



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023

WINTER  
2024

חַרֵף תשפ"ד

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue



The Bulletin

*America's First Jewish Congregation*

- 1. From the Rabbi's Desk
- 2. A Message From Our Parnas
- 4. From Our Executive Directors
- 5. Announcements
- 11. Standing With Israel: What We Are Doing & How You Can Help
- 12. Holidays
- 13. Around Shearith Israel
- 14. Special Events
- 16. Weekly Jewish Education
- 18. Youth at Shearith Israel
- 20. Women at Shearith Israel
- 21. Stay Connected
- 22. Get Involved
- 24. Services
- 26. Help Make It All Happen
- 28. Board and Staff

# CONTENTS

Cover image: Usually reserved for national or Israeli holidays, in response to the atrocities of October 7 as well as the ensuing wave of anti-Israel and anti-semitic rhetoric and behaviors in our midst, we've been proudly waving our flags every day. Similarly, we've been singing Hatikva and the Star Spangled Banner at the conclusion of Shabbat Evening and Morning services.

For more information on how we have been supporting Israel, see page 11.

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Rabbi Dr. Meir Y. Soloveichik



One of the many inspiring images of the IDF from recent months was of a makeshift “Shabbat meal” put together by soldiers of a tank unit, preparing to mark the Sabbath eve. These soldiers were at war, yet, while sitting inside their tank, they were preparing to sing of Sabbath peace, pronouncing “*shalom aleikhem*.” Their meal was made up of snacks, but it was as sacred a Sabbath feast as one could find.

As I pondered the image, I was reminded of how Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik once noted that the candles of Judaism are meant to serve as unique spiritual symbols. The flame kindled before Shabbat, which was once the sole source of light in the home, is a *ner ha'maor*, a lamp whose light suffuses a space, reflecting the sanctity of a Jewish home. The lamp of Hanukkah, in contrast, is meant to be seen by those outside; it is a *ner hanireh meirachok*, a light seen from afar, a reflection of how inspiration can be found from moral and spiritual beacons in our lives. These soldiers were away from their homes, yet they each served as a *ner ha'maor*, reflecting their own faith as a source of light, which suffused the small space in which they were.

For us in America, these soldiers are *ner hanireh meirachok*; we are not physically near them, but they serve for us as beacons of inspiration in a difficult time. We have bid farewell to Hanukkah, but the Jewish world has sources of light all the same.

*Meir Y. Soloveichik*



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARNAS



Louis M. Solomon

## GIVING THANKS, AN ETERNAL TWO-WAY STREET

In the world impacting our religion today, turmoil and upheaval greet us every day. As of this writing, the last night of Hanukkah 5784, the war in Gaza continues to pain us all; antisemitism in the U.S. and elsewhere face us every day. It is becoming fashionable once again to Jew bait and Jew hate.

We must defend ourselves, our loved ones, our communities, our borders. That goes without saying and needs no justification. But, as a part of that necessary strategy, is there nothing else we can do? There is.

You will say that antisemitism has been around forever and will be the same forever. You will say that all we can do is grit our teeth, stand as Jews together, but stand apart or at least at arms'-length from the rest of humanity.

But then we slam into a counterfactual – and our biases fall and our deepest feelings of gratitude surface and cannot be contained.

On December 4, 2023, we welcomed to our Synagogue various Japanese dignitaries. The occasion was Rabbi Soloveichik's lecture on Setsuzo Kotsuji, a Japanese national who protected thousands of Jews during the Holocaust (by aiding them in extending temporary visas to remain in Japan) and then himself converted to Judaism.

For the large crowd who attended, the Rabbi's talk was more than informative and interesting. It was arresting, deeply affecting. Look at the extraordinary acts of kindness done to our people by these righteous Japanese. One cannot help but wonder whether, but for the efforts of these heroes—citizens of an axis power-- which Jews would and would not have survived. Without the selfless help of individuals brooking every convention and expectation, who would and would not be here today. And how profoundly different would we and the world be.



Left to Right: Baruch-Lev Kelman, Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, Ambassador Mikio Mori, Dr. Joshua W. Walker, Dov Zigler, Hiroki Fukumoto

We firmly believe that simple acts of kindness by individuals can and do change the trajectory of our own and other's lives. Our Torah is full of such stories. As a tenet of our faith, we go further; we are also used to hearing how the entire world can be changed by single and even simple acts of kindness. In the case of these extraordinary Japanese in WWII, their actions in saving Jews were not solitary, and they were far from simple.

The most extraordinary aspect of this bit of history is that these righteous Japanese had nothing to gain from their selfless conduct. In best-sellers by eminent economists and psychologists, we find arguments for a genetic basis for altruism. Frankly, however, in our religion, the concept of hakarat hatov, of being cognizant of the acts of generosity and kindness that others do for us, is too deeply engrained in us to require much proof. At the communal level, there is such a concept as well. When the President of Ireland came to thank us a decade ago for showing kindness to those starving in Ireland in the 1850s, we graciously accepted the expression of gratitude

at a communal level spanning centuries. So too with the Japanese dignitaries, though in this case it has been decades and not centuries, and we were receivers rather than givers of the goodness of the courageous few. In each case, hakarat hatov is and surely needs to be manifest.

