

Civil War Memorial Event Honoring Myer Asch
Beth Olam, Shearith Israel Cemetery, 2 Cypress Hills Street
Sunday, April 22 | 11:00 am

Please join us for a very special event on the morning of April 22nd when we will honor Colonel Myer Asch, a highly decorated veteran of the Civil War, by installing a special marker of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Meade Post 1, at his grave. The ceremony will include a color guard, civil war reenactors, special presentations, and a tour of the cemetery, decorating the graves of veterans of the Civil War buried at Beth Olam. The cemetery is located at the intersection of Cypress Hills Street and the Jackie Robinson Parkway. Please join us for this very special event.

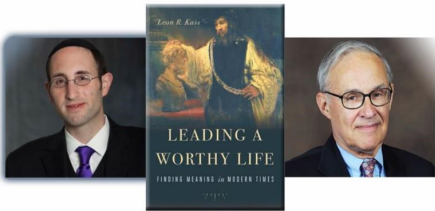
Registration is encouraged at shearithisrael.org/myer-asch. Round-trip transportation from the synagogue is available for \$18 per person, subject to availability.

For more information, please contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

The Meaning of Memory: Reflections on
Leading a Worthy Life

A Conversation Between Rabbi Soloveichik & Leon Kass

Tuesday, April 17
8:00 pm



Join us for a special Yom HaZikaron event, featuring a conversation between Rabbi Meir Soloveichik and Dr. Leon Kass, author of *Leading a Worthy Life: Finding Meaning in Modern Times*.

Event is free, but registration is encouraged at shearithisrael.org/kass-event.

In partnership with YU's Straus Center and American Enterprise Institute Council.

Our next public tour is this Wednesday, April 11 at 11:30 AM (note special time)

Meet with Our Parnas
Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet with you. Please schedule a visit by email: parnas@shearithisrael.org.



SEVENTH DAY OF PASSOVER: CONSECRATION OF
THE FIRST MILL STREET SYNAGOGUE
— Z. EDINGER —

On the Seventh Day of Passover, we read about the splitting of the Sea. After their miraculous escape from the Egyptian army, the Jews celebrated their freedom with the *Song of Moses*. In commemoration, the musical theme for this day is our well known “Az Yashir” melody, while the actual *Shirat Hayyam* is read during the *Zemirot* and during the Torah portion with a special melodic trope known as the “*High Na’um*.” The Seventh Day of Passover is also celebrated within our congregation as the anniversary of the consecration of our first synagogue building, the Mill Street Synagogue.

Where the Jews of New York prayed from 1654 to 1695 is essentially unknown. There are some indications that occasional prayer services may have been held in the loft above the old flour mill, or in the home of Asser Levy, but no definite location is known. In fact, the Jews of New Amsterdam and early New York were not permitted to incorporate, or to own a synagogue building—they were only permitted to worship their religion “in all quietness...within their houses.” A map from 1695 indicates that a house on Beaver Street was known as the “*Jewes Synagogue*.” From 1700-1729 the community rented a house on Mill Street for use as a synagogue for £8 per year.

On October 28, 1728, the Parnas called a meeting to “*Subscribe for the purchasing of Land for the Building of a Sinagoga*.” The congregation gave generously and was able to purchase two lots about 100 feet west of the rented house on Mill Street. The land was purchased from Cornelius Clop- per on December 19, 1728 for “£100, one loaf of Sugar, and a pound of Bohea Tea.” This location is now 22 South William Street. There is now a local effort to re-name this street as the “*Mill Street Synagogue/Gershom Mendes Seixas Way*.”

With the land in place, the congregation then raised funds for building and furnishing the synagogue. Donations large and small came from many people—more than 66 individuals and several communities are listed. The cornerstones were laid in December 1729, and the building was completed and consecrated for use on the Seventh Day of Passover, 1730.

