



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023

SPRING -
SUMMER
2023

אביב/קיץ תשפ"ג

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



America's First Jewish Congregation

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ON THE COVER:

With artwork in her beloved style, Maira Kalman visually engages readers in Michael Frank's acclaimed book, "One Hundred Saturdays." During a special Shearith Israel book event, participants can hear more about this extraordinary book and the remarkable story of Stella Levi during conversation with the author, as well as with CSI's own member, Isabelle Levy. Learn more on page 11.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



Maria Johnson, a Catholic professor at the University of Scranton, wrote a book describing her friendship with her Orthodox Jewish neighbors. In describing how she met them, she recounts that she had been teaching a class on the Hebrew Bible, originally approached it as a wondrous piece of literature, but did not consider its relevance to her own time. But then, she heard the names of some of her neighbors and realized that they were the same as the ones encountered in Hebrew scripture. "The story," she came to understand, "very obviously, was alive and well. You don't run into the descendants of Oliver Twist or find yourself living down the road from people who trace their ancestry back to Anna Karenina or Huck Finn." The story of Biblical Israel is not only a great story; it is also a true one, one which is all the more wondrous because it continues today through us.

It is with in mind that we can approach one of our central rituals on Pesah: utilizing the recitation of the Haggadah to describe our past to our posterity. It is not only that we are called to communicate all the miracles that occurred in the past; we are meant to realize that the fact that our story continues is itself one of the great miracles of history. At times it takes the profound perspective of an outsider, who became friends with several Jews in Scranton, to remind us of this.

In a chapter about her visiting her Jewish friends on Hanukkah, Johnson concludes: "It defies all conceivable logic that a tiny nation like Israel should have survived, while civilizations and empires have arisen, triumphed, and crumbled into oblivion. But in defiance of logic, here they are, a blessing to the nations and a blessing to me, and when they invite me to celebrate their crazy victories over history, I'm there with all my heart." We in turn are called to realize our own victories over history, and recount them on Pesah with a heart full of joy.

Meir Y. Soloveichik

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS



Louis M. Solomon

OLD WINE, NEW WINESKINS

George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss* contains the earliest variant I've found of the reference in English to the adage: "Do not judge a book by its cover." Pirke Abot, or Ethics of our Fathers, taught the same point more than a millennium earlier:

רבי אומר, אל תסתכל בקנקן, אלא במה שיש בו. יש קנקן חדש מלא יין, וישן שאפילו חדש אין בו

Rebbi [Judah the Prince] said, do not look at the container but at the wine inside, for a new container may contain old wine, and an old container may not even contain new wine.

It's a profound and beautiful adage. It is unclear, therefore, why so many of us have such trouble internalizing the point. Look beyond superficial appearances. Look to the substance.

The thought is in my head, not because we may well be learning this Chapter of Ethics by the time this message and the Spring Bulletin are in our mailboxes. Rather, what brought it to

mind is the particular complaint presented to me by a longstanding congregant. It was his view that Shearith Israel no longer offers "programming" for its various constituencies as it did in the past. His comments surprised me because, I can say with confidence, that for the good numbers who are attending our varied programs and events, there is no dearth of options or quality. Perhaps we can be doing a better job in communicating it. Hence this short column.

There are some basic activities that our Congregation is known for. It is old wine. Over the centuries we have looked after others, we have looked after our own, we have looked after our young. Old timers with us know and remember this old wine. But even those who appreciate old wine, know that new vintages must be cultivated if we are to have old wine in the future. And fortunately many of these projects are still being done by a new generation of Shearith Israelites.

HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES:

HESED (through our *Caring Connection*, *Hebra*, and other ad hoc efforts): Charity to others is one of the three pillars on which our Congregation has stood for 369 years. It is about the most vintage wine we have. The project is not moribund. It is active and vital. This generation's shining stars include Trustees Leah Albek and Vicki Bengualid. They are hard at work keeping this crucial aspect of communal life alive in our time.

KIDDUSH COMMITTEE: Tastes change over the centuries. But sharing food and conviviality is the same old wine. Who is the newest generation of wine casks? Isaac Haberman, Tikva Ostrega, and Ari Sherizen.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: Organizing holiday and Shabbat mixers for dozens of members and prospective members in their 20's and 30s, Ariel Bengio, Devorah Goldstein, Isaac Haberman, and Daniel Marks, themselves multi-generational Shearith Israelites, are looking after this cohort – our future.

YOUNG FAMILIES: Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman with Jodie Steinway and Ari Sherizen lead a close-knit group of families who together enjoy Motzai Shabbat Parent-Child learning, Shabbat luncheons, special holiday activities, picnics, and more. And here is our future's future. It is of the utmost importance that we attract and retain young families. And these are among the people who are our new wine casks ensuring its success.

THE SISTERHOOD: Here the metaphor of wine/casks gets too complicated to be useful. Carla Schein, Rose Edinger, and Rivka Wiznia excel at both old wine (gorgeously decorating our Elias Room Succah, arranging a plethora of flowers for Shabuot) and new wine (organizing successful social and cultural programs such as our recent Bird Rescue event and virtual film series. More recently they have re-introduced our Mishloach Manot tradition on Purim).

My point is obvious, and two-fold. First, there are abundant opportunities not just for learning and study in our Congregation (Rabbi Soloveichik himself speaks three times practically every Shabbat) but for activities and programming too. It is true that the wine in some of our casks turns over time. Just recently, for example, we deleted square dancing from one of our society's descriptions (it is frankly mind-boggling how recently that deletion occurred -- don't get me wrong, I personally like square dancing). Some wine stays fine in whatever container – for example, the dinner concert given by *Magevet* (Yale's a cappella group) during our recent Shabbat of Song enthralled, enriched, and enlivened over 150 of us.

Second, every one of these committees would benefit from more help. Real, sincere, sustained, muscular help.

We look forward to seeing all of you of whatever vintage, in whatever cask.

Happy Spring to all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Louis M. Solomon".

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Barbara Reiss and Bonnie Barest

CARING FOR OUR CEMETERIES: A SACRED RESPONSIBILITY

We love cemeteries. That may sound morbid, but it's not. Cemeteries can not only be beautiful and peaceful oases, they often reveal fascinating stories and histories, and affirm the dignity of every soul who is buried there. The absence of a proper burial or resting place, on the other hand, is depressing. Think of how deeply offended we are by the indignity of mass graves (beyond the monstrous circumstances that typically led to that outcome), and how unsettling it is to not be able to visit a gravesite. It is also upsetting to see a gravesite not tended to. And the desecration of a Jewish cemetery can be elevated to the status of a hate crime.

Cemeteries are important testaments to where we came from, who our ancestors were, the lives they lived, and the legacies they passed on to us. So, yes, we love cemeteries, and like anything we love, we must pay them proper care. And so it is with pride that we announce the completion of Phase I of our West 11th Street Cemetery Restoration and Renewal project.



The team designed and built a restoration to last for another two hundred years! Stop by and take a look for yourself, and watch our emails for a rededication ceremony this June. *Photographer: Sarah Issever*

We are very proud of the project, so lovingly executed, and we are also delighted that both the Community Board and NYC's Landmarks Preservation Commission love it as well. The original wall, utilitarian in design and hastily constructed in 1830, was altered and repaired over time and not in keeping with the charming Greenwich Village aesthetic, and became a magnet for graffiti. The neighbors were eager for it to be improved, and an intensive collaboration with a group of W. 11th Street residents began in 2013.

But it was not until September 2019, when a car crashed into a section of the wall that we moved into high gear with a major repair project to restore order to the cemetery. A new brick wall was constructed on the existing stone foundation, which included bricks from the original early 19th century construction. Work was done on the interior walls and the historic wrought iron fencing and gate.