As a community, we need to take every opportunity presented to give kindness and to thank others for their kindness. Doing so is like throwing even a tiny stone into a pool of water that is infinite both in time and space, with no reduction in the force of the wave created by the blessed act of kindness. Kindness and recognizing it are antidotes to hate. They will grow not shrink, strengthen not weaken.

Doing kindness is an indispensable pillar of our world. Recognizing kindness that others do for us, and showing hakarat hatov in return, is no less crucial and powerful a force. We are a people who give and accept thanks. Thankfully.



## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Barbara Reiss and Bonnie Barest

## SHOWING UP!

Sometimes it takes a crisis to remind people what it means to show up and of the importance of community. Since October 7, we've seen so many showing up like never before.

**Showing Up in Solidarity:** On November 14, CSIsers showed up in DC for an historic March for Israel, March to Free Hostages, and March Against Antisemitism along with over 290,000 Jews and allies, and over 250,000 who couldn't make it in person but showed up by livestream. Our brothers and sisters in Israel told us how strengthened they are by us showing up for them.

**Showed Up to Shabbat services recently?** Then you've experienced our weekly communal singing of *Hatikva*.

**Showing Up as a Community:** It was great to see our community show up on *Shabbat Bereshit*, just days after the brutal attack, to honor our *Hatanim* and to hear Rabbi Rohde serenade them with *Tenu Shebaha*.

Seeing our Young Professionals, Young Families, Members, and guests enjoying a wonderful "Super-Shabbat" dinner was great. If you missed

out, you'll have another chance as we have several upcoming dinners. **Show up on January 5** for the return of *Magevet*, Yale's premier a cappella group.

We thank those of you who are our regular (and also occasional) *Minyan Makers*. Show Up – whether you're male or female – and strengthen our *minyan*.

**Showing Up For Hesed:** What could be more heartwarming than over a hundred volunteers showing up on Thanksgiving Day for our 9th Annual Hunger Alleviation Pack-a-thon. And to publicly show our commitment that We Stand With Israel, we lined the walls of Paved Paradise with posters of the kidnapped hostages in addition to flying our big bold Israeli and US flags out front every single day.

We're so moved to see so many of you signing up to be part of a trained corps of security volunteers!

*Kol hakavod* to the Sisterhood for donating all proceeds from their Sunday Matinee Series to the Friends of the IDF. There's still time to show up for January films. And thanks to those of you who've dropped off cards and letters that we're delivering to the IDF soldiers. We're still collecting!

**The time is now. Help make our community even stronger: Let's All Show Up!**

Barbara Reiss

Barbara Reiss, Executive Director

Bonnie Barest

Bonnie Barest, Deputy Executive Director

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW MEMBERS

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

Rachel Pauley  
Albert Rosenblatt

### LIFE CYCLE MILESTONES

*Mazal Tob to:*

Laurie & Eli Bryk, upon the birth of a grandson, George David (Yaakov David), born to their children, Diana & Joseph Straus

Yoetzet Halakha, Ellin Cooper, and her husband, Jeremy, upon the birth of a baby girl

Valerie & Danny Feder on the marriage of their daughter, Rebecca Feder, to Kurt Moskowitz of West Orange, NJ

Isaac Freilich, upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations to his mother Helen Rand Freilich (& Jimmy Haber), to his siblings, Alexander and Lilly, as well as to his grandmother, Estelle Freilich. Isaac is the son of our late Tokea', Elliot Freilich, and grandson of our late Parnas, Dr. Dennis Freilich. Congratulations to the entire Freilich family.

Marty & Judy Grumet, upon the marriage of their daughter Alexandra to Hanokh Perez

Maurice Haroche, upon the wedding of his son, Jack Haroche, to Jenna Podolsky

Noah Lang, upon his marriage to Jenna Bergman. Congratulations as well to his parents, Leslie Cohen & Jeffrey Lang, and the entire family

Leora Mogilner & Richard Linhart, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Hallel Liba, born to their children, Tobey Linhart and Yonah Goldschmidt

Jannah & Jacob Neumark, upon the birth of a son, Matanel Amichai (Harrison Sidney). Congratulations as well to grandparents Susan & Avery Neumark, great-grandfather Melvin Neumark, and the great aunt and uncle Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands

Gustave Rieu, upon the marriage of his son, Jonathan, to Paola A. Lema

Theresia ("Thea") Rodrigues Pereira on the birth of a great-grandson, born to Rebecca Haber & Mitch Woletz