Today, in celebration of the consecration, the *Hehal* is opened during much of the service and the poem *Todot El* is sung before *Nishmat*. Before the Torah reading, the communities of Curacao, London, and Suriname are specially thanked for their contributions. *Hashcabot* are read in memory of Moses Michalls, Benjamin Mendes Pacheco, Lewis Moses Gomez, and Jacob Franks, who paid for the four cornerstones of the Synagogue building. Special memorial prayers are read for Rachel Louaza (Lewis), Simha de Torres, and Bilha Abigail Franks for their contributions as well. Until the American Revolution a special *misheberakh* was read in Portuguese: (continued inside)



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue
Schedule for Last Days Pesah

April 5-7, 2018

LAST DAYS PESAH EVE, THURSDAY, APRIL 5

‘ERUB TABSHILIN | before sunset, 7:25 PM

CANDLE LIGHTING | 7:07 PM

EVENING SERVICES (MINHAH & ARBIT) | 7:00 PM | Main Sanctuary

7TH DAY, FRIDAY, APRIL 6

ZEMIROT | 8:15 AM | Main Sanctuary

SHAHARIT, HALLEL, MUSAF | 9:05 AM | Main Sanctuary

TORAH READING WITH SHIRAT HAYYAM | 9:50 AM

TOT SHABBAT FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH LIZ AND SHANADE

| Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

YOUTH GROUPS WITH JULIA | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room

JUNIOR CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 | Little Synagogue

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium | Sponsored by The Sisterhood in memory of Mona Oppenheim and other descendants of our founding families. (See back panel to learn more.)

SHABBAT AND 8TH DAY CANDLE LIGHTING | by 7:08 PM

EVENING SERVICES (MINHAH & ARBIT) | 7:00 PM

8TH DAY, SHABBAT, APRIL 7

ZEMIROT | 8:15 AM | Main Sanctuary

SHAHARIT, HALLEL, MUSAF | 9:00 AM | Main Sanctuary

READING OF SHIR HASHIRIM | 11:30 AM | Main Sanctuary

TOT SHABBAT FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH LIZ AND SHANADE

| Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

YOUTH GROUPS WITH JULIA | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room

JUNIOR CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 | Little Synagogue

KIDDUSH IN HONOR OF TEEN GIRL READERS OF SHIR HASHIRIM

| Levy Auditorium | Sponsored by Anonymous, the Epstein and Jackson Families, Jane Shiff & Alan Lubarr in memory of Jane's mother, Annette Renick (Chana bat Moshe Yaakov v'Sara), The Solomon Family, and Daniela Weiss and Avi Yohananoff. Also sponsored by Mitch and Joleen Julis in memory of Maurice Raphael Julis.

EVENING SERVICES (MINHAH & ARBIT) | 7:05 PM

HABDALAH | 8:04 PM

Do not consume hametz until half an hour after Habdalah: 8:34 PM

See inside for Weekday Service Times.

Central Park West at 70th Street, New York City • www.shearithisrael.org

COMING UP

THIS WEEK!

Get tickets in advance—\$5-\$8 online, \$10 at the door
FROM THE DISTRIBUTOR THAT BROUGHT YOU “THE WOMEN’S BALCONY”

“1945”

Wednesday, April 11 | 7:00 pm

With Opening Remarks by Our Member, Ivan Berkowitz

In commemoration of Yom HaShoa, we will be holding a special screening of the critically acclaimed film, *1945*. A superb ensemble cast, lustrous black and white cinematography, and historically detailed art direction contribute to this eloquent drama. Visit shearithisrael.org/1945 for registration and tickets.

Calling Girls to Recite The Book of Ruth

As they do each year on the first day of Shabuot, Sunday, May 20, the girls of our synagogue will recite the Book of Ruth for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary after services. If your daughter would like to participate, please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde (lrohde-csi@yahoo.com). Mrs. Rohde has started assigning parts; the first rehearsal has been scheduled for Sunday, April 29 at 4 pm.

(continued from back panel)

Pello Grande Zelo, e animo Devoto com que firmanao e Derao Unanimes Kodesh Ladonai os muy Nobles Senhores do Mahamad, Deputados e os Noblissimos Senhores Jehidim deste Kahal Kados de Seerith Israel, que Deos augmente, kullam kedoshim uvtotcham Adonai, Em a Compra de Dous Lotes de Terra e a fabrica de hum delles foy Dedicada para faza de orasao que oie Celebra Esta Congrega o Estreamento della Pois foy Santeficada kodesh Ladonai Elohe Israel.

