of Shabbat Candle Lighting .....4:16 pm  
End of Fast at Sunset.....4:34 pm

**The Tenth of Tebet Fast** commemorates the besieging of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, which led to the city's capture, the destruction of the First Temple, and the Babylonian Exile. When it falls on the Eve of Shabbat, the fast ends at sunset, 4:34.

Secular New Year Legal Holiday

Friday January 1st  
Morning Service (Shahrit).....8:00 am

Rosh Hodesh Shebat (One-Day)

Wednesday Evening, January 13th, through  
Thursday, January 14th  
Services follow Daily Schedule

Martin Luther King Legal Holiday

Monday, January 18th  
Morning Service.....8:00 am

Hamisha Asar (Tu) BiShebat

Wednesday Evening, January 27th through  
Thursday, January 28th  
Services follow Daily Schedule

Rosh Hodesh Adar (Two-Day)

Thursday Evening, February 11th through  
Friday & Saturday, February 12th & 13th  
Thursday, Arbit only.....6:30 pm  
Friday Morning Shahrit, Musaf, Hallel.....7:15 am  
Friday & Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....5:15 pm  
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....9:00-11:00 am  
See Full Shabbat Schedule in Shabbat Listings

Presidents' Day Legal Holiday

Monday, February 15th  
Morning Service.....8:00 am  
Evening Service (Arbit only) .....6:30 pm

PURIM HOLIDAY

Fast of Esther

Thursday, February 25th  
Dawn (Fast Begins) .....5:14 am  
Sunrise.....6:35 am  
Morning Service (Shahrit).....7:15 am

Eve of Purim

Thursday, February 25th  
Minhah (men wear tefillin) .....5:30 pm  
Sunset.....5:43 pm  
Arbit (Evening) Service.....5:45 pm  
Reading of Megillah .....6:00 pm  
End of Fast .....6:03 pm  
Late Evening Reading of Megillah .....8:00 pm

Purim Daytime

Friday, February 26th  
Morning Shahrit .....7:15 am  
Morning Megillah Reading.....7:45 am  
Late Morning Megillah Reading.....11:00 am  
Eve of Shabbat Candle Lighting .....5:26 pm  
Sunset & End of Purim.....5:44 pm  
Friday Evening Service .....5:30 pm

Purim Shushan

Shabbat, Saturday, February 27th  
Saturday Morning Inside Service .....9:00-11:00 am  
(Full Saturday Schedule in Shabbat Listings)

**The Fast of Esther** commemorates the day when the Jews of Persia donned sackcloth and ashes, went without food, and prayed that they be spared the massacre planned for them by Haman. Men don tefillin at the 5:15 service.

**Purim** commemorates the day when, through the intervention of Mordecai and Queen Esther, the Jews of Persia escaped being victims of Haman's evil plot to exterminate them.

**Purim Shushan**, the day following Purim, is the day Purim was celebrated in Shushan, the capital of ancient Persia, Jerusalem, Hebron, and in other walled cities. This year, Purim Shushan falls on Friday, so in Jerusalem some of its observances are spread out over a three-day period.

**Jerusalem's Purim Meshullash** ("Three-Day Purim") occurs when Purim falls on Friday and Purim Shushan is Saturday, and hence even the following Sunday is included in some of the festivities.

Rosh Hodesh Nisan (One-Day)

Sat. Eve, Mar. 13th & Sunday, March 14th  
(Saturday Eve listed under Shabbat HaHodesh)  
Sunday Morn Shahrit, Musaf.....8:00 am **D.S.T.**  
Sunday Evening Minha & Arbit.....6:30 pm

FESTIVALS: PASSOVER FESTIVAL

Preparations

Fast of First Born

Thursday Morning, March 25th  
Fast of First Born begins (Dawn) .....5:28 am  
Sunrise.....6:51 am  
Shahrit & *siyyum* for the First Born.....7:15 am  
**Thursday Evening, March 25th**  
Minha & Arbit Services .....6:30 pm