Alyse & Josh Rozenberg, upon celebrating the bar mitzvah of their son, Jeremy. Congratulations as well to his grandparents, Susan & Avery Neumark, great-grandfather Mel Neumark, and the entire family

Alyse & Josh Rozenberg, upon the birth of a daughter, Olivia Rae (אמונה רחל). Congratulations as well to grandparents Susan & Avery Neumark, great-grandfather Mel Neumark, and to the entire Neumark and Rozenberg family

Ruth Shapiro & Irwin Shapiro, of blessed memory, upon the birth of a great-grandson, Yisrael Noach (Noah Irwin), born to her grandchildren, Deena & Jacob Shapiro

Ruth Shapiro & Irwin Shapiro, of blessed memory, upon the birth of a great-granddaughter, Arielle Olivia (Ariella Nechama), born to their grandchildren, Rachel & Natan Bienstock

Adele & Ronald Tauber, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Zelig Rubenstein

– continued –



— continued —

## CONDOLENCES

### *We extend sincere condolences to:*

Valerie Feder, upon the passing of her mother, Raymonde Schroeder

Marty Grumet, upon the passing of his mother, Harriet Grumet

Raquel Lentnek, upon the passing of her father, Irwin Rifkin

Howard Levite, upon the passing of his mother, Edith Levite

Colonel Jonathan de Sola Mendes, upon the passing of his sister, Ruth (de Sola Mendes) Hurwitz

Laurent Nahon, upon the passing of his mother, Colette Nahon

Naomi Neustadter and Ralph Sutton, upon the passing of their sister, Sally Heller

Mitchell Presser, upon the passing of his father, Stanley Presser.

Judy Schreiber, upon the passing of her sister, Chana Rubin Ausabel

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

## HAZAKIM U'BERUKHIM AND CONGRATULATIONS

### *Members with special achievements:*

Salomon vaz Dias, upon receiving the Builder of Zion award for his longstanding service to the American Zionist Movement (AZM)

Josh Eisen, upon being honored at 914United's gala this year

SM Rosenberg, our Communications Associate & Programs Coordinator, upon the publication of her book, *Millennial Quarter-Life Crisis: A Mosaic of Thinky Thoughts*

## IN APPRECIATION

### *Special thanks to:*

The Shearith Israel Sisterhood, for sponsoring the kiddushim and breakfasts throughout Succot, and for organizing our morale-boosting Letters to the IDF.

Our volunteer docents who showcase our synagogue during public and private tours. This season's docents included Rev. Zachary Edinger, Sarah Gross, Seth Haberman, Rabbi Rohde, and Arthur Tenenholtz. If you are interested in becoming a docent, please contact Rev. Edinger at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).



We mourn the passing of Yosef Malachi Guedalia and Ben Zussman, who both fell in combat with Hamas in defense of Israel. We extend our sympathies to Rabbi Harris Guedalia, Rose & Henry Edinger, Aviva & Marvin Sussman, and the entire Guedalia, Bendheim, Salomon, and Zussman families. Ben and Yosef were cousins, and both great-grandsons of our late members Charles & Els Bendheim.

ה' יקום דמם.

## PLANNING A PRIVATE EVENT?

Our now beloved 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 *shiba*, or other gatherings. To inquire, please visit [shearithisrael.org/about/host-your-event](http://shearithisrael.org/about/host-your-event).



— continued —

— continued —

## SPONSORS

### Hatanim Luncheon Sponsors:

Naomi & Peter Neustadter

The Solomon Family

Anonymous

The Roberts Family

Gillian & Simon Salama-Caro

Madelene & Stan Towne

Lewis Bateman

Karen & Jack Daar

Rachel Brody & Michael Lustig

Sam & Vicki Katz | Dr. Susan Lobel | Rebecca & David Nathan  
Barbara & Guy Reiss | Maimon Schwarzschild | Luiz Carlos Barreto Silva  
Stacey & Oliver Stanton | Margo & Benjamin Suckewer

The Bengualid Goldstein Family | Rose & Henry Edinger | Suzanne & Harry Engel  
Maggie & Andre Guenoun | Jennifer Ash & Seth Haberman | Yael Cycowicz &  
Matthew Kaplan | Josh Kramer & AJC | Sondra & Arnie Rosen  
Charlotte Triefus & Lloyd Zuckerberg

Anonymous | Suzy & Michael Appelbaum | Bonnie Barest & Gary Miller | Joanne &  
Yaacov Ben-Avi | Lucienne Carasso Bulow | Faith Fogelman | Laury, Reuben, and Matea  
Frieber | Kim Glazer-Goldberg | Merle Woldenberg Gonchar | Ariella Lang & Alex  
Kornfeld | Shana Lev | Liliane Marks | Nahon-Alfandary family | Tikva & Irwin Ostrega  
Carla & Jonah Schein | Rebecca Schub | Esther & Bill Schulder | Lina & Gilles Sion  
Susan & Warren Stern Everett Weinberger