Where the new wall met an endangered, yet thriving American elm tree, we designed a new curve away from it allowing the ever-growing tree and cemetery to continue to co-exist. The new curve also provides a wide and welcome window into the cemetery without compromising the security of the sacred site, and the low wall provides a perch for passers-by to linger. We



repainted and reinstalled the original commemorative bronze plaque, a significant feature of the historic wall.

Throughout this work, it was gratifying to watch the dedication and pride the construction crew exhibited, and to hear praise from neighborhood passers-by. We thank everyone who contributed financially to this effort to date and look forward to continued support as we begin the next phase to maintain the cemetery and develop educational materials to share the story of this historic site. This tiny urban graveyard tells the story both of the Jewish community in New York and of New York City itself.

If you are interested in learning more or joining our list of donors with a much-needed and appreciated tax-deductible contribution, please visit: shearithisrael.org/giving/west-11th-street-cemetery-renewal-project/ or contact Rev. Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org or 212-873-0300.

Barbara Reiss
Executive Director

Bonnie Barest
Deputy Executive Director



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Raymond Jasen
Paulina & Russell Light
Sandra Rose

CONGRATULATIONS

Members with special achievements:

Lucienne Carasso Bulow, who, in Jus Mundi's Report on Maritime Arbitration, was found to be one of the top three most active maritime arbitrators in the last decade, and the top woman maritime arbitrator in the world.

Mazal Tob to:

Rabbi Marc & Gilda Angel, upon the occasion of their granddaughters, Aviva & Dahlia, becoming B'not Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to their parents, Rabbi Hayyim & Maxine Angel

Dr. Victoria Bengualid & Gabriel Goldstein, upon the birth of a grandson, born to Tova Goldstein & Yishai Chamudot in Israel. Congratulations as well to great-grandfather, honorary trustee Henri Bengualid

Esme & Roger Berg, upon their granddaughter, Noa Elizabeth Berg, daughter of Jonathan & Virginie Berg, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Jessica & Ahron Herring, upon the birth of a baby girl, Judith Lilly

Flora Jakobishvili, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah in Israel. Congratulations as well to her parents, Dr. Isabelle Levy & Nugi Jakobishvili

Judy & Joel Schreiber, upon the birth of a great-grandson, born to their grandchildren, Blima and Ben Weintraub.

Esther & William Schulder, upon their grandson, Zeke (son of Jessica Orbach & Meyer Orbach of Englewood, NJ), becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Ruth Sherizen, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to her parents, Ari & Jodie, and her brother, Abe

Daveedy Soloveichik, Rabbi & Layaliza Soloveichik, and the entire Soloveichik family, upon Daveedy becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Felicia & Dr. Henry Spencer, upon the birth of their first granddaughter, born to Rachel & Justin Turetsky

Madelene & Stan Towne, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Anna Charlotte Ting

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of our members:

Els Bendheim
Emy Cohenca
Susan Hazan
Leon Hyman
Dr. Alan Lubarr
Irwin Shapiro
Thomas Unterberg

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:

Philip Cohenca, Nevine Michaan, and the entire Cohenca family, upon the passing of Emy Cohenca

Condolences to Carol Di Pisa (& John Quinones), upon the passing of Carol's father

Elizabeth Edelman, upon the passing of her father, Herb Edelman

Our former Hazzan, Rabbi Albert Gabbai (Minister of Congregation Mikveh Israel, Philadelphia), upon the passing of his brother, Isaac

Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander, upon the passing of his father, Antonius den Hollander

Adah Hyman and her children, Ilana, Adam, and Ariella Hyman, upon the passing of Leon Hyman

Debbie Sable, upon the passing of her mother, Miriam ("Mimi") Avner

Emily Satloff, upon the passing of her father, Thomas Unterberg

Muriel Seligson, upon the passing of her brother, Yitzhak (Zucky) Sutt

Ruth Shapiro, upon the passing of Irwin Shapiro

Aviva Sussman, upon the passing of her mother, Els Bendheim

— continued —

IN APPRECIATION

Kiddush Sponsors:

Karen & Jack Daar

Liliane Marks, in memory of her husband, Neville Marks

The Sherizen family, in honor of Ruth becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Suchu & Meyer Solny, in memory of Mrs. Betty Solny, a”h (Hinda Baila b. Meyer Bendit)

Shearith Israel Touro Synagogue Affiliates, Dr. Henry & Felicia Spencer, in honor of the birth and naming of their first granddaughter, born to Rachel & Justin Turetsky

Margo & Benjamin Suckewer, in memory of Benjamin’s mother, Sonia Suckewer

Kiddush Supporters:

Esme and Roger Berg, in honor of their son, Louis Alexandre Berg, reading his haftarah, and the birth of his son, Raphael Leon (Arieh)

Laury Frieber, in memory of her father, Arthur A. Frieber, Alter Avraham b. Chaim

Kiddush Scotch Sponsors:

Margo and Benjamin Suckewer, in memory of Benjamin’s mother, Sonia Suckewer

Kiddush Wine Sponsors:

Karyn Braka Bogart, in memory of her grandfather, David Braka

Friday Night Lights Sponsors:

The Julis-Rabinowitz family, for sponsoring the 2022-23 season

Shabbat Afternoon Class Sponsors & Supporters:

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

Denise Ast, in memory of Shoshannah Sarah b. Avraham

Tikva Ostrega, in memory of her father, Ezra Meir Shohet b. Tefaha

“Random Walk” with Rev. Edinger Sponsor:

Eric Ari Braverman, in honor of Commander Chaim Braverman of Hatikvah and in memory of Major General Maurice the Rose of US

Shabbat Dinner with Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, Fleur Hassan-Nahoum:

Sponsors

Alene Schneierson & Morris Krimolovsky

Co-sponsors

The Lustig-Brody family

Bill & Esther Schulder

The Solomon family

Supporters

Juan Mesa-Freydell

Felicia & Dr. Henry Spencer

Susan Wexner



Shabbat Shira Dinner with *Magevet*:

Sponsors

The Solomon Family

Co-sponsors

Karen & Jack Daar

Karen & Roy Simon

Felicia & Dr. Henry Spencer

Supporters

Juan Mesa-Freydell

Purim Breakfast Sponsors:

Arthur Tenenholtz and Joel Tenenholtz, in memory of their father, Benjamin Tenenholtz

Minyan Breakfast Sponsor:

Arthur Tenenholtz

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 so we can share the news in our handouts and bulletins.



PLANNING A PRIVATE EVENT?

Whether it’s a dinner for 20 or a wedding for 250, we will work to make your next life cycle celebration or private event truly memorable. Our intimate Elias Room and spacious Levy Auditorium are lovely spaces, and our beautiful outdoor pavilion, Paved Paradise, is ideal for hosting a Spring, Summer, or Fall event. Whether you need a venue for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, a Berit, children’s birthday parties, funerals and shiba, or other gatherings, we have the space you need. Visit shearithisrael.org/host-your-event to learn more.

To inquire, please contact **Sarah Gross** at sgross@shearithisrael.org or at 212-873-0300 x 230.

PESAH

TEEN GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Sunday, Hol HaMoed Pesah, April 9
Virtual Reading on Zoom, 11:00 am

Whether near or far, the young women (post-Bat Mitzvah through 20s) of our congregation recite the *Song of Songs* on Pesah. For more information, see page 20.

SHABBAT HAGADOL DERASHA

Shabbat, April 10
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

You won't want to miss this *derasha* from Rabbi Soloveichik exploring how we can weave the lessons of this Festival of Freedom into our everyday lives.

YOM HAZIKARON & YOM HAATZMAUT

SPECIAL LECTURE

Thursday, May 4 | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik will uplift and inspire us with a lecture that takes us from the solemnity of Yom HaZikaron to the celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut.