## Passover Preparations (cont'd)

### Search for Hametz (Leaven)

Evening Search for Hametz (Leaven)

Thursday Evening, March 25th

At night on Thursday ..... (after sunset, 7:14 pm)

### Friday Morning & Daytime

Friday Morning, March 26th

Morning Shahrit Service ..... 7:15 am

**Friday, March 26th Daytime:** Dispose of/sell all

Hametz except that to be eaten on Shabbat

### Eve of Shabbat HaGadol Services

Friday Evening, March 26th

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....6:57 pm

Friday Evening Services.....6:45 pm

### Shabbat HaGadol Morning Services

1818 -2nd Mill St. Consecration Anniversary

Saturday Morning, March 27th

Saturday Morning Service..... Times To be Decided

Parashat Tsav-HaGadol .....Leviticus 6:1-8:36

Haftarah ..... Malachi 3:4-24

### Morning Hametz (Leaven) Removal

Saturday Morning, March 27th

Stop eating *hametz* by ..... 10:57 am

Dispose of any remaining *hametz* by ..... 11:59 am

### End of Shabbat HaGadol &

### Eve of Passover

Saturday Evening, March 27th

Shabbat Minhah & Passover Arbit.....7:00 pm

Saturday Evening Sunset.....7:16 pm

Shabbat Ends & Candle Lighting.....after 7:51 pm

## PASSOVER/PESAH, HAG HAMATZOT

Saturday Night, March 27-Sunday, April 4

### First & Second Days of Passover

### FIRST TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH

#### First Day of Passover

Eve of 1st Day, Sat. Evening, March 27th

Shabbat Minhah & Passover Arbit.....7:00 pm

Saturday Evening Sunset .....7:16 pm

Shabbat Ends & Candle Lighting..... after 7:51 pm

First Haggada (Seder) at home..... after 7:51 pm

**First Day Morning, Sunday, March 28th**

Sunday Morning Service..... Times To be Decided

Tikkun HaTal.....inserted in Musaf 10:00 am

#### Second Day of Passover

Eve of 2nd Day, Sun. Evening, March 28th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit).....7:00 pm

Sunday Evening Sunset .....7:17 pm

Candle Lighting/' Omer Counting..... after 7:40 pm

Second Haggada (Seder) at home ..... after 7:40 pm

**Second Day Morning, Monday, March 29th**

Monday Morning Service ..... Times To be Decided

**2nd Day Conclusion, Mon. Eve, March 29th**

Evening Services: Minhah & Arbit .....7:00 pm

Monday Evening Sunset .....7:18 pm

Monday Evening Habdalah .....7:41 pm

### Intermediate Weekdays of Passover

### HOL HAMOED PESAH

**Tue.-Fri. Mornings, March 30th-April 2nd**

Shahrit, Hallel, & Musaf Services ..... 7:15 am

**Tue.-Thu. Evenings, March 30th-April 1st**

Minhah & Arbit Services .....6:30 pm

## Seventh & Eighth Days of Passover

### FINAL TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH

### Shabbat, the Seventh Day of Pesah

1730-1st Mill St. Consecration Anniversary

Eve of the Seventh Day & Eve of Shabbat

Friday Evening, April 2nd

Shabbat Eve/Festival Candle Lighting..... 7:04 pm

Friday Evening Minhah & Arbit..... 7:00 pm

Friday Evening Sunset..... 7:22 pm

**7th Day/Shabbat Morn, Saturday, April 3rd**

Saturday Morning Service..... Times To be Decided

Torah Reading..... 9:30 am

(Features reading of the Shirah-Song of the Sea)

Reading of Shir HaShirim..... 10:45 -11:30 am

### Eighth Day of Pesah

**Eve of the 8th Day, Saturday Eve, April 3rd**

Saturday Evening Minha & Arbit..... 7:00 pm

Saturday Evening Sunset ..... 7:23 pm

Sat. Evening Candle Lighting ..... after 7:59 pm

**Eighth Day Morning, Sunday, April 4th**

Sunday Morning Service..... Times To be Decided

**8th Day Conclusion, Sunday, April 4th**

Sunday Evening Minhah & Arbit..... 7:10 pm

Saturday Evening Sunset ..... 7:24 pm

8th Day/Shabbat Concluding Habdalah ..... 7:48 pm

Do not consume *hametz* until

½ hour after Habdalah..... 8:18 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.