Mark Aaron | David Adelman | Dr. Eric Braverman | Elana Burk | Eliza de Sola Mendes  
Vivien Eisenmann | Stephanie & Jonathan Freilich | Simon Gerson | Eric P. Lunzer | Judith Notovitz  
Suchu & Meyer Solny | Drs. Barbara & Anwar Suleiman | Arthur Tenenholz

*Thanks to all who contributed meals ensuring that financial considerations  
would not prevent anyone from attending.*

### Friday Night Lights:

#### Season Sponsor:

The Julis-Rabinowitz family

#### Session Sponsors:

Faith Fogelman, in memory of  
her father, Theodore Watkin

### Shabbat Teshuba Derasha

#### Sponsors:

Debbie & David Sable, in  
memory of Elissa Sable

Gillian & Simon Salama-Caro,  
in memory of Shawn Leibowitz

#### Cosponsors:

Martin & Judy Grumet, in  
honor of Perri & Akiba Stern

Raquel & Steve Herz, in  
memory of Barbara Herlands  
Smith

Raymond Jasen

Carol & Alan Schechter, in  
memory of Alan's mother, Itta  
b. Yitzchak Shmuel

Michael Schulder & Lu  
Steinberg & family, in memory  
of Michael's father, Paul  
Schulder

Linda & Howard Sterling, in  
memory of their son, Steven

#### Supporters

Anonymous

Faith Fogelman, in honor of  
Robert Watkin

Edward Levi-Derosa, Ph.D., in  
honor of the Brisk Yeshiva, in  
Chicago

Judy & Albert Milstein, in honor  
of Rabbi Soloveichik

Rachel Neumark Herlands &  
Jonathan Herlands, in memory  
of their beloved sister, Barbara  
Herlands Smith

Aviva Roumani & Ethan Mackin,  
in honor of the Roumani, Denn,  
& Bourkoff families

Warren Stern, in memory of  
Irene & Donald Stern

### Shabbat of Hope:

Naomi & Peter Neustadter

The Solomon Family

Anonymous

Dr. James & Debra Herstoff

Lynette & Jonathan Tulkoff

Leslie Cohen & Jeffrey Lang,  
with a mazal tob upon the  
marriage of Noah Lang to Jenna  
Bergman

Aviva Miller

Susan & Avery Neumark, in  
honor of the berit milah of  
Harrison Sidney (Matanel  
Amichai) Neumark

Rima Raynes, in honor Zoya and  
Naftali Friedman

### Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Afternoon Class:

#### Fall Semester Sponsor:

Scott Shay in memory of his  
mother Chanah Razel b. Aharon  
v'Sara z"l

### Kiddush Sponsors:

Lewis Bateman, in  
memory of Caryl Cohn  
Bateman

Haberman Family

Maurice L. Haroche and  
Jack L. Haroche, on the  
occasion of Jack's *shabbat  
hatan* and in memory of  
Gilbert Haroche

Rachel Neumark  
Herlands and Jonathan  
Herlands, in loving  
memory of Barbara H.  
Smith

Lauren & David Lunzer,  
to commemorate  
Elizabeth Lunzer's first  
Shabbat as a New Yorker  
and Shearith Israel  
member

Bella Angel Restis, in  
memory of the Jews of  
Rhodes who perished  
during the Holocaust

The Roberts Family, in  
memory of Dr. N. Craig  
Roberts

The Roberts Family,  
in memory of Bruce's  
mother, Flori Roberts

Barukh Rohde, in honor  
of Victor Owen

The Tikvah Fund

— continued —



— continued —

### Kiddush Contributors:

Nicole Berk and Vivian Polak, in memory of their mother, Greta Polak

### Kiddush Supporters:

Laury Frieber, in honor of Reuben and Matea Frieber

Liliane Marks, in memory of her husband, Neville Marks

Anna & Elia Roumani, in memory of Yaakov Nissim b. Liza, on the occasion of his *nahala*

### W. 11th St. Cemetery Rededication Kiddush:

#### Sponsors:

Anonymous, in honor of Brad Finkelstein, Nathaniel Wice, and John Nason

Lewis Bateman, in memory of Benjamin Bateman (Baruch b. Yitzchak Aryeh)

Karen & Jack Daar

Jim & Mary-Ellen Rudolph, in honor of Hazanim v'Kal-Kadash

#### Contributors:

Faith Fogelman

Suzanne Stern & Sjimon den Hollander, in memory of Rev. Philip Sherman

Everett Weinberger, in memory of Sylvia & Lenny Weinberger

### Super-Shabbat Dinner:

#### Sponsors:

The Lustig-Brody Family

#### Supporters:

Anonymous

Jennifer Ash & Seth Haberman

The Lunzer Family

#### Contributors:

Karen & Jack Daar

Jill & Avigdor Felder

Rachel McCoy & Isaac Haberman

Menahem Neuer

Karen & Roy Simon

The Solomon Family

Daniela Weiss & Avi Yohananoff

### Wine, Scotch, & Arak Sponsors:

The Roberts Family, in memory of Dr. N. Craig Roberts

Mrs. Lisa Rohde, in memory of Ida Davidson Marks, Greta P. Brun-Kestler, Susan Davidson Barkin, & Dr. Charles David Atkins

### Breakfast Sponsors:

Fiona Amiel

Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, in memory of James Herlands

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.



