



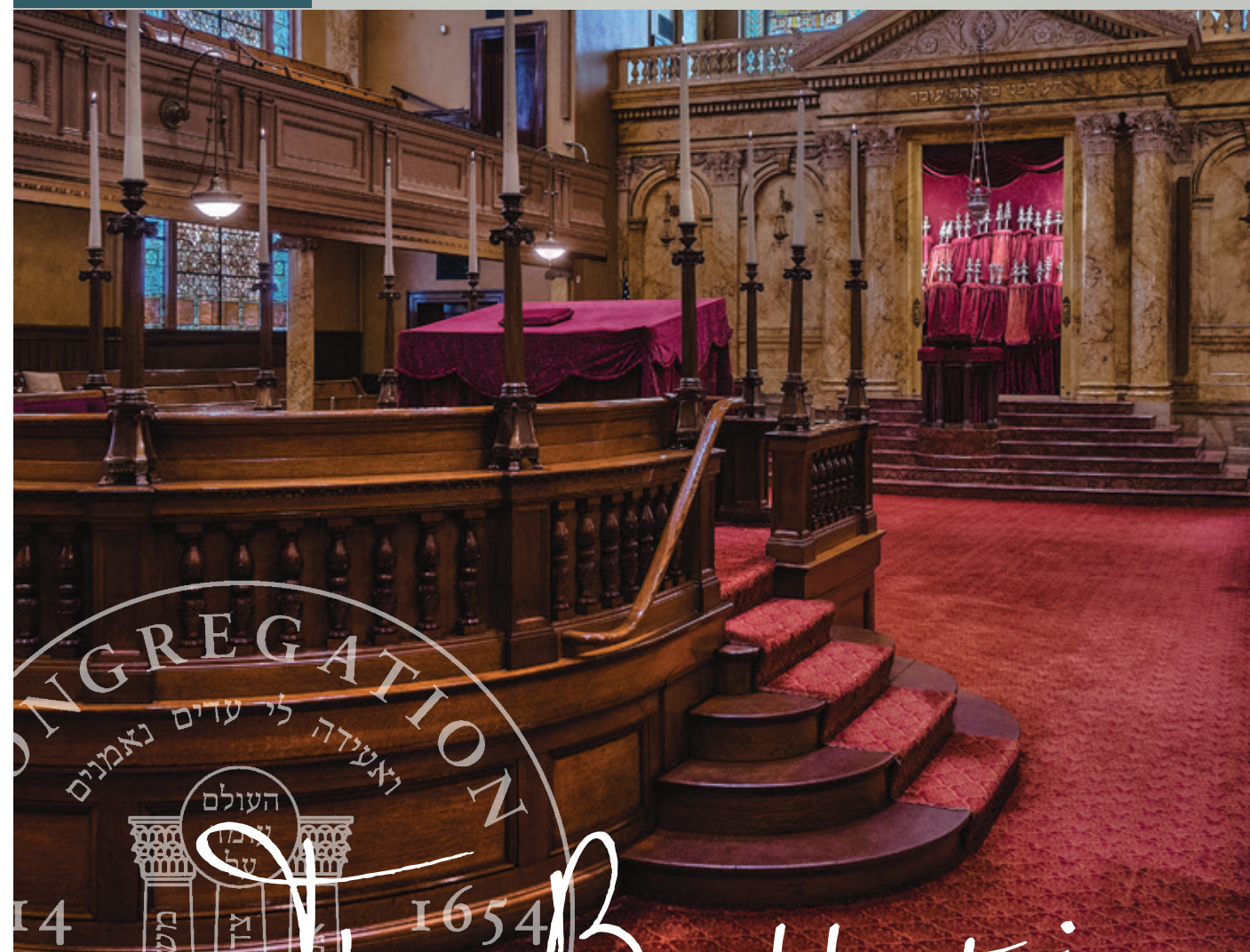
CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023

WINTER  
2021

חורף תשפ"ב

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



The Bulletin

*America's First Jewish Congregation*

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As we are still in the midst of uncertainty, times, programs, and venues are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please follow our emails and visit [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org).

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



An article in *Tablet* magazine by Simone Somekh describes the observance of Tisha B'Ab evening, as the mourners, suffused in darkness, hold candles so that the flames can provide a small source of illumination. The article concludes by discussing a striking tradition: "Each year, the Jews of Rome keep the stubs of the candles they use on Tisha B'Av, in order to use them a few months later to light the *hanukkiyah*." This is, as the piece notes, a response to the fact that the most famous depiction of the Temple's destruction is the menorah on the Arch of Titus in that very same city; thus Rome's Jews take "one step from destruction to reconstruction, year after year."

This is indeed true; but to this can perhaps be added. Both Tisha B'Ab and Hanukkah center, in a sense, on forms of fire. The Jewish day of mourning marks the Roman flames that consumed the Temple; in contrast, Hanukkah commemorates a miraculous form of fire that may not have consumed at all, defying time, burning brightly for much longer than the day's worth of oil would have allowed. In this, the lights of the sacred menorah were akin to the fire first encountered by Moses at Sinai, a flame that did not consume the bush from which it flamed forth. As David Gelernter once wrote, the miracle of the burning bush "is not the burning but the continued burning. Those dry thorns should have burned to black dust in an instant. But time has been stretched out, stretched thin, and a moment of instantaneous combustion lasts on and on." The flames encountered by Moses, and of the menorah, embody the flames of Jewish eternity.

The Hanukkah lighting of the Jews of Rome with the candles of Tisha B'Ab therefore can be seen as the ultimate response to a Roman empire reduced to ruins, as the light of Judaism continues to shine. As we light this year in Manhattan, and elsewhere in America, we would do well to think of the Jews of Rome, kindling with candles that superficially are reduced to stubs, but whose flames reflect the fire of Jewish faith, which has outlasted all attempts to extinguish it.

Meir Y. Soloveichik





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS

## ALMOST LIKE BEING...

Louis M. Solomon

When we wrote to you over the summer, before the High Holidays, Covid-19 was causing a sense of fatigue, impatience, almost annoyance. I inveighed against the frustrated newspaper headline, “When Will This Ever End.”

It is clear beyond peradventure that, as a community, we have made real strides since then. High Holiday services were wonderful for those of us who attended. We were not full, not even Covid-19 full, but we were nearly back to our ritual normal. Since then we have returned to observing nearly all our *minhagim*. Rabbi Soloveichik has been talking after Shabbat morning services, and *Friday Night Lights* is back, live and in-person, in all its magical glory. In trustee David Sable’s words, with the return of live *Friday Night Lights* we have returned the majesty of Shabbat to the Upper West Side.

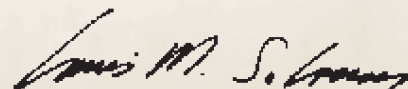
We are close to back to normalcy in other ways, too. Weekday services occur with regularity. The choir is back to where it used to be – in the choir loft. We are still masking indoors (at least as of this writing), but for many of us that has become a forgettable accoutrement of our attire – and in time that, too, like fedoras and bowlers, will become optional (it already is optional during outdoor and indoor classes and lectures).