[For the great zeal and devoted spirit with which the very noble gentlemen of the Mahamad, the deputies, and the noble gentlemen Yehidim (members) of this holy congregation of Shearith Israel (may God increase), all of them holy with God in their midst, unanimously established and contributed, as consecrated to the Lord, for the purchase of two lots of land and the building on them dedicated for offering up prayer, of which today this congregation celebrates the inauguration when it was sanctified holy to the Lord, God of Israel.]

The finial “Pineapple Bells” gifted by Rachel Louaza are used specially for this consecration. Other objects from the Mill Street Synagogue that remain in use are the Omer Boards now hanging in the Main Sanctuary, and the Hanukah Lamp used each year on Hanukah. The Ten Commandments, candlesticks, southern pews, and the Tebah in the Little Synagogue also come from Mill Street and remain in daily use.

WEEKDAY SERVICE TIMES

Mornings:

Sunday: 8:00 AM

Monday-Friday: 7:15 AM

Evenings (Minhah & Arbit):

Sunday-Thursday: 6:30 PM

Don’t forget to count
Sefirat haOmer
every night!

Upper West Side Annual Yom HaShoa Reading of The Names

Wednesday, April 11 at 10 PM - Thursday April 12 at 6 PM
Society for the Advancement of Judaism, 15 West 86th Street followed by
The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Ave
Every year for the past two decades, the Upper West Side has come together to commemorate Yom HaShoa with a joint reading of the names of those who perished. Please consider joining this meaningful memorial and lending your support to Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde, who will be taking Shearith Israel’s shift and reading the names from 3:20 AM to 3:40 AM on April 12.

Visiting Scholar Professor Laura Arnold Leibman

is returning to Shearith Israel to deliver two historical lectures

Shabbat, April 21 | Following Morning Services

“Jews and Voting in Early America: The Fight for Civil Rights”

Monday, April 30 | 7:00 pm

“Sephardic Country Houses”

For more information and to sponsor the *kiddush* following the Shabbat lecture, visit shearithisrael.org/leibman.

Laura Arnold Leibman is Professor of English and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Her work focuses on religion and the daily lives of women and children in early America, and uses everyday objects to help bring their stories back to life.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hizki U’berukha to our 5th grade member, Matea Frieber, upon reaching the finals of *Hidon HaTanakh*, which will take place at Manhattan Day School on Sunday, April 29. Good luck, Matea!

REGISTER NOW FOR TICKETED EVENTS Upper West Side Celebrates Israel

Sunday, April 15 | Symphony Space
(2537 Broadway at 95th Street)

Join Shearith Israel and the entire Upper West Side Jewish community in celebrating Israel’s 70th Yom Ha’atzmaut! This massive festival will have both indoor and outdoor activities for all ages, including:

- Street fair with bouncy castles, food tastings, bands, games and more
- Buy tickets (\$18) for the **Yemen Blues** concert
- Cooking demonstration from Gil Hovav, Israel’s leading TV chef
- Kosher wine tasting with Haim Amit of Vino Levantino
- Address from Ambassador Dennis Ross
- Screening of the new film, *The Israel Museum*
- Study sessions with Shaare Zedek, Hadar, and Drisha

This festival is sure to be a can’t-miss event of the year, so mark your calendars, and register in advance for ticketed events. Visit shearithisrael.org/uws-celebrates-israel for more information.

PRESENTED BY THE SISTERHOOD

Jr. Book Group (for children ages 11-14)

First Meeting: Shabbat, April 21 | 4:30 pm

At a private home near the Synagogue

Led by our member Lina Sion, a former book scout of Middle Grade and Young Adult books



Come join with friends as we discuss this newly released book:

***Hunger* by Donna Jo Napoli.**

How far would you go to save your home?

It is autumn of 1846 in Ireland. Twelve-year-old Lorraine and her family are ready to pick the potato crop, but something is terribly wrong. The harvest her family had waited all year for—their livelihood—has failed. Ruined. Facing the worst trouble that Lorraine has ever known, she must find the strength and courage to help her family survive.

Read the book and be ready to share your thoughts, and impressions. And don’t forget to come with your own ideas of future books or subjects you would like to talk about!

To RSVP and get location information, email **Rose Edinger** at rgedinger@gmail.com.