## STANDING WITH ISRAEL: WHAT WE ARE DOING & HOW YOU CAN HELP

מִי שְׁבֵרֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. אֲבָרָהִם יִצְחָק וְיַעֲקֹב. מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן. וְדָוִד וְיִשְׁלָמָה.

In the wake of October 7, Jews around the world have mobilized to assist our brothers and sisters in Israel in numerous impactful and creative ways. Shearith Israel is proud to do our part. Here are just a few ways to get involved and show your support:

### Financial Support

We encourage congregants to direct their *tzedakah* to any of the many trusted organizations they choose. We have collected a few suggestions on our webpage (scan the QR code to visit), and if you would like to have your *tzedakah* distributed collectively as part of our *kehillah*, you are welcome to donate to our “Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund” either online or by check, with the memo: “Israel Emergency Fund.”

### Community Initiatives

We have organized and participated in many communal activities in support of the hostages and our soldiers in the IDF, and against antisemitism. Thank you to the Sisterhood for coordinating the morale-boosting Letters to the IDF! We will continue to send letters and advocate for the welfare of the hostages until this war is over.

### Prayers for Israel

We have collected names of IDF soldiers who are related to our congregants and recite the Misheberakh for them in the Sanctuary each Shabbat. You can find the text of the Misheberakh for soldiers and the Misheberakh for hostages on our website.

Be sure to follow our emails for the latest updates on all our Israel initiatives. Visit [shearithisrael.org/giving/stand-with-israel](https://shearithisrael.org/giving/stand-with-israel) by scanning the QR code.







## TU B'SHEBAT

### TU B'SHEBAT SEDER

Wednesday, January 24 | 7:00 pm

*with Baruch-Lev Kelman,  
Rabbinic Intern*

Our rabbinic intern and newest CSI gourmand, Baruch-Lev, will lead this tasty banquet of fruity delights native to the land of Israel. With explanations of its ceremonies and Kabbalistic origins, this unique holiday tradition is sure to be a treat for all ages.

## PURIM

### THE SISTERHOOD'S ANNUAL MISHLOAH MANOT PROJECT

Do you want to send Mishloah Manot notifications to your friends and fellow congregants for Purim? Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to send special Purim greetings and to reach out to our Shearith Israel community and beyond.

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

### PURIM YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Saturday Night, March 23

We have a fun, informative program in the works to keep our younger congregants entertained during Megillah reading.

### WOMEN'S MEGILLAH READING

Purim Morning  
Sunday, March 24

Women are encouraged to join our unique women's reading, now in its 35th 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).



## AROUND SHEARITH ISRAEL



A. Author David Schizer was interviewed by Shearith Israel's Beth Goldman at a community book event.

B. Lev and Zahava Wiznia showing off their own Maccabee shield at HanukkahQuest!

C. Ian and Hudson Lentnek at the March for Israel in Washington DC.

D. IDF soldiers enthusiastically receiving our letters of support and encouragement.

E. We hosted a delegation of Austrian Members of Parliament who are part of AJC's Transatlantic Friends of Israel (TFI). We thanked them and the Austrian government for their strong statements in support of Israel.



## COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNERS

A COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER  
featuring Rabbi Soloveichik  
in conversation with YOSEL TIEFENBRUN

Friday, DATE TBD | Following Evening Services

As our rabbi and resident Anglophile, Rabbi Soloveichik will engage a unique guest in what will surely be an informative and entertaining conversation.

Yosel Tiefenbrun, the Hasidic founder of TIEFENBRUN atelier, was raised in London and hails from a long line of tailors, fabric merchants, and artists. During his formative years, Yosel's educational pursuits took him to France, New York, Israel, and eventually to Singapore, where he embarked on a path to become a rabbi. It was in Singapore that he also began nurturing his love for design and clothing. At the age of 21, Yosel made the decision to move to London to study at the renowned Savile Row Academy, where he dedicated two years to honing his skills in cutting and tailoring. Fueling his aspirations, Yosel ultimately relocated to New York to establish his own tailoring house.

In 2017, he brought his dreams to fruition by launching TIEFENBRUN atelier in New York City, and has become an esteemed presence in the tailoring industry today, working alongside movie sets, dressing royalty and world leaders.

A COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER  
featuring the return of MAGEVET, Yale's premier Jewish  
acapella group

Friday Evening, January 5  
Following Evening Services & Friday Night Lights

Following our Friday evening services – always musically exquisite – registered guests will enjoy a festive Shabbat dinner enhanced by a musical performance by *Magevet*, Yale University's Jewish, Hebrew, and Israeli acapella group. A co-ed ensemble, comprised of talented undergraduate students at Yale University, *Magevet* is known for its sweet blend of voices, unique arrangements, and lighthearted sense of humor, and is one of the nation's top Jewish acapella singing groups. This year's program will focus on Israel and Jerusalem. Stay tuned for registration!



A COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER  
featuring Rabbi Soloveichik in conversation  
with AUTHOR LIEL LEIBOVITZ

*How the Talmud Can Change Your Life:  
Surprisingly Modern Advice from A Very  
Old Book*

Friday, February 2 | Following Evening Services &  
Friday Night Lights

Join Rabbi Soloveichik and Liel Leibovitz for a spirited discussion of Leibovitz's inspiring book. Liel Leibovitz is the Editor-at-Large of Tablet Magazine and the co-host of its podcast, Unorthodox. He is the author and co-author of several books, including *The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia: From Abraham to Zabar's and Everything in Between*. He previously served as the Senior Press Officer at Israel's Consulate General in New York.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
DINNERS & MIXERS

Dates TBD | Ages 21-35

Join our YPs for delicious dinners and great programming throughout the season. Stay tuned for details. If you're a Young Professional who would like to get involved or just be added to their WhatsApp group, contact [yp@shearithisrael.org](mailto:yp@shearithisrael.org).

## SYNAGOGUE TOURS

Tours of Shearith Israel provide a unique opportunity for visitors and tourists to learn more about America's first Jewish Congregation—Shearith Israel—and view ritual objects dating back to the Colonial period. We're glad to share that we recently reinstituted our Public Monthly Tour, which is held on the second Wednesday of each month, at 11:00 am. Additionally, we are again taking requests for private tours, with all necessary safety precautions. We are always pleased to lead guests through our beautiful space with enlightening facts about our proud history and unique traditions. Tours generally last 45 minutes. Go to [shearithisrael.org/tours](http://shearithisrael.org/tours) for the latest updates on requesting a tour.

## SUNDAY MATINEE WITH SISTERHOOD

**Ticket for final film link:**  
**\$18.00 All proceeds will be  
donated to Friends of the IDF**

Our distinguished Israeli film host, Emanuel Cohn, has agreed to continue with our annual mini-Israeli film program. Once again, we offered three Israeli films, each to be viewed at your own leisure. Then we come together via Zoom on Sunday and discuss each featured film with our host, a film lecturer, award-winning actor, and screenwriter.

The discussions so far have included a glimpse behind the scenes and in-depth conversation as we explore the relationship between history, culture, and identity in each film.

A link will be sent to you to watch the film a week before the appointed date, together with a second link to join the Sunday discussion via Zoom.

PREVIOUS FILMS:  
*The Women's Balcony* and  
*Fill the Void*

FINAL FILM DISCUSSION:  
*Footnote*  
directed by Joseph Cedar  
**Sunday, January 7 | 4:00 pm  
via Zoom**

Synopsis: Both academics, a father and son's rocky relationship comes to a head when one receives word that he is the recipient of the prestigious Israeli Prize.





## GET TO KNOW OUR RABBINIC INTERN, BARUCH-LEV KELMAN

Joining us as our new Rabbinic Intern, Shearith Israel is fortunate to have Baruch-Lev Kelman take an active role in our programming and Jewish education. In addition to hosting the Tu B'Shebat seder on January 24 (see page 12), he will be lending his talents and insights to several new and existing programs we're offering.

Baruch-Lev was raised in a mixed Yemenite, Italo-Turkish, and Ashkenazic family, and grew up with customs and melodies of Western and Eastern Sephardic Jewry. He is the grandson of noted Ladino writer Matilda Koen-Sarano. Educated at Yeshivat Maale Adumim, Yeshiva College, and the University of Urbino, he is currently a student of rabbinics and Jewish history at Yeshiva University. His interests include the Jerusalem Temple and rabbinic culture in Renaissance Italy. He also enjoys technical drafting, high adventure, and fencing. You can reach Baruch-Lev at [bkelman@shearithisrael.org](mailto:bkelman@shearithisrael.org).

## VIRTUAL SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

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

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

Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander was born in the Netherlands. He received his Master's degree in Arabic and Islamology from the University of Leiden.

## NEW: SUNDAY MORNING MISHNA CLASS

*in Memory of Sgt. First Class  
Yosef Malachi Guedalia, HYD*

**Sundays | In Person**  
**9:00 am (following 8:05 am Services)**

Through our collective study, we honor the memory of Yosef Guedalia, a grandson of the Guedalia and Bendheim families of our congregation, who was killed defending Israel on October 7th, 2023. We'll also share coffee and a light breakfast, nurturing both body and soul.