As clear and welcome as these returns to normalcy are, what is a little less clear is where we go from here, or more precisely how fast can we return, fully and completely, to pre-Covid-19 routines. I have read much about how, for many, there are aspects of that earlier routine that people don’t want to revert to. I do not have the sense that that applies to our congregational activities. Most congregants want a return to the familiar.

That is not to say we don’t want to maintain some of the new and improved changes. I think it’s fair to say that, as a community, we hope to continue some of the very positive things we learned from the experience. For example, Rabbi Soloveichik has a great radio voice. Ok, so maybe it’s not Orson Welles narrating the H.G. Wells’ *War of the Worlds*. But it’s close – and it more than makes up in ideas and inspiration what it might lack in drama. We want him to continue to teach and lecture and inspire literally thousands of listeners (members and friends) with his virtual programming. We also learned that our outdoor space, our Paved Paradise, is a warm and genial place to hold services, classes, and *kiddushim*. For a part of the year, we trust that that, too, will continue.

Having said all that, there is one major item that is still missing from our weekly congregation life. The missing item is, well, you! It’s like the Lerner and Loewe popular standard, *Almost Like Being in Love*; we are almost back to normal, but we are missing the key part. For those of us who are still not comfortable returning to even a socially distant crowd, please, continue to dial in. For the rest of us, who are comfortable returning to the theatre, the concert hall, to work and restaurants, please, come back home to us, too. We have such a special place, such a special *minhag*, and such a special role to play in the continuation of America Jewry. Do not let it die or even flag. Come back soon.

Happy Hanukkah to all.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### *Mazal Tob to:*

Rose & Henry Edinger upon their grandson, Gedalia Herman, son of Nehama Edinger & Geoffrey Herman, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Dr. Lynn Kaye, our former Assistant Congregational Leader, and her husband, Rabbi Dr. Alexander Kaye, upon the birth of a baby boy, Yair Shalev Kaye.

Meryl Jaffe & Adam Hurwich, upon the birth of a grandson, Arye Lior Adler, born to their children, Leah Hurwich and Eitan Adler.

Meryl Jaffe & Adam Hurwich, upon the birth of a granddaughter, born to their children, Leigh Feinman & Talia Hurwich.

Becky & Eitan Kimelman, upon the birth of a baby boy.

Rabbi Shalom Morris, our former Educational Director, and Andrea Rosen, upon the birth of a baby boy.

Dr. Meredith Case & Aaron Nathan, upon the birth of a son, Arthur Edgar (Archie) Case Nathan. Congratulations as well to grandparents Rebecca Chaplan & David Nathan, great-grandmother Ruth Nathan, and the entire extended Nathan family.

Gail Propp, upon her grandson, Alexei, son of Sophia & David Gomberg, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Cecilia Roberts, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Joy Saleh & Bruce Roberts.

Judy & Joel Schreiber, upon the birth of a great-grandson, born to their grandchildren, Rachel & Yoni Fein of Hollywood, Florida.

### NEW MEMBERS

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

Karyn Bogart

Eleonore & Eric Nebot

Rima Raynes

Linda & Howard Sterling

— continued —

Drs. Lu Steinberg & Michael Schuller on the marriage of their daughter, Ilana Hadas, to Daniel Shane Ross of London. Congratulations as well to Ilana's sister Talia, and to Daniel's mother, Susana Ross, and brothers, Joshua and Gabriel.

Ruth & Irwin Shapiro, upon the birth of a great-granddaughter, Michal Shira Lily, daughter of Rachel & Natan Bienstock.

Gail & Philip Shapiro, upon the birth of a baby girl. Congratulations as well to grandmother Connie, and aunt Elana.

## HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM

### *Members with special achievements:*

The members of our COVID-19 Working Group, who continue to meet regularly and provide us with the guidance we need to keep our community healthy and comfortable.

## IN MEMORIAM

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

Oded Aboodi  
Harris (Hertzle) Bak  
Jacob Bousso  
Alvin Deutsch, Honorary Parnas  
Simon Haberman  
Marco di Laurenti  
Dr. Franco Muggia  
Barbara Herlands Smith

## CONDOLENCES

### *We extend sincere condolences to:*

Esther (Lolly) Bak, upon the passing of her husband, Harris (Hertzle) Bak

Davida Deutsch, upon the passing of her husband, Honorary Parnas Alvin Deutsch

Helen Freilich, upon the passing of her mother, Miriam Rand

Seth Haberman and the entire Haberman family, upon the passing of Simon Haberman

Jonathan Herlands, upon the passing of his sister, Barbara Herlands Smith

Maurice Laurenti-Haroche, upon the passing of his father, Marco di Laurenti

Anna Vitale Muggia, upon the passing of her husband, Dr. Franco Muggia

Leyla Fortgang Posner, upon the passing of her father, Chaim Fortgang

Rivka Shoulson (Wiznia), upon the passing of her father, Rabbi Jay Shoulson

Linda & Howard Sterling, upon the passing of their son

### **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.*

## IN APPRECIATION

### *Special thanks to:*

The Lipman family, for the donation of a new *sefer torah*, in memory of Barbara & Ira Lipman

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!), or would like to join our Minyan WhatsApp group, contact Rev. Z. Edinger at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).

### **Kiddush Sponsors:**

Zoya Raynes & Naftali Friedman, in honor of Rabbi Rohde teaching Avi to read the *haftarah*

Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, in commemoration of the 10th *nahala* of Jonathan's mother, Gertrude Herlands Engelberg

### **Succot Kiddush Sponsors:**

The Sisterhood

Lewis Bateman, in memory of Caryl Cohn Bateman

Rachel & Jonathan Herlands, in memory of James O. Herlands, Barbara H. Smith, and Myron Smith

Arthur and Joel Tenenholtz, in memory of Hannah Tenenholtz

### **Minyan Appreciation Kiddush Sponsors:**

Anonymous

Fiona Amiel, in memory of Samuel H. Hallegua

The Edinger family

Faith Fogelman

Lawrence V. Lewitinn

Francine Alfandary, Laurent Nahon, and Louis and Rafi Nahon

Gustave Rieu, in memory of Vincent Rieu, Joachim Rieu & Sarah Conchita Perez

Albert Rosenblatt

The Solomon family

Charlotte Triefus & Lloyd Zuckerberg

### **Minyan Breakfast Sponsors:**

Jeffrey, Stephen, and Raquel (Herz) Smith, in memory of Myron Smith

### **Friday Night Lights Sponsors:**

The Julis-Rabinowitz family, for sponsoring the 2021-22 season of Friday Night Lights

Anonymous, in memory of Ezra b. Yitzhak

Anonymous, in memory of Saida bat Tefacha

Anonymous, in memory of Nissiem b. Ezra

Judith Deich, in honor of Rabbi Meir and Lyaliza Soloveichik

Faith Fogelman, in memory of her father, Theodore Watkin

Halana & Alan Greenberg, in memory of their parents, Jack Mizrahi, Rita Greenberg, and Harold Greenberg



Daina & Greg Gurevich, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik, and in memory of Louis Anhalt

Daina & Greg Gurevich, in memory of Freida & Gershon Kerzhner and Sheyva & Misha Gurevich

Daina & Greg Gurevich, in honor of Andi Gurevich (Maya Shoshana bat Danya), and in memory of Andy Burian (Moshe b. Matil)