PROGRAMMING NOTE

Programs are subject to change. For the latest updates, we encourage you to follow our weekly emails. If you have not yet signed up, you may do so at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

SHABUOT

SHABUOT LECTURE

Saturday Night, June 4
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Enjoy this annual public lecture on the themes of the holiday. Come for the Torah; stay for the cheesecake!

THE THREE WEEKS & TISHA B'AB

SPECIAL THREE WEEKS LECTURE SERIES

Dates TBD, culminating on Tisha B'Ab | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a lecture series in memory of Rev. Dr. Alan D. Corre & Mrs. Nita Corre. Rev. Corre served as hazzan in our sister synagogue, Congregation Mikveh Israel, and was a distinguished scholar of Hebrew, linguistics, and Jewish studies. The lectures by Rabbi Soloveichik draw on his scholarship.

ANNUAL TISHA B'AB LECTURE

Finale of Three Weeks Lecture Series

Wednesday Night, July 27
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver his annual public lecture, this time as a powerful conclusion to his Three Weeks Series.

2023 SPRING FUNDRAISER SEVEN-PART LECTURE SERIES

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:

Seven Iconic Images in the History of Israel, and the Stories Behind Them

In this lecture series, Rabbi Soloveichik will examine seven of the most iconic images in the history of Israel, telling the story behind each photo, and the event or person it captured.

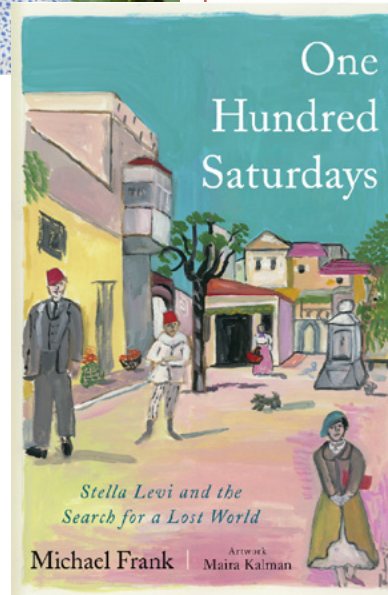
Each presentation will be offered over Zoom and will be a visual experience, pairing the image with many others, revealing largely unknown aspects in Israeli history. This, in turn, will allow us to better appreciate what it means to mark Israel's 75th year, and to look expectantly toward its future.

To register, visit shearithisrael.org/giving/SpringFundraiser2023



Book Event Images:

Top: Michael Frank
(photo by Marta Barisione);
Above: Isabelle Levy;
Right: book cover
featuring artwork by
Maira Kalman



SPECIAL EVENTS

2023 SPRING FUNDRAISER SEVEN-PART LECTURE SERIES

"Worth a Thousand Words: Seven Iconic Images in the History of Israel, and the Stories Behind Them"

by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Beginning Monday, April 17

Featuring virtual sessions with extraordinary archival material and fascinating historical narrative, this series serves as our Congregation's Spring Fundraiser. Join us for phenomenal insight while providing critical support to our Congregation. **See full series details on page 14.**

BOOK EVENT:
ONE HUNDRED SATURDAYS:
Stella Levi and the Search for a Lost World

with author Michael Frank
and Shearith Israel member,
Isabelle Levy

May 4 | 7:00 pm (following 6:30 pm
Evening Services)

Isabelle Levy and Michael Frank will have a lively conversation about the process of writing, researching, and above all learning how to listen to the story of Stella Levi, who is one of the last remaining survivors of the Sephardic Jewish community of Rhodes. Michael's encounter with Stella spanned more than one hundred Saturdays spread over six years and was as transformative an experience for him as it is for the reader of this captivating book. A Q & A and book signing with the author will follow. Discounted books will be available at the event. Registration coming soon.

— continued —

RETROSPECTIVE: YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PRE-HANUKKAH MIXER

*by Daniel de Sola Marks,
member of Shearith Israel's
Young Professionals*

On December 15, our Shearith Israel Young Professionals group hosted a Young Professionals Pre-Hanukkah mixer in the Elias Room of the synagogue, which was attended by approximately 40 young Jewish professionals and couples in their 20s and 30s. We enjoyed cocktails and dinner, along with fresh homemade waffles in a nod to our Dutch holiday tradition.

The highlight of the event for me and the many attendees was a tour of the Main Sanctuary and a discussion about the rich history of the congregation, led by Isaac Haberman. Despite being a lifelong member of Shearith Israel, I was as captivated by the discussion as the many attendees who were visiting Shearith Israel for the first time, and gained a renewed appreciation for the many beautiful rimonim which decorate our Torahs.

Overall, the event was a great success which we look forward to building upon as we host future events to welcome young professionals into our synagogue. For those interested in learning more about Shearith Israel's events for young professionals, please email yp@shearithisrael.org.

5TH ANNUAL SMASH THE STIGMA EVENT

*Presented by Shearith Israel's Caring
Connection*

**May 2023 in conjunction with
Mental Health Awareness Month
and co-sponsored by a consortium of
neighborhood synagogues and Jewish
institutions**

Five years ago, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, we hosted a profoundly important and extremely well-received Smash the Stigma event, in which we opened a conversation on suicide and depression in the Jewish community. Based on turnout and feedback, it was clear that this conversation must continue. We have since made this an annual event, including on Zoom as Covid necessitated. With new and increasingly distressing mental health issues in our community, we encourage the entire community to join our fifth installment this May. Come for yourself; come for someone you care about. Bring friends and family. Stay tuned for registration details.

ANNUAL CHATHAM SQUARE MEMORIAL

**Memorial Day, Monday, May 30
Chatham Square Cemetery, Shearith
Israel's First Historic Cemetery**

Rev. Z. Edinger will head down to Chatham Square Cemetery in Chinatown to honor members of our congregation who participated in the Revolutionary War. In this annual event, join us as we place American flags at the graves of our twenty-two veteran congregants. The cemetery, active from 1682-1828, is located at 55 St. James Place, opposite Chatham Square.

GRADUATION KIDDUSH & SCROLL OF HONOR

Shabbat, June 17

Let's spread the good news and celebrate the success and accomplishments of all our graduates from pre-school to PhDs! Make sure to send us your graduate's information so that we can properly list and congratulate your graduate(s) in our Scroll of Honor.

LIVE SUMMER CONCERT

Summer 2023 | Date TBA

Join Shearith Israel and Dorot under our Paved Paradise tent again this summer for a delightful afternoon of live music! Stay tuned for concert details and registration.

THURSDAY NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

**Thursdays | Following Evening
Services**

*Making your way in the world today
takes everything you've got*

*Taking a break from all your worries
sure would help (our minyan) a lot*

Wouldn't you like to come and pray?

*Sometimes you want to go where
everybody knows your name and they're
always glad you came.*

Join us for "Happy Hour" every Thursday night immediately following evening services. \$15 cover fee; free for those attending services. You'll be glad you came!

WEST 11TH STREET CEMETERY REDEDICATION CEREMONY

June 2023 | Date TBA

**Location: 72-76 West 11th Street (between
5th and 6th Avenues)**

Having completed Phase I, the restoration phase of this cemetery renewal project, we will be holding a special ceremony, led by Rabbi Soloveichik, at the cemetery honoring our forebears who were buried there. Following the ceremony, we will host a reception nearby celebrating this major achievement and thanking the many supporters, including our friends at the West 11th Street Block Association, who made this possible.

AT THE CROSSROADS OF SEFARAD: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE CRYPTO-JEWS

An Ongoing Exhibit in Levy Auditorium

**Created by ANU – Museum of the Jewish
People, in partnership with the Jewish
Heritage Alliance**

This exhibit explores the history of the Sephardic Jews on the Iberian Peninsula, their prosperity and growth under different governments, and their eventual expulsion starting in 1492. The exhibit can be viewed whenever you spend time in the Levy Auditorium.



WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:

Seven Iconic Images in the History of Israel, and the Stories Behind Them

In this lecture series, Rabbi Soloveichik will examine seven of the most iconic images in the history of Israel, telling the story behind each photo, and the event or person it captured.

Each presentation will be offered over Zoom and will be a visual experience, pairing the image with many others, revealing largely unknown aspects in Israeli history. This, in turn, will allow us to better appreciate what it means to mark Israel's 75th year, and to look expectantly toward its future.

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Mon. 4/17	Series Premiere Yom Hashoah Presentation: the Eichmann Trial, the Reaction, and What it Teaches Us Today
Tue. 4/25	Declaration of Independence: the Tale of an Event Two Thousand Years in the Making
Tue. 5/2	The Exodus: from a Ship to a Book to a Movie
Tue. 5/9	Golda: from the Photographs to Helen Mirren
Tue. 5/16	Begin and Sadat: the Unlikely Friendship that Changed the Middle East
Thu. 5/18	Soldiers at the Wall: a Yom Yerushalayim Presentation
Tue. 5/23	Special Pre-Shabuot Finale The Blind Boy and the Image: David Rubenstein's Favorite Photo and the Future of Israel



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

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: BOOKS OF PROPHETS

Sunday-Thursday Mornings
Led by Rev. Z. Edinger & Rabbi Ira Rohde

Via Zoom - To receive the link, email Z. at 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 Later Prophets. All are welcome; just contact Z. Edinger.

"A RANDOM WALK DOWN MILL STREET"

Alternating Wednesdays | 8:00 pm
On Zoom - refer to our emails for the link | Rev. Z. Edinger

On alternating Wednesday evenings, Rev. Edinger delivers short presentations about the liturgy, music, or *minhag* of Shearith Israel. To sponsor an individual session, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsor-a-class. Missed a session? Many of Rev. Edinger's programs are available to stream at your convenience on his YouTube channel.

SHABBAT MORNING YOUTH PROGRAM

Saturdays | 10:00 am
Gabi Chutter & our Teen Leaders

On Shabbat, we believe our children should learn to pray, develop a deeper appreciation for Jewish learning, and have fun with their peers. For more details on our Shabbat Youth Program, see our Youth section on page 22.

SHABBAT AFTERNOON CLASS

Saturdays
45 minutes before Mincha
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon Class meets in-person each week throughout the year. Follow our emails for the latest information on locations. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsor-a-class.

WEEKLY JEWISH EDUCATION



Shearith Israel has several communal organizations through which members can meet each other and pursue community service projects, as well as social and educational opportunities. New participants and ideas are always welcome!

YOUNG FAMILIES

Shearith Israel attracts a dynamic group of young families. Through Shabbat luncheons, fun activities for kids, and other family-friendly events and get-togethers, members forge deeper bonds with each other and encourage newcomers and visitors to feel at home at Shearith Israel.

To get involved, contact youth@shearithisrael.org.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (SINGLES AND COUPLES IN THEIR 20S AND 30S)

Led by our longstanding members Devorah Goldstein, Isaac Haberman, Daniel de Sola Marks, and Ariel Bengio, the group puts together events catering to singles and couples in their 20s and 30s as a way to transmit Jewish values and Shearith Israel's uniquely beautiful traditions while meeting people and, of course, having a good time.

To learn more, get involved, or join Shearith Israel's Young Professionals WhatsApp group, contact yp@shearithisrael.org.

CARING CONNECTION

Caring Connection trains community members as sensitive volunteers to proactively help others through times of need, one of Judaism's greatest mitzvot. Not only does this vital assistance greatly aid the individual, it also strengthens and unifies our community and enhances our sense of responsibility for one another. *Caring Connection* also facilitates events like our annual *Smash the Stigma* series on mental health awareness, and organizes visits to hospitalized or homebound congregants on Shabbat.

To become a *bikur holim* visitor, or get involved in other ways, contact caringconnection@shearithisrael.org.

SISTERHOOD

Founded in 1896, the Sisterhood is a separate non-profit entity that has a number of communal responsibilities, including *Mishloah Manot*, decoration and running of our renowned Elias Room Succah, and beautification of the Main Sanctuary during Shabuot as well as the maintenance of the Little Synagogue and the Torah mantles. The Sisterhood also sponsors social/cultural/educational activities such as their popular virtual Sunday Matinee series. In addition to its support of our Synagogue, the Sisterhood also supports many charitable organizations in New York and Israel.

To get involved, contact Sisterhood President Carla Salomon Schein at scheinc6@gmail.com.

HEBRA HASED VA'AMET

Founded in 1802, *Hebra Hased Va-Amet* is the oldest active Jewish philanthropic organization in New York City. The *Hebra* provides dignified burials for indigent congregants and contributes to the maintenance of Shearith Israel's cemeteries. Members of the *Hebra* perform *taharah*, and provide support for mourners during *shibah*, including the Mourner's Meal. The *Hebra* also hosts occasional communal events, including film screenings and cemetery tours.

We're pleased to share that last year's Chatham Square Cemetery Fall Cleanup was a success. Steven Beispel brought an electric saw to help cut down stray branches, as well as a blower to help gather the fallen leaves and debris. We all felt very professional hearing the hum of these tools as we worked. Thank you to those that volunteered. Stay tuned for the next Cemetery Cleanup Day, coming this Spring.

To get involved, contact Rose Guedalia Edinger at rgedinger@gmail.com.

THE SHEARITH ISRAEL LEAGUE

The Shearith Israel League, founded in 1919, is a social, cultural, and educational organization that hosts or sponsors events for the community, including programs related to our Sephardic heritage. We are eager for new members and new leaders. We invite all who might be interested to attend one of our warm and welcoming meetings or events.

To get involved, contact Lucienne Bulow at lucienne.bulow@verizon.net.

TOURO SYNAGOGUE AFFILIATES

The Touro Synagogue is a precious part of American Jewish history and is core to Shearith Israel's identity. Similarly, the worshipers at the Touro Synagogue are valued members of the greater Shearith Israel community. In order to maintain interaction and integration with that segment of our community, we offer worshipers at the Touro Synagogue a special membership category called "Touro Synagogue Affiliate."