## PAVED PARADISE

COVID-19 has prompted us to use outdoor spaces as much as possible. As such, we are constructing a safe and accessible tented outdoor space for holding socially-distant prayers services, classes, and other gatherings. Adjacent to our synagogue, this space will provide for our needs during the pandemic and offer flexible community uses that can last several years even when the pandemic is behind us. We are seeking to raise a minimum of \$250,000. Whether you have used our outdoor spaces, hope to, or want to ensure that others can, visit [shearithisrael.org/paved-paradise](https://shearithisrael.org/paved-paradise) to support this critical project.

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

## CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

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

## CARING CONNECTION

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

## BEQUESTS

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

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENT

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

*Giving is easy and feels good too. Visit [shearithisrael.org/giving](https://shearithisrael.org/giving).*

*Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.*







## STAFF AND BOARD

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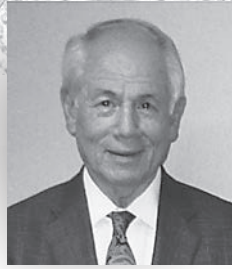
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Taharat Hamishpakha (Jewish Family Law)  
**Shiffy Friedman**, Yoetzet Halakha  
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## MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES

Interested in becoming a member or curious  
to learn more about our membership options?  
Executive Director, Barbara Reiss, would be  
delighted to speak with you. Information  
and applications are also available online at  
shearithisrael.org/membership.





## CLOSING WORDS

### RENEWAL

*A poem by Joel M. Schreiber*

The ancient tree stood in the yard,  
Its leaves a withered gray,  
Its arms bare of flowers that had  
Been there—but yesterday.

The winds, the storms, the wintry nights,  
All pained its every hour—  
It seemed to tremble in each storm,  
To sigh in every shower.

And yet—though wracked with hurt and cold,  
It seemed to knowing eyes,  
That though its roots were deep in earth,  
Its branches sought the skies.

It was a tragic sight to see—  
Those limbs encased in snow,  
Still reaching high toward distant sky,  
Its trunk so bent—so low!

Through darkened storms, this prayer-like tree  
Remained in prayerful pose,  
As if it heard a hopeful word  
In every wind that rose.

And there this tree unheeded stood,  
Receiving not a glance,  
Until one day in warm sunlight  
Of spring—quite by chance—

I saw a sight that stirred my soul.  
A scene of priceless worth,  
The ancient tree had found its life  
Renewed upon this earth.

Its arms were filled with fragrant leaves  
That filled its new grown bowers,  
And lingering in each fingertip,  
Were myriads of flowers.

And thus each year, the ancient tree  
Gives birth to life anew,  
Although at times its hours on earth  
Seem destined to be few.

And many men have gathered here  
To reap her wondrous flowers,  
That yearly come to show how life  
Endures the tragic hours.

Joel M. Schreiber is a long-time member of Shearith Israel. This poem was originally written over 45 years ago, when his mother was about to undergo open-heart surgery, and we republish it here as a reminder of the renewal and hope yet to come.

STAY CONNECTED

## CONNECT WITH US

### *Don't Miss an Update*

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



### *Share on Facebook*

Have you attended a Shearith Israel tour, lecture, or event that you loved?

Leave a post on our Facebook page so that others can share your enthusiasm!

To learn about upcoming events and fascinating historical Shearith Israel tidbits, follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc](https://www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc).