Rachel Neumark Herlands & Jonathan Herlands, in commemoration of the 10th *nahala* of Jonathan's mother, Gertrude Herlands Engelberg

The Solomon family

**Rabbi den Hollander's Sunday Class:**

Edward Levi Derosa, Ph.D., in honor of the Brisk Yeshiva, Chicago, IL, and in memory of Eli & Inez Rubin

**Other Class Sponsors:**

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Summer Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik's Afternoon Class, in memory of his father Gutman b. Shmuel v'Nessiya z"l

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Fall Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik's Afternoon Class, in memory of his mother Chanah Razel b. Aharon v'Sara, z"l

**Shabbat Teshuba Address and Lecture:**

**Sponsors:**

Anonymous, in honor of Rabbi Meir & Layaliza Soloveichik

Debbie & David Sable, on the occasion of the *nahala* of David's mother, Elissa Sable

**Co-sponsors:**

Bengio Misrahi Family, in memory of Amram & Rachel Bengio and Henri Misrahi

Karen & Jack Daar

Alanna & Zachary Liebmann

Juan Mesa-Freydell

Joy & Bruce Roberts

Carol & Alan Schechter, in honor of the *nahala* of Alan's mother, Yitta bat Yitzchak Shmuel, on the second day of Rosh HaShana

**Supporters:**

Faith Fogelman

Barbara Herlands Smith z"l, with affection and great esteem for Rabbi Soloveichik, Layaliza, and their dear family

Mona & Stephen Klaber, in honor of Andrew Klaber's birthday

Meralee & Sidney Schlusberg

Linda & Howard Sterling, in honor of Rabbi Soloveichik

**Rabbi Soloveichik's Pre-Hanukkah Lecture Series (at press time):**

**Series Sponsors:**

Martine & Jack Schenker

**Session Sponsors:**

Joseph Blank, in memory of his father, Yaakov b. Moshe HaKohen

Lilly Fenig, in memory of Zvi b. Elazar

The grandchildren of Henri Krenik, צבי הרש, ב. שלום, father-in-law of Martine Schenker

David M. Marks, in memory of Aliza bat Moshe Ya'akov

**Paved Paradise Phase 2 Donors (at press time):**

Anonymous

Yvette Bendahan

Norman Benzaquen

Melvyn Barenholtz

Rabbi Meier Brueckheimer

Faith Fogelman

Laury Frieber

Rachel & Jonathan Herlands

Robert Kasirer

Larry Kobrin

Susan M. Lobel M.D.

Dina Mann

Laurel & Joel Marcus

The Mark family

Sherri & Joel Maxman

Joshua de Sola Mendes

Enid Moskowitz

Hayyim Obadyah

Gillian & Simon Salama-Caro

Meralee & Sidney Schlusberg

Lu & Michael Schulder

The Solomon Family

Linda & Howard Sterling

Margo & Benjamin Suckewer

Madelene & Stan Towne

Manuel Vazquez-Senior, MD

**Hatanim 5782 Celebration:**

**Patrons**

Laurel Marcus & Joel Marcus

**Preservers**

Norman Benzaquen

The Solomon Family

Madelene & Stan Towne

**Hatanim 5782 Celebration (cont.)**

**Sponsors**

Anonymous

Karen & Jack Daar

Juan Mesa-Freydell

The Roberts Family

Gillian & Simon Salama-Caro

**Contributors**

Raquel and Steve Herz

Jackie & Andrew Klaber

Rebecca Chaplan & David Nathan

Susan & Avery Neumark

Lu Steinberg & Michael Schulder

Maimon Schwarzschild

Karen & Roy Simon

Manuel Vazquez-Senior, MD

**Supporters**

Anonymous

Esme & Roger Berg

The Cycowicz/Kaplan family

Naftali & Zoya Raynes Friedman

Faith Fogelman

Simon & Sabra Gerson

Carla and Jonah Schein

Dr. Jonathan N. Tobin

Rivka & Marc Wiznia & Family

**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.

# WELCOME BACK!

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Barbara Reiss and Bonnie Barest



We are so pleased to see many of you returning to the city and to the synagogue. It's been uplifting to see more congregants joining us for services and programs outdoors, including Covid-safe *kiddushim* on *Paved Paradise*, and now that the colder season is upon us, prayers inside our well-ventilated Main Sanctuary. We are especially gratified to see the expansion of our youth programming including perennial favorites such as: (Grand)parent-Child Learning & Pizza, Brunch & Learns with our clergy, weekly Jr. Congregation led by our own teen leaders, and special activities such as a visit to our local NYPD and FDNY for a spirited First Responder Appreciation Event. We are so grateful to our creative and energetic parent volunteers.

We hope many of you have noticed our newly restored front doors. To quote our member, Marc Wiznia, "A modern well-functioning door leaves a nice first impression."

And more important than good looks, is what you *can't* see that makes a huge difference. The restoration of our front doors was more than a "facelift." The new look is part of our "door and facility hardening" project that was funded by a Department of Homeland Security grant. After a painstakingly slow and Covid-stalled process of securing proper permits from the Department of Buildings and the city's Landmark Preservation Commission, and then supply chain delays, our project is now complete. Our synagogue has greater protective features thanks to

the "hardening" of our entrances, windows and offices, both inside and outside, while maintaining the aesthetic appearance we cherish.

On another note, as we prepare for the predicted cold and snowy La Niña season, our protective tent on Paved Paradise, will go into "hibernation," in its own protective indoor storage so that it's available for our use come Spring (and besides, sunny winter days on Paved Paradise are more comfortable without the additional shade). We look forward to the return of the "shade" and future enhancements in time for Pesah. But all of these measures involved ongoing costs. There's still time to contribute to our Paved Paradise Preservation and Maintenance fundraising campaign. To donate now, please visit [shearithisrael.org/preserving-paved-paradise](https://shearithisrael.org/preserving-paved-paradise).

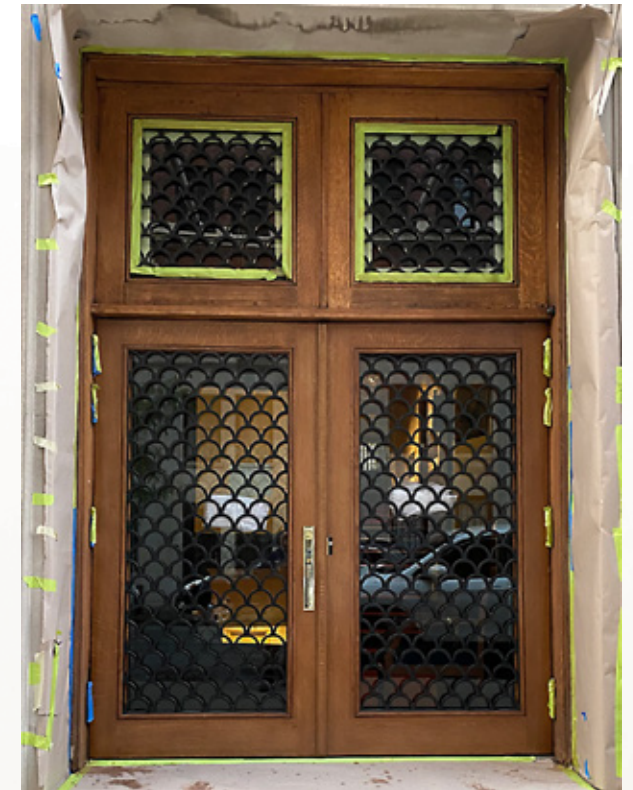
Please come in – see our new "face" or our *Paved Paradise*, join services, enjoy one of Rabbi Soloveichik's classes, or plan your own lifecycle event. We're excited to see you again!

