



September 7, 2023

To: Shearith Israel Touro Affiliates and All Worshippers at the Touro Synagogue
From: Congregation Shearith Israel

Dear Friends,

We hope you've been enjoying the summer and enjoyed a lovely Labor Day weekend. We, at Shearith Israel, are in the thick of our High Holidays and Fall Holidays planning, and we wanted to highlight a few upcoming opportunities and events in case you are able to join us here in New York.

1. Coming up THIS Sunday, Shearith Israel and Ahavath Israel of Newport will be co-hosting a pre-Rosh HaShana talk on Zoom by Rabbi Soloveichik. The program is called for 8:15pm and the Zoom link is <https://reedsmith.zoom.us/j/4544124935> (details can also be found in Shearith Israel's pre-Shabbat email). This will surely be an inspiring lead-in to the holiday and another opportunity, following the wonderful recent lecture event in Newport in August, for the two Congregations to collaborate. We hope you can join.
2. Rosh HaShana and Kippur offer magnificent services at Shearith Israel. If any of you plan, or are tempted, to be in NY, our Touro Affiliates are all welcome to join us at no charge. All we ask is that you reserve seats by contacting Executive Director Barbara Reiss at breiss@shearithisrael.org. To learn more about our High Holidays services and traditions go to <https://www.shearithisrael.org/programs/holidays/high-holidays-5784/>.
3. Over the past several years we have been working on the restoration of our 2nd Historic Cemetery on W. 11 th Street in Greenwich Village. This was a major undertaking and done in close collaboration with the W. 11 th St. Block Association. The neighbors, the local Community Board, and NYC's Landmarks Preservation Commission were all thrilled with the project, and we will hold a rededication ceremony and reception next Monday, September 11th. Prior to that event, on this Shabbat, September 9th, we will hold a *kiddush* in celebration of the achievement at Shearith Israel. If you would like to attend either or both events, let us know.
4. On Shabbat Bereshit, October 13-14, we will be holding our annual *Hatanim* Celebration. This annual event is a most festive and glorious occasion with a magnificent service, featuring the *Tenu Shebaha*, perhaps our most beloved liturgical melody, and a celebratory luncheon, this year again planned for under our tent

on our outdoor pavilion, Paved Paradise. Invitations will be going out shortly, and we'd be delighted to see you there.

5. The following Shabbat, Shabbat Noah, on October 20-21, we will hold our second annual Shabbat of Hope. This event showcases our historic *rimonim* by displaying them in the Sanctuary and through an informative (and always entertaining) lecture by Rabbi Soloveichik. His talk will be given on Friday night and will kick off his popular *Friday Night Lights* series for 5784, and on Saturday we will have a celebratory *kiddush* luncheon. Again, we hope some of you can make it. No reservations needed, but we'd love to know if you plan on coming.

There is plenty more going on that we're sure would be of interest, but we trust that you are following our emails. Meanwhile, please accept our sincere gratitude for your interest and support. With your help, we will reach a peaceful resolution in connection with the Touro Synagogue, and we will all feel proud of our shared role in reviving the Newport Jewish community and the place Touro Synagogue has in the hearts and minds of Jews all over America.

Shabbat shalom and best wishes for a sweet new year.