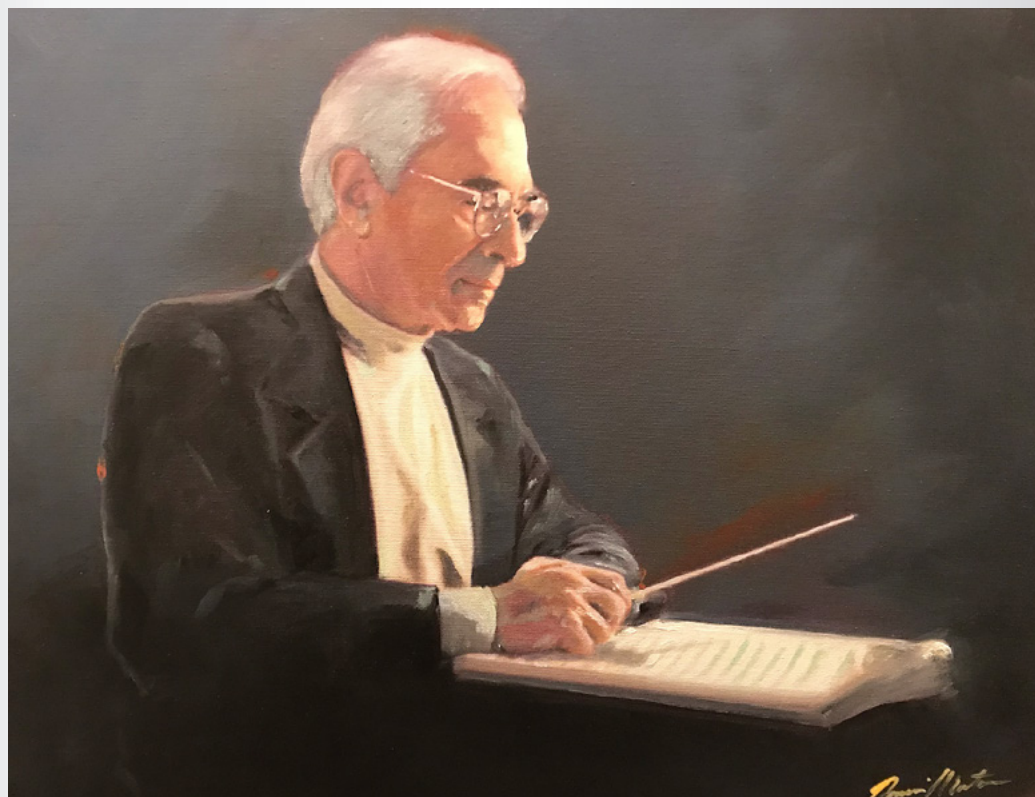
To learn more, contact Barbara Reiss at breiss@shearithisrael.org.



IN MEMORIAM: LEON HYMAN

Rev. Zachariah Edinger

On December 31, 2022, Shearith Israel's Choirmaster Emeritus, Leon Hyman, passed away. He was the longest serving employee in the history of Shearith Israel, having been hired in 1955 until his retirement in 2021, an incredible and unsurpassed span of 66 years.



Leon was born in Brooklyn in 1927 to Rebecca and Abraham Hyman, Jewish immigrants from Lithuania and Poland. Growing up in the Bronx, Leon's hardworking parents (who had no musical training) sacrificed greatly in order to provide Leon with a musical education, including purchasing him his first violin from a pushcart on the Lower East Side.

After graduating Queens College, Leon went on to study at Juilliard where he met Adah, an exceptional pianist from Israel who would become his wife. After Juilliard, Leon received fellowships to study with Hugh Ross at Tanglewood and at Harvard. He later went on to serve on the faculties at Juilliard, Columbia University, and Montclair State University.

In 1955, Leon was conducting the Halevy Choral Society, a large chorale of amateur singers which had been founded by Leon Kramer in 1890. One of the choristers informed Leon of an opening at Shearith Israel, and he decided to apply. He was hired in October and conducted his first service on Friday evening, November 4, 1955. His style was calmer in tempo with softer dynamics than his predecessor, Sigfried Landau.

One of the major contributions Leon made to our choir music was completely re-setting the prosody of the choral arrangements. This refers to matching of Hebrew syllabic pronunciation and phrasing

with the musical score. He also introduced several of our most beloved pieces into the repertoire, including arrangements of Solomone Rossi for *Misheberach* and *Adon Olam*.

Outside of the synagogue, Leon's conducting career encompassed ballet, orchestra, opera, and theater. He conducted over 30 shows on and off Broadway; the Joffrey Ballet on tour in the Soviet Union; *West Side Story* in Tokyo; and the Jerusalem Orchestra (with Adah as soloist). He conducted major symphonies including the New York Philharmonic, the New Jersey Symphony, New Jersey Ballet, as well as the Columbia Symphony orchestra for Columbia Records. In 1977, he founded his own professional orchestra, the New Philharmonic of New Jersey.

Leon never stopped conducting our choir well into his 90s. In his late 80s, he began composing choral pieces as a legacy for our synagogue. These compositions were recorded in 2022, just a few months before his passing. Several of these pieces have become part of our choir's repertoire.

Leon Hyman was a kind, dignified and quiet presence in the synagogue for 66 years. The solemnity and dignity of our services today owes a great deal to Leon's musical skill and his consistent and capable direction of the choir. May his memory and his music live on for generations to come.

Over his long career Leon recorded much of our music. The last recording, made in 2022, entitled *Leon Hyman: Sabbath Settings* is a collection of Leon's own compositions and in which Leon talks about his life and career at Shearith Israel. Visit shearithisrael.org/leon-hyman-memorial to listen to and/or purchase his music.



Yoetzet Halakha, Ellin Cooper

YOETZET HALAKHA

We are proud to be a co-sponsor of the Manhattan Yoetzet Halacha Initiative in order to make this essential service available to the Jewish community of Manhattan. If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpakha (Jewish Family Law) laws of Niddah, sexuality, and women's health, please contact our Yoetzet Halakha, Ellin Cooper, at (646) 598-1080 or nycyoetzet@gmail.com.

Ellin (Mitchell) Cooper graduated from Nishmat's Miriam Glaubach Center's U.S. Yoetzot Halacha Fellows Program in 2021. She received her B.A. in Physics from Barnard College and is a graduate of GPATS (Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies for Women) at Yeshiva University. She was born on the Upper West Side and now resides there with husband Jeremy and son Ariel.

WOMEN AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

TEEN GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Sunday, Hol HaMoed Pesah, April 9
Virtual Reading on Zoom, 11:00 am

Whether near or far, the young women (post-Bat Mitzvah through 20s) of our congregation recite the *Song of Songs* on Pesah. Full preparation and training provided. Newcomers welcome! For information and to participate, please contact Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde at irohde@shearithisrael.org.

GIRLS BOOK OF RUTH READING

Shabbat, Day 2 of Shabuot, May 27
In-Person Reading in the Main Synagogue, 11:25 am, followed by a festive kiddush

Girls and teens are invited to read sections of The Book of Ruth according to the Spanish & Portuguese Teamim for the Book of Ruth (this tune is different from the Shir HaShirim Teamim, but is used on a few other occasions). Prospective participants are asked to let Rabbi Ira Rohde know of their interest (irohde@shearithisrael.org), and they will be assigned a section to read according to the congregation's Amsterdam-tradition Spanish & Portuguese cantillation, recordings of which can be found on the congregation's website. Participants are expected to rehearse their assigned section with Rabbi Rohde in advance. There may also be a group rehearsal.

ONE-ON-ONE TOUR OF THE UWS MIKVAH

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



A



B

AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL



ABOVE: At our Bird Rescue Workshop sponsored by the Sisterhood, in partnership with Wild Bird Fund, congregants of all ages had the opportunity to get up close and personal with our favorite feathered friends, gaining knowledge and a keener sense of ecological responsibility.



C

A. Young professionals enjoying waffles and conversation at our YP Pre-Hanukkah Mixer

B. Sasson family playing Parasha Bingo at Motzei Shabbat Parent-Child Learning

C. Curator Warren Klein leading a guided tour of our ongoing historical exhibit in the Levy Auditorium (see page 13 for exhibit details)



SHABBAT MORNING YOUTH PROGRAM

*Led by Gabi Chutter &
Our Teen Leaders*

Tot Shabbat and Youth Groups
10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

Junior Congregation
10:30 am | Small Synagogue

On Shabbat, we believe our children should learn to pray, develop fluency in our liturgy and traditions, grow in their appreciation for Jewish learning, form bonds with role models, and have fun with their Synagogue peers. Our Shabbat Youth Program, beginning at 10:00 am on Shabbat, is led by our Youth Leader, Gabi Chutter, and teen leaders. Tots and grade school children gather in the newly renovated Fidanque Youth Room for a fun curriculum of educational and entertaining activities connected to the parasha of the week and other Jewish themes, and later move to our Small Synagogue for their Jr. Congregation services.

YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL



YOUTH SOCCER, BASEBALL, AND GOLF

Spring Semester starts April 5
Summer Camps start July 10

In partnership with Soccer Stars, we are delighted to bring back high-quality sports programming for kids on our beautiful tented and turfed Paved Paradise. Spring and summer programs available.

Check out SoccerStars.com or scan the QR code to find the classes that are right for you, and save 15% when you use promo code SHEARITH15.

TEEN GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Sunday, Hol HaMoed Pesah, April 9
Virtual Reading on Zoom, 11:00 am

Whether near or far, the young women (post-Bat Mitzvah through 20s) of our congregation recite the *Song of Songs* on Pesah. For more information, see page 20.

YOUNG FAMILIES METS GAME OUTING

Sunday, April 30 | 1:40 pm

Are you ready for some baseball? We know we are! Come see a great match up as the NY Mets play the Atlanta Braves. Stay tuned for registration details.



UWS HOL HAMOED TRIP

Hol Hamoed Pesah | Date TBA

Shearith Israel joins their sister UWS synagogues on their annual West Side-Wide Hol Hamoed Pesah Trip! Like previous years, this trip will be for teens and families, and transportation will be provided.

CSI YOUTH LAG LA'OMER BONFIRE & CELEBRATION

Tuesday Evening, May 9

CSI Youth invites the youth and families from all the UWS synagogues to join us on Paved Paradise to celebrate Lag LaOmer. Get ready for a bonfire, s'mores, music, and more.

CSI YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

May TBD

Mental health matters for all ages! Join CSI Youth during Mental Health Awareness Month for a kid-friendly mindfulness and yoga event. Details forthcoming.

GIRLS BOOK OF RUTH READING

Shabbat, Day 2 of Shabuot, May 27

**In-person reading in the Main
Synagogue, 11:25 am, followed by a
festive kiddush**

Girls and teens are invited to read sections of The Book of Ruth according to the Spanish & Portuguese Teamim for the Book of Ruth. For more information, see page 20.

SALUTE TO ISRAEL PARADE COOLDOWN FOR CSI YOUTH

Sunday, June 4 | Following the parade

Come cool off on Paved Paradise after the parade with us! Enjoy some ice cream, cold drinks, and games.

GRADUATION KIDDUSH & SCROLL OF HONOR

Shabbat, June 17

Let's spread the good news and celebrate the success and accomplishments of all our graduates from pre-school to PhDs! Make sure to send us your graduate's information so that we can properly list and congratulate your graduate(s) in our Scroll of Honor.

YOUNG FAMILIES SUMMER SENDOFF PICNIC

Paved Paradise | Shabbat, June 17
Following the Graduation Kiddush

Following the kiddush, CSI Youth will have their Summer Sendoff Picnic, with games, scavenger hunts, and friends! Bring your own lunch but save room for a dairy dessert provided by us. Registration coming soon.



This recipe can be adjusted depending on how big your meal is. Gabi likes to keep it at 2 apples for 2 people, so just double the recipe as needed.



HAROSET

by Gabi Chutter



Gabi Chutter leads CSI Youth, and her family comes from Ioannina, Greece. (A fun fact is that her grandfather's last name is Matza!) Every Pesah, her extended family gets together and has rowdy and ever-growing seders. A staple is their special haroset: sweet, smooth, and a family favorite. Most Sephardic harosets use nuts; however, Gabi's sister is allergic, so she's never used them. However, if you wish to use nuts, Gabi recommends using walnuts and adding them to the blender on the second step.

CULINARY CORNER

Ingredients:

- 2 apples (Gabi likes Pink Ladies, but any apple will work) peeled and cubed
- 5 dates, pitted and sliced in half
- A handful of raisins
- 1/4 cup sweet wine or grape juice
- 1 tsp of cinnamon

Instructions:

Steam the apples, dates, and raisins for 10 minutes or until the apples are soft enough to break in half with just a fork.

Add the steamed apples, dates, raisins, grape juice, and cinnamon to a blender. Blend until soft. If too thick, add more grape juice.

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. 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.



DAILY SERVICES

Mornings, Monday-Friday:

Shahrit7:05 am

Mornings, Sundays & Legal Holidays:

Shahrit8:05 am

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:

March 12-June 1, Minha & Arbit 6:30 pm

June 4-July 25, Minha & Arbit 6:45 pm

July 30-Sep. 28, Minha & Arbit* 6:30 pm

*Aug. 19-Sep. 21add *Selihot* after Arbit

SERVICES

PLEASE NOTE:

Service times are subject to change.
Follow our emails to get the latest changes:
shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

SHABBAT SERVICES

March 31-April 1

Shabbat Tsav-HaGadol

Consecration Anniversary, 2nd Mill St. (1818)

Friday Evening Services7:00 pm

Candles (18 min. before sunset)7:02 pm

Zemiroth 8:15 am

Shahrit9:00-11:15 am

Minha & Arbit7:00 pm

Habdala7:57 pm

Shabbat HaGadol is the designation for the Sabbath just preceding Passover, the occasion marked by the address of a "great" sage concerning the upcoming Passover Festival. Shearith Israel also observes on this Shabbat the anniversary of the consecration of its 2nd Mill St. Synagogue Building, which was completed before Passover in 1818.

April 14-15

Shabbat Shemini

Friday Evening Services7:00 pm

Candles (18 min. before sunset)7:16 pm

Zemiroth 8:15 am

Shahrit9:00-11:15 am

Minha & Arbit7:15 pm

Habdala8:13 pm

April 21-22

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh (2nd of Two-Day)

Parashat Tazria-Metsora

Friday Evening Services7:00 pm

Candles (18 min. before sunset)7:24 pm

Zemiroth 8:15 am

Shahrit9:00-11:15 am

Minha & Arbit7:20 pm

Habdala8:21 pm

April 28th-29th

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:31 pm
Saturday Zemirot	8:15 am
Shabbat Morning Shahrit.....	9:00-11:15 am
Parashat Ahare Mot-Kedoshim	Lev. 16:1-20:27
Haftarah	Ezekiel 20:2-20
Saturday Minha & Arbit.....	7:30 pm
Habdala.....	8:29 pm

May 5-6
Shabbat Emor

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:38 pm
Zemirot	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00-11:15 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:35 pm
Habdala.....	8:37 pm

May 12-13 Consecration Shabbat
Shabbat Behar-Behukkothai

Consecration Anniversary, 70th Street (1897)

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:44 pm
Zemirot	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00-11:15 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:40 pm
Habdala.....	8:44 pm

The Shabbat after Lag La`Omer is observed as the anniversary of the consecration of our current synagogue building on 70th St. and Central Park West, which was completed and consecrated on Lag La`Omer in 1897.

May 19-20
Shabbat Bemidbar

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:51 pm
Zemirot	8:15 am
Shahrit.....	9:00-11:15 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:50 pm
Habdala.....	8:51 pm

June 2-3
Shabbat Naso

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:03 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:00 pm
Habdala.....	9:04 pm

June 9-10
Shabbat Behaalotekha

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:07 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Habdala.....	9:08 pm

June 16-17
Shabbat Shelah Lekha

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:11 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Habdala.....	9:11 pm

June 23-24
Shabbat Korah

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:13 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:10 pm
Habdala.....	9:13 pm

June 30-July 1
Shabbat Hukath-Balak

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:13 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:10 pm
Habdala.....	9:13 pm

July 7-8
Shabbat Pinehas-Dibre

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:12 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:10 pm
Habdala.....	9:12 pm

The Three Weeks between the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz and the Fast of the 9th of Ab are a traditional period of contrition and mourning for Jerusalem and the Temple; prophetic passages of reproof and foreboding are designated as the haftarah readings on the three intervening Sabbaths. Sephardic custom is to refer to these Sabbaths by the opening words of the particular haftarah read on that day. Shabbat Dibre is the first; its reading is the opening of the Book of Jeremiah. All three haftarot are chanted in a dirge of lament, although each ends on notes of comfort.