*Barbara Reiss*

Barbara Reiss  
Executive Director

*Bonnie Barest*

Bonnie Barest  
Deputy Executive Director







A



B



C

## AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL

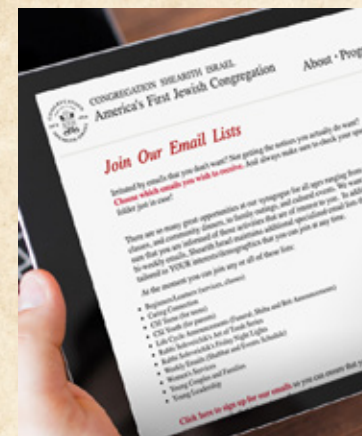


**ABOVE:** Professional artist Peshi Haas and our member, art historian Susan (Suchu) Solny, gave us an engrossing presentation on the stunning work of art that Peshi painted of our beautiful *Hekhal*. We learned all about Peshi's influences, the art process, and the technique required to produce such high-quality work.

**A.** In partnership with DOROT, we held our first live concert on Paved Paradise, featuring award-winning musicians Issei Herr and Stephanie Zi Yi Yang

**B.** Our first-ever Paved Paradise Succah was lavishly and lovingly decorated by volunteers from our Sisterhood

**C.** Rabbi Soloveichik hosted our youngest congregants for an outdoor Brunch & Learn, showing them his extraordinary *shofar* collection



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

### PROGRAMMING NOTE:

Due to the still 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 many in-person events planned, and we are certain that our rabbi, clergy, and synagogue societies will continue to offer a wide array of high-quality virtual programming as well.

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).

# HOLIDAYS

## HANUKKAH

### PRE-HANUKKAH LECTURE SERIES:

*The Temple: A Hanukkah Tour Through Time*

Tuesdays through November 23  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

This 7-part series leading up to Hanukkah will guide you through the themes of the holiday with a time-traveling approach.

### A WEEK OF HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS

Each Night of Hanukkah  
November 28 - December 5

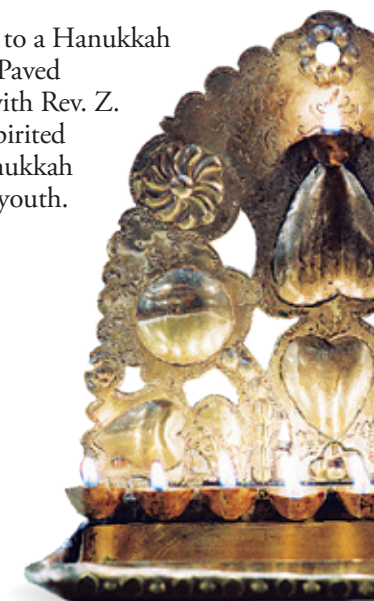
Join us for Hanukkah services and candle lighting of our colonial-era *hanukkiyah*. You'll be rewarded with a different Hanukkah treat each night!

### YOUTH HANUKKAH LIGHTING

8th Night of Hanukkah  
Sunday, December 5

Families are invited to a Hanukkah get-together in the Paved Paradise pavilion, with Rev. Z. Edinger leading a spirited sing-along and Hanukkah celebration for our youth.

— continued —





## TU B'SHEBAT

### THE MOST FRUITFUL PRAYER IN THE LITURGY

*A Tu B'Shebat Lecture and Sample Dishes with Rabbi Ira Rohde*

Sunday, January 16 | 7:30 pm

In honor of Tu B'Shebat, join Rabbi Ira Rohde as he examines "The Most Fruitful Prayer in Our Liturgy," the "El Na Otzarekha HaTob Petah MiZebulah" Prayer for the Harvest, by Joseph ibn Abitur. Although this little poem is easily overlooked in the midst of the monumental liturgy read on Hoshana Rabbah, it forges a deep connection with agriculture and specifically the traditional food-crops and Hebrew agricultural terminology of the Land of Israel, lovingly invoking God's blessing in rhymed verse upon each crop and each stage of agriculture by name. By keeping the memory of the traditional agriculture and crops of the Holy Land alive, we will see how this poem nurtured and preserved a love for the Land. Rabbi Rohde will present recipes and sample dishes made from some of the more unfamiliar of the fruits mentioned.



## PURIM

### PRE-PURIM LECTURE SERIES

4 Tuesdays leading up to Purim:  
February 22, March 1, 8, and 13  
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

This 4-part series is sure to enhance your Purim experience, so mark your calendars.

### 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. Stay tuned for more information about how to participate.

### MEGILLAH READING

Purim Evening, Wednesday, March 16

At this time we plan to have our Megillah reading in person this year. Now that's a reason to celebrate!

### WOMEN'S MEGILLAH READING

Purim Morning, Thursday, March 17

Women are encouraged to join our unique women's reading, now in its 33rd year. We welcome participation from all the women and post-Bat Mitzvah girls of our community. 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).

NEW YORK TIMES, OCTOBER 30, 2021

# S&P Has Biggest Monthly Gain of Year

By Alan H. Zwiebel

**The New York Jewish community was surprised to learn of the incredibly rapid recent growth of The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue, the oldest congregation in New York City.**

Various reasons have been given but the consensus appears to be the dynamic leadership of the current Parnas (CEO) Louis Solomon is responsible for the phenomenon. When interviewed by this reporter, Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, the spiritual leader of the synagogue, confirmed that Mr. Solomon, a respected Wall Street attorney, had breathed new life into the 350-year old congregation using a weekly newsletter and a once-vacant lot next to the synagogue.

"It's not the usual, boring, weekly 'From the desk of...' pap" said the rabbi, "but a very, very long column bursting

with rabbinic nuggets, obscure, vintage pop music references, legal insights, Latin and Greek minutiae, and personal observations on life, love and liturgy."

Sabbath and holiday attendance have skyrocketed despite the pandemic, and by combining scrupulous observance of CDC protocols along with an outdoor prayer space, congregants are thriving on a wing and a prayer.

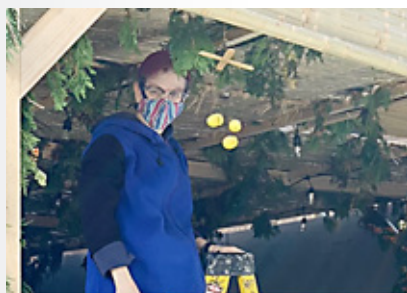
It remains to be seen if this remarkable growth can continue as winter approaches. Rumors abound that other congregations are offering "Parnas" Solomon attractive compensation packages and generous signing bonuses to switch "teams."

"I'm not going anywhere," said Solomon. "I have it all here on West 70th Street and you ain't seen nuthin' yet!"