## DAILY ZOOM: BOOK OF PROPHETS

**Sunday-Thursday Mornings | 8:30 am**  
**Rev. Z. Edinger & Rabbi Ira Rohde**

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

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

## NEW: THE BREAKFAST CLUB

**Monday-Friday Mornings | Following Morning Services**  
**In person at Shearith Israel**  
**with Baruch-Lev Kelman, Rabbinic Intern**

Join the midweek morning minyan Breakfast Club for stimulating discussions tailored to your interests. Come prepared with burning questions and impassioned arguments about your favorite topics.

## NEW: PARASHA WEDNESDAY

**Wednesdays | Following Evening Services for 45 minutes**  
**In person at Shearith Israel**  
**with Baruch-Lev Kelman, Rabbinic Intern**

Join in a group investigation of the Parasha. Discover and sample a wide range of interpretive methodologies, and engage in lively discussions.

## "A RANDOM WALK DOWN MILL STREET"

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

Every other Wednesday evening, Rev. Edinger delivers short presentations about the liturgy, music, or *minhag* of Shearith Israel. Missed a session? Many of Rev. Edinger's programs are available to stream at your convenience on his YouTube channel.

## NEW: AROUND THE (JEWISH) WORLD IN 20 DAYS

**Thursdays | Following Evening Services for 45 minutes**  
**In person at Shearith Israel**  
**with Baruch-Lev Kelman, Rabbinic Intern**

Join Baruch-Lev on a tour of the Jewish world all from the comfort of the Elias Room. Each session will focus on an individual Jewish community (e.g., Kaifeng, Odessa, Cordoba, etc.), spotlighting its unique heroes & customs, with the overarching goal of discovering Judaism's most central features.

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT

*5784 season sponsored by the  
Julis-Rabinowitz family*

**Fridays | Following Evening Services**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

There is no better way to transition from the workweek to the aura of Shabbat than with our beautiful one-hour Friday evening service followed by a short inspiring talk by Rabbi Soloveichik. We hope you will join us each week.

## 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.

## HABRUTOT MEYUHADOT

**By request**

Do you need a *habruta* (a warm and capable study buddy)? Our rabbinic intern would be delighted to study individually with you throughout the week. Please submit a request for a *habruta* to [bkelman@shearithisrael.org](mailto:bkelman@shearithisrael.org).





# YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

## SHABBAT MORNING YOUTH PROGRAM

**Saturdays | 10:00 am**

On Shabbat, we believe our children should learn to pray, develop a deeper appreciation for Jewish learning, and have fun with Synagogue peers. Our tots and our children ages 5-12 gather in the Fidanque Youth Room for a fun array of educational and entertaining activities connected to the parasha of the week and other Jewish themes. The older children then go to the Small Synagogue for Jr. Congregation services. Kids under 5? No problem – with adult supervision please.

## WEEKLY TEEN CLASS

**Shabbat Afternoons | 3:30 pm**  
**With Baruch-Lev Kelman,**  
**Rabbinic Intern**

Each Shabbat, Baruch-Lev gives a class for Teens in the Elias Room. Expect snacks and socializing – a perfect opportunity to connect with like-minded peers in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

## PARENT-CHILD LEARNING

**Select Saturday Nights**  
**1 hour after Habdala | Ages 5+**

**January 13**  
with Baruch-Lev Kelman,  
Rabbinic Intern

**February 10**  
with Pesha Kletenik  
Head of School, MDS

**March 9**  
with Rabbi Rohde

Parents, grandparents, and children are invited to share this special bonding time, and engage with Jewish learning in a fun, relaxed environment – with pizza or tasty treats, of course.

## PURIM YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**Saturday Night, March 23**

We have a fun, informative program in the works to keep our younger congregants entertained during Megillah reading.

## PTTS ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING INITIATIVE

Shearith Israel's historic Polonies Talmud Torah School (PTTS) continues to offer highly subsidized one-on-one tutoring customized to your child's needs and schedule.

Continuing our mission of providing children up to Bar or Bat Mitzvah age with quality Jewish education, we are offering this tutoring program (in-person or on Zoom) to expose students to and deepen their skills and love for: Hebrew language (reading, writing, and comprehension), Tanakh, Jewish holiday rituals, Jewish history, and how Jewish ideas inform our values in modern times.

For details and to register, please go to: [shearithisrael.org/ptts-tutoring](https://shearithisrael.org/ptts-tutoring).

## YOUTH SOCCER AND GOLF ON PAVED PARADISE

*Members, use our promo code "Shearith15" for a 15% discount!*

**Sundays and Afterschool | Paved Paradise**

Super Soccer Stars & Youth Athletes United in partnership with Congregation Shearith Israel is back for soccer and golf on our beautiful Paved Paradise lawn. Follow our emails to get links to the details.