July 14th-15th
Shabbat Mattoth-Mase-Shimu

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:09 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:05 pm
Habdala.....	9:09 pm

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

July 21st-22nd
Shabbat Debarim-Hazon

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	8:05 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	8:00 pm
Habdala.....	9:03 pm

Shabbat Hazon refers to the opening "vision" of the Book of Isaiah, parallel to the opening prophetic vision of the book of Jeremiah which was read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the group of these three haftarot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read by the hazzan or a scholar who is "well-versed in lamentation," as it is at Congregation Shearith Israel.

July 28-29
Shabbat Vaethanan-Nahamu

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:59 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:55 pm
Habdala.....	8:57 pm

Shabbat Nahamu: The Fast of Tisha B'Ab is followed by the seven Sabbaths preceding Rosh HaShanah on which special Haftarot of Consolation from the end of the Book of Isaiah are chanted. The first of these is called Shabbat Nahamu, referring to Isaiah Chapter 40's famous opening words "Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people."

August 4-5
Shabbat Ekeb

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:51 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:45 pm
Habdala.....	8:48 pm

August 11-12
Shabbat Reeh

Friday Evening Services	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:43 pm
Zemirot	8:30 am
Shahrit.....	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:35 pm
Habdala.....	8:38 pm



August 18-19
Shabbat Shofetim

Friday Evening Services.....	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:32 pm
Zemiroth	8:30 am
Shahrit	9:10-11:10 am
Minha, Arbit & *Selihot	7:00 pm
Habdala	8:27 pm

***Selihot:** From Aug. 19th-Sep. 21st, during the month before and during the week of the High Holy Days, Sephardim add the special penitential *Selihot* Prayers. Our congregation's custom is to recite an abridged version daily after Arbit beginning this year on Motsae Shabbat, Saturday Evening August 19th.

August 25-26
Shabbat Ki Tetse

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:22 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	7:00 pm
Zemiroth	8:30 am
Shahrit	9:10-11:10 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:15 pm
Habdala.....	8:16 pm

September 1-2
Shabbat Ki Tabo

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:11 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	7:00 pm
Zemiroth	8:30 am
Shahrit	9:10-11:10 am
Minha, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	7:05 pm
Habdala.....	8:04 pm

September 8-9 Consecration Shabbat
Shabbat Nitsabim-Vayelevh

Consecration Anniversary, 19th St. (1860)

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	6:59 pm
Friday Evening Services.....	7:00 pm
Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00-11:20 am
Minha, Arbit & <i>Selihot</i>	6:50 pm
Habdala.....	7:52 pm

HOLIDAYS & FESTIVALS

PASSOVER FESTIVAL
(PESAH, HAG HAMATZOT)

Wed Eve, April 5 –Thurs, April 13

Passover Preparations

Search for Leaven

Tuesday Evening, April 4

At night on Tuesdayafter sunset, 7:24 pm

Fast of First Born

Wednesday Morning, April 5

Fast of First Born begins (Dawn)	5:16 am
Sunrise	6:33 am
Shahrit & <i>siyyum</i> for the First Born	7:05 am
Stop eating <i>hametz</i> by	10:51 am
Dispose of any remaining <i>hametz</i> by	11:55 am
<i>Erub Tabshilin</i> Preparation*	by sunset 7:25 pm

***Erub Tabshilin:** When the festival begins on Wednesday evening, the Erub in the form of some matzah and food prepared for the following Sabbath is set aside prior to the festival before sunset. See *Prayers for the Festivals*, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.

First & Second Days of Passover

FIRST TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH

First Day of Passover

Eve of the First Day, Wednesday, April 5

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:07 pm
Evening Services (Minha & Arbit)	7:00 pm
Begin the First Haggadah	after 7:48 pm

First Day Morning, Thursday, April 6

Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit	9:00 am
Tikkun HaTal..... inserted in Musaf	10:30 am
Sermon & Service Conclusion.....	11:25-11:50 am

Second Day of Passover

Eve of the Second Day, Thursday, April 6

Men's Reading of <i>Shir HaShirim</i>	6:45 pm
Evening Services (Minha & Arbit)	7:00 pm
Day 1 Ends & Omer Counting	after 7:50 pm
Candles & Second Haggadah	after 7:50 pm

Second Day Morning, Fri., April 7

Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf.....	9:00-11:50 am

Intermediate Shabbat of Passover

SHABBAT HOL HAMOED PESAH

Eve of Shabbat, Friday, April 7

Men's Reading of <i>Shir HaShirim</i>	6:45 pm
Evening Services (Minha & Arbit)	7:00 pm
Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:09 pm

Shabbat Day, Saturday, April 8

Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf.....	9:00-11:30 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:15 pm
Habdala	8:05 pm

Pesah, Passover, or Hag HaMatzot, The Feast of Unleavened Bread, is observed in the middle of the month of Nisan, around the spring equinox, commemorating the Exodus from Egypt. Hametz, leavened food, is searched for and removed prior to the holiday, and a Search for Hametz is made on the eve and morning of the 14th of Nisan. The 14th of Nisan, the day of the Biblical Paschal Sacrifice, is observed as a partial holiday and as the Fast of the Firstborn by some (attending a festive siyyum that morning obviates the need to fast), and by late morning all Jewish-owned hametz should be sold and hidden, or eliminated and nullified. The Paschal sacrifice was consumed on the Eve of the First Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Eve of the 15th of Nisan, which became our two-day Diaspora observance, with a Haggadah or Seder Recitation and Meal at home on the Eve of the 15th and the Eve of the 16th. The Biblical Hag HaMatsot lasts from the 15th until the 21st, with full Festival restrictions from work in effect on the First and Seventh Days. In the Diaspora the fully restricted days came to be the First Two as well as the Seventh and an additional Eighth Day, Nisan 22nd. The Intermediate Shabbat has all of the restrictions of Shabbat, but the other Intermediate Days have fewer restrictions.

Omer Counting: The *Omer*, the First Sheaf-bundle of Grain (Barley) Harvest Offering, was brought on the Biblical Second Day, beginning the “Omer” seven-week count to the First Wheat-Bread Offering on Day 50, which is Shabuot, the Feast of Weeks or “Pentecost.”

Shir HaShirim, The Song of Songs, is traditionally read during Passover. Men are reading on Thursday & Friday evenings at 6:45 pm. The teen girls and young women's reading this year will be held virtually by Zoom on Hol HaMoed, Sunday April 9th, at 11:30 am.

Intermediate Weekdays of Passover

HOL HAMOED PESAH

Sunday Morning, April 9

Shahrit & Musaf	8:05 am
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Mon. & Tue. Mornings, April 10 & 11

Shahrit & Musaf	7:05 am
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Sun. & Mon. Evenings, April 9 & 10

Minha & Arbit.....	6:30 pm
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Seventh & Eighth Days of Passover

FINAL TWO DAYS OF YOM TOB PESAH

Seventh Day of Pesah

Synagogue Consecration Anniversary
Mill Street Synagogue (1730)

Eve of Day 7, Tuesday Eve, April 11

Candles (18 min. before sunset).....	7:13 pm
Minha & Arbit.....	7:15 pm

Day 7 Morning, Wednesday, April 12

Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel	9:00 am
Torah Service	9:50 am
Featuring reading of the <i>Shirah</i> -Song of the Sea	
Musaf, Sermon, Conclusion.....	10:30-11:20 am

Eighth & Last Day of Pesah

Eve of Day 8, Wednesday Eve, April 12

Minha & Arbit.....	7:15 pm
Candle Lighting	after 7:56 pm

Day 8, Thursday, April 13

Zemiroth	8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf.....	9:00-11:15 am
Minha & Arbit.....	7:15 pm
Final Habdala	7:57 pm
Do not consume <i>hametz</i> until	
½ hour after Habdala.....	8:27 pm