*\*Note: In a world where it is frequently difficult to discern what is news and what is satire, we'd just like to confirm that this article is not in fact from the New York Times. Purim Alegre!*



## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR SOCIETIES



### THE SISTERHOOD Sisterhood President Carla Schein

In early August the Sisterhood sponsored a most enjoyable Tweens and Teens Writing Workshop, led by our talented congregant Janet Kirchheimer.

In time for Rosh Hashanah, the Sisterhood sent a selection of sweet foods, wishing for a sweet New Year, to some of our congregants who, for a variety of reasons, have been unable to come to Shearith Israel for the past year and a half.

September's challenge was decorating the new Congregational outdoor Succah. This was successfully and beautifully accomplished under the inspired leadership of Aimee Margolis and Lisa Rohde, and with the enthusiastic help of congregants – adults as well as our youth.

#### STAY TUNED:

The Sisterhood's Sunday Afternoon series, begun last year, will continue this season. Coming attractions will include programs about:

- Rites and Rituals of Worldwide Sephardic and Mizrahi Communities
- The World of Jewish Comedy
- Today's Jewish Issues in High Schools and on College Campuses – an interactive dialogue with prominent monitors and activists

Keep watching for additional programming as well!

### OUR YOUNG FAMILIES Naftali Friedman

In addition to our wonderful weekly Shabbat Junior Congregation and special Yom Tob services, our youth programming is going strong. We wrapped up the summer with a One-Week Youth Soccer Clinic on Paved Paradise, led by our own teen members, Louis & Rafi Nahon. Our children enjoyed a Brunch & Learn hosted by Rabbi Soloveichik with a hands-on discussion and demonstration of his ever-growing collection of unique shofars, accompanied by an outdoor feast of bagels, lox and Insomnia Cookies. As always, our youth assisted The Sisterhood in decorating our beautiful Succah. Our Pre-Simhat Torah Family Hakafor & Ice Cream Extravaganza was a joyous event where our kids learned, sang, and danced with mini-torahs and flags to bring in the holiday. We began the post-holiday season with a movie night screening of "Big Hero 6."

On deck for the winter are many exciting youth and family events including, but not limited to:

- First Responder Appreciation
- Thanksgiving Parade viewing on the Portico
- Hanukkah Candle Lighting Party

Please read the CSI youth newsletter for updates and information on these and other events.

### HEBRA HASED VA'AMET Hebra President Rose G. Edinger

Our volunteers are in personal touch with the families who have lost loved ones in these trying times.

Some ways you can get involved with the Hebra:

- Help clean up our cemeteries. From time to time the Hebra organizes trips to one or more of our cemeteries. These events are appropriate for adults and children and a great opportunity for community service.
- Become a member of the Hebra Hased Va'Amet – or make a donation to help the Hebra continue its important mission.

For more information on the Hebra or learn more about how you can become involved, contact: Rose G. Edinger, president of the Hebra, at [rgedinger@gmail.com](mailto:rgedinger@gmail.com).



## PLANNING A PRIVATE EVENT?

Our new outdoor pavilion, Paved Paradise, is ideal for hosting a Spring, Summer, or Fall event.

This private, tented, and turfed outdoor setting is located right next door to the synagogue and is perfect for lifecycle events such as Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, a Berit, children's birthday parties, funerals and shiva, or other gatherings.

To inquire, please contact Sarah Gross at [sgross@shearithisrael.org](mailto:sgross@shearithisrael.org) or at 212-873-0300 x230.

## PARENT-CHILD LEARNING & PIZZA, WITH SHEARITH ISRAEL CLERGY

**Monthly on Saturday Nights**  
**Next session: December 11**

**Rabbi Soloveichik, Rabbi Rohde, and Rev. Edinger**

After a long COVID-19 hiatus, we are so glad to have resumed a perennial favorite, Parent-Child Learning. When new dates are announced, make sure to sign up at [shearithisrael.org/parent-child5782](https://shearithisrael.org/parent-child5782). Grandparents are welcome too!

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## MAPPING THE GENETIC IDENTITY OF BNEI ANUSIM:

*Rediscovering a Lost Jewish Community – The Role of Genetic Research*

**Sunday, December 12 | 10:00 am**  
**On Zoom**

It happens surprisingly often: a person of Hispanic background investigates a quirky habit in their family – such as a grandmother lighting candles in the basement on Friday nights – and before long, they discover that they are likely descended from *anusim*, Iberian Jews who were forced to convert to Catholicism in the 15th and 16th Centuries of the Common Era.

Dr. Karl Skorecki, Dean of Bar-Ilan University's Azrieli Faculty of Medicine in Tzfat, has been a pioneer in the field of Jewish genetic research, beginning with his landmark genetic study of the Cohanim. His investigations are providing insights into the shared lineages among the diverse descendants of the Jewish Diaspora. Professor Skorecki's Bnei Anusim Project has opened to us a lost chapter in Jewish history – the fate of the *anusim*.

To register for a presentation on this important and unique research with Professor Skorecki and one of his top researchers, Dr. Inés Nogueiro, visit [shearithisrael.org/anusim-research](https://shearithisrael.org/anusim-research).

*Co-sponsored by American Friends for Bar-Ilan University*

## RABBI SWAP SHABBAT SERIES

**Rabbi Shaul Robinson | Lincoln Square Synagogue**  
**December 18**

**Rabbi Daniel Sherman | West Side Institutional Synagogue**  
**TBA**

Variety is the spice of...Shabbat? With an abundance of rabbinic treasures in our neighborhood, together with our friends at The Jewish Center, Lincoln Square, and West Side Institutional, we are delighted to treat each other with a special Shabbat morning, where each congregation will experience another esteemed neighborhood rabbi in their sanctuary.

We look forward to hosting our fellow rabbis and hearing their thought-provoking words of Torah.

## SISTERHOOD SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERIES

*Sponsored by the Sisterhood of Congregation Shearith Israel*

**Sundays TBA**

This popular series, launched last year, will continue this season! Stay tuned for details on upcoming programs on such topics as Rites and Rituals of Worldwide Sephardic and Mizrahi Communities, The World of Jewish Comedy, and Today's Jewish Issues in High Schools and on College Campuses – an interactive dialogue with prominent monitors and activists.

## THE ESTHER GOLDFARB MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

*Presented by Shearith Israel's Caring Connection and The League*

**Date TBA**

Give the gift of life – be a blood donor! The New York Blood Center is experiencing severe blood shortages. If you are vaccinated and otherwise eligible to give blood, we urge you to fulfill this important mitzvah. If you have questions about your eligibility to give blood, contact the New York Blood Center at 1-800-688-0900.



Rabbi Shaul Robinson



Rabbi Daniel Sherman





# IN MEMORIAM: ALVIN DEUTSCH

Rev. Zachary Edinger

Shearith Israel mourns the passing of our honorary Parnas-Presidente Alvin Deutsch. Alvin became a member of Shearith Israel in 1972, was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1984, and became Segan (Vice-president) in 1991. He then served as Parnas-Presidente of Shearith Israel from 1997-2002.

Although Alvin attended services nearly every shabbat - few people knew that Alvin was also “dean of New York copyright lawyers” representing a veritable “who’s who” of famous clients, and was himself an almost legendary figure among the intellectual property bar. He was a trustee of the Copyright Society of the USA, the Johnny Mercer Foundation, and the Goodspeed Operahouse. He also found time to serve as an adjunct professor of copyright at the Cardozo School of Law.

Alvin’s professional accomplishments were often accompanied by quiet acts of kindness to others and religious devotion. Thus, while serving in the United States Army from 1954-1956, Alvin organized and led sabbath services for Jewish soldiers stationed with him in Ingrandes, France. During the 1970s and early 1980s, Alvin was involved in legal negotiations with the Soviet Union over copyright issues. He travelled to the Soviet Union on several

occasions; on these visits, despite being followed by Soviet authorities, he brought along prayer books or other religious articles, which he would leave in the Great Synagogue of Moscow.

In congregational life, he led quietly and unobtrusively, never wanting to put himself into the limelight. On several occasions, he accompanied our distinguished and elderly member, Dr. Moshe Carmilly, to events at the Institute for Hebrew and Jewish History at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj, Romania.

When he learned that one of our members had been diagnosed with a terminal illness, Alvin arranged for him to be honored as the Hatan Bereshit, an honor which was deeply meaningful for him, his family and for the congregation. And after his passing, Alvin checked in regularly with the family, having frequent breakfast meetings with his widow for years afterward. In fact, Alvin often had lunch or breakfast meetings with many congregants, always inquiring first and foremost about their lives and families. Alvin cared deeply about the lives of others and for the members of Shearith Israel.

In the long history of our congregation, Alvin will be remembered most for the planning, fundraising and restoration of our

sanctuary in 1997. It was a monumental undertaking that Alvin was instrumental in achieving. The result was phenomenal. The incredible beauty of our sanctuary today is in no small part the result of the restoration which Alvin made possible.

When entering the sanctuary, Alvin would always pause and take a quiet moment to appreciate the dignified holiness of our sanctuary before walking to his seat. He loved the formality and grandeur of Shearith Israel’s minhag, and revelled in all the small choreographic details of the Torah



service, always bowing, accompanying the Torah procession, and delivering the pointer with elegant precision.

Alvin Deutsch was a man of integrity who lived a life of kindness and thoughtfulness towards others. He was focused, incisive, engaged, erudite, affable, humorous, principled, and loyal. He was a gentleman, made in an old-world mold that no longer exists; he was a “mensch.” May Alvin Deutsch always be remembered at Shearith Israel for his dignified and quiet leadership, for his love of our minhag, and for his devoted and caring friendship.

*Thank you to Rabbi Marc Angel, Henry Lipschutz, Avery Neumark, Connie Shapiro and Gilles Sion for submitting memories of Alvin for this memorial. We extend sincere condolences to Alvin’s wife, Davida Deutsch.*





# WEEKLY JEWISH EDUCATION



Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander



Rev. Z. Edinger



Rabbi Ira Rohde



Liz Rios

## THE GUIDE TO DUTIES OF THE HEART

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

**On 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 & Rabbi Ira Rohde**

**On 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 & Wednesdays on Zoom**  
**10:00 am | Through February 28**

For the youngest children who are still not vaccine eligible and eager for some stimulation, Shearith Israel style, we offer a Virtual Toddler program twice a week on Zoom.

## TUESDAY LEARNING WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

**Tuesdays | 7:30 pm**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | Conference Call**

Prepare to spend Tuesday nights learning from Rabbi Soloveichik, who will deliver many of his virtual lectures, including his Pre-Hanukkah and Pre-Purim Series, as well as other timely topics. Topics and source sheets are delivered via email shortly before each lecture, so keep an eye on your inbox. If you're not already on the Rabbi's email distribution, sign up at [shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists](https://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists).



## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS - LIVE!

**2021-2022 season sponsored by the Julis-Rabinowitz family**

**Friday evening following services**  
**In Person | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

The majesty returned to the Upper West Side in 5782 with the return of Friday Night Lights Live! Hear Rabbi Soloveichik in-person, following Friday Evening Services, the way it was meant to be...only at Shearith Israel. Make sure to register for services and enjoy.

## 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*.





# YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

## YOUTH HANUKKAH LIGHTING

**8th Night of Hanukkah,  
Sunday, December 5**

Families are invited to a Hanukkah get-together in the Paved Paradise pavilion, with Rev. Z. Edinger leading a spirited sing-along and Hanukkah celebration, including treats for our children.

## PARENT-CHILD LEARNING & PIZZA, WITH SHEARITH ISRAEL CLERGY

**Monthly on Saturday Nights  
Next session: December 11  
Rabbi Soloveichik, Rabbi Rohde, and Rev. Edinger**

We are welcoming back a perennial favorite, Parent-Child Learning. Make sure to sign up at [shearithisrael.org/parent-child5782](https://shearithisrael.org/parent-child5782).

## JUNIOR CONGREGATION

**Weekly, Shabbat & most holidays  
In Person | 10:45 am**

Register your child(ren) for Jr Congregation when you sign up for in-person Shabbat services. Jr. Congregation is led by our Teen Leaders, with support from Mrs. Lisa Rohde.

## PTTS VIRTUAL JR. CONGREGATION WITH MRS. LISA ROHDE

**Next session: Sunday, December 5  
For Zoom details and reminders, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at [lrohde.csi@gmail.com](mailto:lrohde.csi@gmail.com)**

This monthly program strengthens the skills of our CSI youth and young friends near and far.

## PTTS HEBREW SCHOOL ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING

**In person or on Zoom**

Our youth have missed out on so much since the onset of COVID-19, and we can't afford to have them lose more time. Their Jewish education, identity, affiliation, and continuity is on the line.

Shearith Israel's distinguished Polonies Talmud Torah School (PTTS) is now offering highly subsidized one-on-one tutoring customized to your child's needs, schedule, and even from the comfort of your child's computer screen, if preferred or necessary.

PTTS is connecting families with qualified educators who can facilitate learning that is customized to your child's age, Hebrew and Judaic ability, learning style, and schedule. Whether your priority is Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation, Hebrew language skills, Jewish culture, familiarity with prayer services, Western Sephardic tradition, or, of course, positive engagement with Jewish life and community, you choose which tutor you'd like to work with based on your own considerations.

Learn more and find the perfect tutor for your child's needs at [shearithisrael.org/ptts-tutoring](https://shearithisrael.org/ptts-tutoring).

# HESED

## 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.



You may remember Aura Bijou-Plotkin's recipe for a delicious Jibbn (Syrian Quiche) in our last Bulletin. She adds to it with this recipe, saying, "I recently received the gift of *Sababa*, a wonderful cookbook with Middle Eastern recipes. One of them has become a favorite and pairs perfectly with the Jibbn. It is a grain salad made with freekeh, which I had difficulty locating locally, so I substituted bulgur wheat. The grain with roasted red grapes and toasted walnuts make me swoon."