**Yom HaShoah
Holocaust Remembrance Day**
Mon Evening, April 17- Tues, April 18

Rosh Hodesh Iyar (Two-Day)
Thurs Eve, Apr. 20-Fri & Sat, Apr. 21 & 22
(For Services see Daily & Shabbat Schedule)

**Yom Ha`Atzma`ut
Israeli Independence Day**
Tues Eve Apr. 25 - Wed Apr. 26

Lag La`Omer (33rd Day of Count)
Monday Eve, May 8 - Tuesday, May 9

**Yom Yerushalayim
Jerusalem Reunification Day**
Thurs Eve, May 18 - Friday, May 19

Rosh Hodesh Sivan (One-Day)
Sat Eve, May 20 - Sunday, May 21
(For Services see Shabbat & Daily Schedule)

FESTIVAL OF SHABU`OT (Two-Day)
PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS
Thursday Eve, May 25-Saturday, May 27

Eve of the First Day of Shabu`ot
Thursday Evening, May 25
*Erub Tabshilin Prep by sunset, 8:14 pm
Candle Lighting 7:56 pm
Minha & Shabuot Arbit 7:45 pm
Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class 11:00 pm
***Erub Tabshilin:** When the festival begins on Thursday evening, food for the Sabbath is set aside prior to the festival. See *Prayers for the Festivals*, by David de Sola Pool, p. 1.

First Day of Shabu`ot Morning
Consecration Anniversary, Crosby St (1834)
Friday Morning, May 26
Zemirot 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel 9:00 am
Taking Out Torah & Readings 9:45-10:40 am
Musaf & Sermon 10:40-11:20 am

Eve of the Second Day of Shabu`ot
Friday Evening, Eve of Shabbat, May 26
Reading Intro & 1st Part of Azharot 7:15 pm
Minha & Arbit 7:45 pm
Candle Lighting before 7:57 pm

Second Day of Shabu`ot Morning
Saturday, May 27, Shabbat Morning
Zemirot 8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf 9:00-11:25 am
Girls Reading Book of Ruth 11:25 am-12:25 pm
Second Day of Shabu`ot Conclusion
Sat Evening, May 27th, End of Shabbat
Reading 2nd Part of Azharot 7:25 pm
Minha & Arbit 8:00 pm
Saturday Evening Habdala 8:58 pm

Shabu`ot, The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost comes on the fiftieth day after Passover, just after the 7-week `Omer period between the beginnings of the barley and wheat harvests, and traditionally commemorates the Revelation at Sinai seven weeks after the Israelites left Egypt.

The Book of Ruth is read on Shabuot, since it deals with both the Israeli grain harvest at this time of year, which this festival marks, as well as acceptance of the Torah, in this case by Ruth as a faithful convert. The girls of the congregation who take part are pre-assigned a few verses each, which they must learn to chant according to the congregation's unique traditional cantillation system for the Book of Ruth. Girls wishing to take part, or their parents, should please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde (lirohde.csi@gmail.com).

Azharot ("Admonitions") is the name given to the poem by Shelomo Ibn Gabirol with introduction by David Ibn Eleazar Pekudah, which enumerates all 613 Commandments of the Torah in rhymed verse. The introduction and the first part, listing the 248 positive Commandments, is read on Friday evening at 7:15, before Minha. The second part, which enumerates the 365 negative Commandments, is read on Saturday evening at 7:25. Men and boys chant the poem to the Spanish & Portuguese traditional Shabu`ot melody in round-robin style, with each participant leading two lines at a time.

Memorial Day Legal Holiday
Monday, May 29
Shahrit 8:05 am

**Rosh Hodesh Tammuz (Two-Day)
& Juneteenth Legal Holiday**
Sun Eve, June 18-Mon & Tues, June 19 & 20
Evenings of June 18, 19, & 20
Evening Services (Minha & Arbit) 6:45 pm
Juneteenth Holiday/1st Day Rosh Hodesh
Monday Morning, June 19
Morning Service (Shahrit, Musaf) 8:05 am
Day 2 Rosh Hodesh, Tues Morn, June 20
Morning Service (Shahrit, Musaf) 7:05 am

**American Independence Day
Fourth of July (Legal Holiday)**
Tuesday, July 4
Shahrit 8:05 am

**Fast of (the Seventeenth of) Tammuz
Shib`ah `Asar BeTammuz**
Thursday, July 6
Dawn (Fast Begins) 4:02 am
Morning Service (Shahrit) 7:05 am
Minha (men wear tefillin) 8:00 pm
End of Fast 8:58 pm
The Fast of Tammuz commemorates the breach of the city walls of Jerusalem as well as the destruction of the first tablets of the Ten Commandments following the sin of the Golden Calf.

Rosh Hodesh Ab (One-Day)
Tues Evening, July 18-Wed, July 19
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

**Fast of (the 9th of) Ab
Tish`ah BeAb**
Eve of the Fast, Wednesday Eve, July 26
Minha 5:30 pm
Sunset (Fast Begins) 8:19 pm
Eve of the Fast Arbit Service 8:30 pm
Tish`a B`Ab Day, Thursday, July 27
Morning Service 6:30 am-12:15 pm
Minha & Arbit 7:30 pm
Sunset 8:18 pm
End of Fast 8:44 pm
The Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab, three weeks after the Fast of Tammuz, commemorates the breaching of the Temple Mount fortifications and the dates of destruction of both the First and Second Temples.

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Wed Eve, Aug 16-Thurs, Aug. 17 & Fri, Aug. 18
(For Services see Daily & Shabbat Schedule)

Labor Day Legal Holiday
Monday, September 4
Shahrit 8:05 am
Minha, Arbit & *Selihot* 6:30 pm

5784/2024 Fall Holiday Preview
Rosh HaShana, 5784
Fri. Eve Sep. 15- Sun., Sep. 17
Shabbat Teshuva, 5784
September. 22-23
Yom Kippur, 5784
Sun. Eve., Sep. 24-Mon, Sep. 25
First Two Days of Succot, 5784
Fri. Eve., Sep. 29-Sun, Oct. 1
Shemini Hag Atseret, 5784
Fri. Eve., October 6-Sat. October 7
Simhat Torah, 5784
Sat. Eve, October 7-Sun, October 8
Shabbat Bereshit (Shabbat Hatanim), 5784
October 13-14

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.



HELP STRENGTHEN OUR DAILY MINYAN

You'll be rewarded with breakfast, pizza, and good vibes. Daily minyan is the backbone of synagogue life. It permits us to engage in communal prayer and enables our members and guests to recite kaddish during times of mourning and on anniversaries (*nahalot*). It is vital to building a stronger sense of community in our lives (plus attendees enjoy daily breakfasts and weekly evening Happy Hours with pizza and drinks!). All of us – whether we are daily or occasional attendees – need confidence that a full and vibrant minyan will be available each and every day. If you are interested in becoming part of our minyan, contact Rev. Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

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 Cypress Hills, Queens. These donations ensure a strong future through engaging educational programs with rigorous ritual and liturgical training for our youth including 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.

CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Help ensure our depth and reach by sponsoring a class or a lecture series, in person or virtual. Visit shearithisrael.org/sponsor-a-class 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 a shared Shabbat spirit, and an opportunity for congregants to catch up and to welcome newcomers.

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.

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 the homebound. 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, Young Families, and Young Professionals, 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. Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.





BOARD AND STAFF

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Ellin Cooper 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.



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.

ON FACEBOOK

To learn about upcoming events and fascinating historical Shearith Israel tidbits, follow us at www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc.