# FREEKEH AND ROASTED GRAPE SALAD

by Aura Bijou-Plotkin

*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.*

## CULINARY CORNER

### Ingredients:

- 1.5 cups freekeh or bulgur wheat, preferably whole
- 2.5 cups (1 pound) seedless red grapes
- ½ cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1.5 tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- ¼ tsp dried hot pepper flakes (Aura adds some cayenne)
- Finely grated lemon rind of one lemon
- ½ cup finely chopped parsley
- ½ cup finely chopped red onion
- ½ cup chopped toasted walnuts
- Optional: 4 oz of crumbled feta cheese

### Instructions:

- Prepare the freekeh or bulgur as directed on box
- Place grapes on a large rimmed baking sheet, drizzle with 2 tablespoons of olive oil and ½ tsp of the salt & ¼ tsp of the pepper
- Roast in the oven, shaking the pan every 5 minutes or so, until the grapes shrivel and some are very caramelized and burned on the edges (20-30 minutes)
- In a medium bowl, whisk 1/3 cup lemon juice with the remaining salt and pepper and the dried pepper flakes
- Mix together the freekeh/bulgur, grapes, zest, parsley and onion
- Just prior to serving, mix in more lemon juice, salt and pepper to taste, and toasted walnuts. Add feta if desired.



**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Service times are subject to change.  
Follow our emails to get the latest changes: [shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists](http://shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists).

## SERVICES

### DAILY SERVICES

- Mornings:**  
Sunday Shahrit ..... 8:05 am  
Monday-Friday Shahrit ..... 7:05 am
- Sunday Evenings, Minha & Arbit:**  
December 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th ..... 4:15 pm  
January 2nd & 9th ..... 4:30 pm  
January 16th & 23rd ..... 4:45 pm  
January 30th & February 6th ..... 5:00 pm  
February 13th & 20th ..... 5:15 pm  
February 27th ..... 5:30 pm  
March 6th ..... 5:45 pm
- Evenings, Monday-Thursday, Arbit Only:**  
December 1st-February 24th ..... 6:30 pm
- Evenings, Mon.-Thu., Minha & Arbit:**  
February 28th - Mar. 10th ..... 5:45 pm  
March 13th – June 2nd ..... 6:30 pm

### SHABBAT SERVICES

- November 19th- 20th**  
*Parashat Vayishlah*  
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ..... 4:17 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:15 pm  
Morning Zemirot ..... 8:30 am  
Morning Shahrit ..... 9:00 am  
Class ..... 3:30 pm  
Minha & Arbit ..... 4:15 pm  
Habdala ..... 5:02 pm
- November 26th- 27th**  
*Parashat Vayesheb*  
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ..... 4:13 pm  
Friday Evening Services ..... 4:15 pm  
Morning Zemirot ..... 8:30 am  
Morning Shahrit ..... 9:00 am  
Class ..... 3:30 pm  
Saturday Minha & Arbit ..... 4:10 pm  
Habdala ..... 4:57 pm



December 3rd - 4th  
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Tebeth-Hanukkah

Parashat Mikkets

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:11 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:00 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:30 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:05 pm
Habdala & 7 Hanukkah Candles	4:55 pm

December 10th-11th

Parashat Vayiggash

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:10 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:15 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:30 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:05 pm
Habdala	4:55 pm

December 17th-18th

Parashat Vayhi

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:12 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:15 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:30 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:10 pm
Habdala	4:57 pm

December 24th-25th

Parashat Shemoth

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:15 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:15 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:30 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:15 pm
Habdala	5:00 pm

December 31st-January 1st

Parashat Vaera

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:20 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:30 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:35 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:20 pm
Habdala	5:06 pm

January 7th-8th

Parashat Bo

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:27 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:30 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:40 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:25 pm
Habdala	5:12 pm

January 14th-15th  
Shabbat Shirah

Parashat Beshallah-Shirah

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:34 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:45 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:50 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:35 pm
Habdala	5:20 pm

January 21st-22nd

Parashat Yithro

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:42 pm
Friday Evening Services	4:45 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	3:55 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:40 pm
Habdala	5:29 pm

January 28th-29th

Parashat Mishpatim  
Bar Mitzvah of Eliezer Nebot

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:51 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:00 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:05 pm
Minha & Arbit	4:50 pm
Habdala	5:38 pm

February 4th-5th

Parashat Terumah

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	4:59 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:00 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:15 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:00 pm
Habdala	5:48 pm

February 11th-12th

Parashat Tetsavveh

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	5:08 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:15 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:20 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:05 pm
Habdala	5:57 pm

February 18th-19th

Parashat Ki Tissa

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	5:16 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:15 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:30 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:15 pm
Habdala	6:06 pm

February 25th-26th      Shabbat Shekalim

Parashat Vayaqhel

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	5:25 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:30 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:40 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:25 pm
Habdala	6:15 pm

**Shabbat Shekalim:** During Temple times a half-shekel poll tax was required of every Jew by the first of Adar. On the preceding Sabbath, Ex. 30:11-16 was added as a reminder. This is the first of the Four Sabbaths before Passover with special Torah and haftarah readings.

March 4th-5th

Parashat Pekude

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	5:33 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:45 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:45 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:30 pm
Habdala	6:24 pm

March 11th-12th      Shabbat Zakhor

Parashat Vayikra

Candles (18 min. before sunset)	5:40 pm
Friday Evening Services	5:45 pm
Morning Zemirot	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit	9:00 am
Class	4:55 pm
Minha & Arbit	5:40 pm
Habdala	6:33 pm

**Shabbat Zakhor/Mi Khamokha,** is the Sabbath preceding Purim. We add Deut. 25:17-19, which begins with the word “Zakhor.” Remember [Amalek] Haman, because of his wicked designs to exterminate the Jewish people, was thought to be a spiritual descendant of Amalek, the first presumed “annihilators” of the Israelites. Sephardic congregations everywhere mark the occasion with the reading of Yehuda Halevy’s poem, “Mi Khamokha,” as we do at 9:00 am as a prelude to Shahrit.



March 18th-19th

Parashat Tsav

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:48 pm
Friday Evening Services .....	7:00 pm
Morning Zemirot.....	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Class .....	6:00 pm
Minha & Arbit.....	6:45 pm
Sunset.....	7:07 pm
Habdala.....	7:41 pm

March 25th-26th

Shabbat Parah

Parashat Shemini

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:55 pm
Friday Evening Services .....	6:30 pm
Morning Zemirot.....	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Class .....	6:10 pm
Minha & Arbit.....	6:55 pm
Habdala.....	7:50 pm

**Shabbat Parah:** We read the law concerning the ashes of the Red Heifer [Heb. “Parah Adumah”] from Numbers 19 to remind us of the purification ritual for the Paschal sacrifice.

April 1st-2nd

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh-HaHodesh

Parashat Tazria

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:03 pm
Friday Evening Services .....	7:00 pm
Morning Zemirot.....	8:30 am
Morning Shahrit.....	9:00 am
Class .....	6:15 pm
Minha & Arbit.....	7:00 pm
Habdala.....	7:58 pm

**Shabbat HaHodesh** derives its name from the special reading of the Torah, Exodus 12:1-20. This “portion about the month” refers to the special consecration of Nisan, the month of Passover. In 5782, **Shabbat Hahodesh** coincides with Nisan 1, **Rosh Hodesh**, itself.

HOLIDAYS

Fast of Tebeth

Tuesday, December 14th

Dawn (Fast Begins) .....	5:44 am
Morning Service .....	7:15 am
Minha & Arbit.....	4:00 pm
End of Fast .....	4:49 pm

Year-End & New Year Legal Holidays

Fridays, December 24th & December 31st

Morning Service .....	8:05 am
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Rosh Hodesh Shebat (One-Day)

Sunday Evening, January 2nd through

Monday, January 3rd

(Services follow regular Daily Schedule)

Hamisha Asar (Tu) B'Shebat & Martin Luther King Legal Holiday

Tu B'Shebat: Sunday Evening,

January 16th through

Monday, January 17th;

Martin Luther King Legal Holiday:

Monday, January 17th

Sunday Evening Arbit Service .....	6:30 pm
Monday Morning Late Shahrit .....	8:05 am
Monday Evening Arbit.....	6:30 pm

Rosh Hodesh Adar I (Two-Day)

Monday Evening, January 31st through

Tuesday & Wednesday, Feb. 1st & 2nd

(Services follow regular Daily Schedule)

Presidents' Day Legal Holiday

Monday, February 21st

Morning Service .....	8:05 am
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Rosh Hodesh Adar II (Two-Day)

Wednesday Evening, March 2nd through

Thursday & Friday, March 3rd & 4th

(Services follow regular Daily Schedule)

PURIM HOLIDAY

Fast of Esther

Wednesday, March 16th

Dawn (Fast Begins) .....	5:45 am
Morning Service (Shahrit).....	7:05 am

Eve of Purim

Wednesday Evening, March 16th

Minha (men wear tefillin) .....	6:30 pm
Arbit (Evening) Service .....	7:00 pm
Reading of Megillah .....	7:05 pm
End of Fast .....	7:26 pm
Late Reading of Megillah .....	8:30 pm

Purim Day

Thursday, March 17th

Shahrit Service.....	7:05 am
Morning Reading of Megillah.....	7:35 am
Women's Megillah Reading.....	7:35 am
Late Morning Reading of Megillah.....	11:00 am
Minha & Arbit Services .....	6:30 pm
End of Day.....	7:27 pm

Purim Shushan

Friday, March 18th

Morning (Shahrit) Service.....	7:05 am
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**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 6:30 pm service on Wednesday Evening.

**Purim** commemorates the day when, through the intervention of Mordecai and Queen Esther, the Jews of Persia narrowly escaped being victims of Haman's evil plot to exterminate them. Instead, “The Jews had light and gladness, joy and honor.”

**Purim Shushan**, the day following Purim, was the actual day of celebration observed in Shushan, the capital of ancient Persia, and is the day Purim is observed in Jerusalem.

Rosh Hodesh Nisan (One-Day)

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh- HaHodesh

Friday Evening, April 1st through

Saturday, April 2nd

(For Services see Shabbat Schedule)

BY EMAIL

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

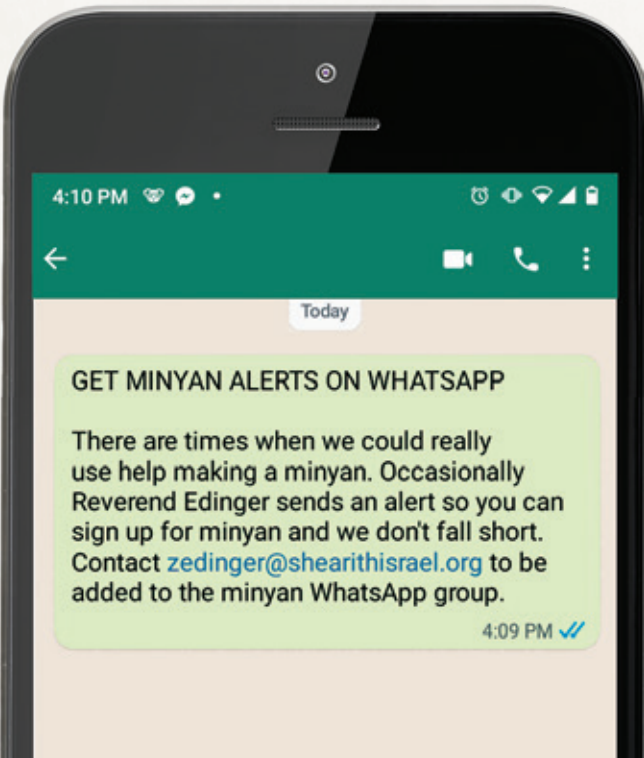


ON FACEBOOK

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

GET MINYAN ALERTS ON WHATSAPP

Contact [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org) to be added to Shearith Israel's minyan WhatsApp group.







### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: PRESERVE PAVED PARADISE

We hope you have had the pleasure of experiencing our beautiful, safe and accessible outdoor pavilion, “Paved Paradise.” If not, you must. In addition to being our “Prayground” for Shabbat, holiday, and daily services, we have also seen how important a large, attractive, and sturdy outdoor pavilion has been to safely bring our community together for celebrations and gatherings such as our Hatanim Celebration, Simhat Torah, *Kiddushim*, and cultural events, as well as for funerals and *shiva*.

Please help us make the necessary investments to ensure the ongoing maintenance and beautification of this valuable outdoor space, “Paved Paradise,” so we can enjoy it now and for years to come. To donate, visit [shearithisrael.org/preserving-paved-paradise](https://shearithisrael.org/preserving-paved-paradise).

HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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

### GENERAL DONATIONS

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

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

### CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Even more than before the pandemic, with the benefit of virtual technology, Shearith Israel has firmly established itself around the globe as a go-to destination for intellectual and spiritual stimulation. Help ensure our depth and reach by sponsoring a virtual class, a lecture series, or Morning Zoom Learning. And now that some of our classes are back to in-person, sponsorship opportunities abound for those as well. Visit [shearithisrael.org/sponsor-class2021](https://shearithisrael.org/sponsor-class2021) to learn more.

### KIDDUSH FUND

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 greetings between fellow congregants and a sense of “getting back to normal.”

### 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

**Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik** Rabbi  
msoloveichik@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x206

**Rabbi Dr. Marc D. Angel** Rabbi Emeritus  
mangel@shearithisrael.org

**Barbara Reiss** Executive Director  
breiss@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x215

**Bonnie Barest** Deputy Executive Director  
bbarest@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x209

**Rabbi Ira Rohde** Hazzan  
irohde@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x217

**Rev. Zachary S. Edinger** Assistant Hazzan/Sexton  
zedinger@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x216

**Leon Hyman** Choirmaster Emeritus

**Sarah Gross** Office and Projects Manager  
sgross@shearithisrael.org, 212-873-0300 x 230

**John Quinones** Facilities Manager  
jquinones@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x223

**Sarah Meira Rosenberg** Communications Associate  
and Programs Coordinator  
srosenberg@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x221

**Ruth Yasky** Financial Associate  
ryasky@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x228

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Louis M. Solomon, Parnas  
Karen Daar, Segan  
Michael P. Lustig, Segan  
Dr. Victoria R. Bengualid  
David E.R. Dangoor  
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Arthur A. Goldberg  
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L. Gilles Sion  
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Roy J. Zuckerberg

## GENERAL INQUIRIES

**T:** 212-873-0300 | **F:** 815-301-3820  
info@shearithisrael.org  
www.shearithisrael.org

Lifecycle and Pastoral Matters  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik** 212-873-0300 x206  
msoloveichik@shearithisrael.org

Funeral Arrangements  
**Rev. Zachary S. Edinger** 212-873-0300 x216  
917-584-3787  
zedinger@shearithisrael.org

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

## MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES

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