## PLANNING YOUR BAR OR BAT MITZVAH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

Our stunning, historic synagogue is a special place to celebrate your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Traditionally, a young man will read from the Torah on Shabbat morning, but can also read on Monday, Thursday, or Rosh Hodesh. Bat Mitzvah girls can mark this occasion in several ways, such as reading from the Torah in a special women's-only service or delivering a Debar Torah for the entire congregation following Shabbat morning services in the Main Sanctuary.

Training in Torah chanting can be arranged with our hazzan, Rabbi Ira Rohde. As ample time is often necessary for training and preparation, and to fully familiarize yourself with our minimum training and Judaic education requirements, we recommend parents reach out to ritual director Rev. Zachary Edinger at least one year in advance. Contact Z. at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org).

To get the latest youth programming updates, join our WhatsApp group by contacting Bonnie Barest at [bbarest@shearithisrael.org](mailto:bbarest@shearithisrael.org).





## SISTERHOOD'S ANNUAL MISHLOAH MANOT PROJECT

Do you want to send Mishloah Manot notifications to your friends and fellow congregants for Purim? Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to send special Purim greetings and to reach out to our Shearith Israel community and beyond.

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

## WOMEN'S MEGILLAH READING

**Purim Morning, Sunday, March 24**

Women are encouraged to join our unique women's reading, now in its 35th 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 [lrohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrohde-csi@yahoo.com).



## YOETZET HALAKHA INITIATIVE

We are a proud co-sponsor of the Manhattan Yoetzet Halacha Initiative. 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](mailto: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, son Ariel, and newborn daughter.

## ONE-ON-ONE TOUR OF THE UWS MIKVAH

If you are interested in learning more about *Taharat Hamishpakha*, the laws of family purity, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at [layaliza@gmail.com](mailto: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.

# STAY CONNECTED

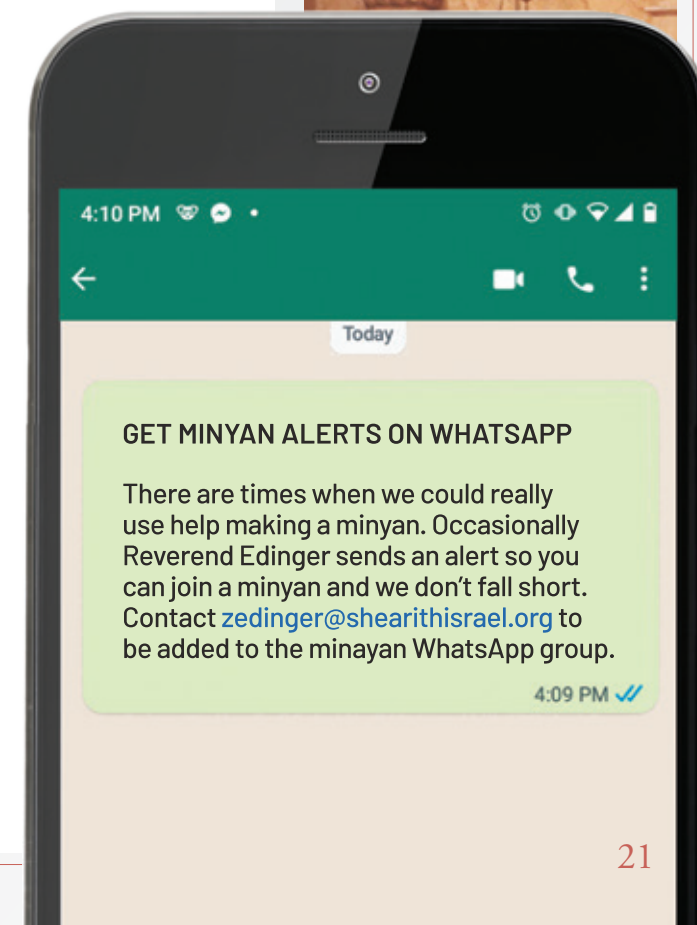


## BY EMAIL

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).





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 is home to 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 AGED 21-35)

Led by our longstanding multi-generational members Ariel Bengio, Sam Freilich, Devorah Goldstein, Isaac Haberman, Hillel Neumark, and Daniel de Sola Marks, this group puts together events catering to singles and couples in their 20s and 30s, such as Shabbat Dinners and holiday mixers, 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 kiddushim and cemetery tours. 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.

### THE SHEARITH ISRAEL CHOIR SCHEDULE

Since the middle of the 19th century, services at Shearith Israel have been enhanced by the participation of a choir. Learn more about our choir on our website: [shearithisrael.org/prayer/choir](http://shearithisrael.org/prayer/choir).

The choir is scheduled to sing **all Shabbatot and holidays this season EXCEPT for the following:**

- January 12-13 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend)
- February 16-17 (Presidents Weekend)
- March 15-16

*Please note that the choir schedule is subject to change without notice.*





SERVICES

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

DECEMBER 2023 - MARCH 2024 SHABBAT SERVICES

	Parasha	Candle Lighting	Friday Eve Services	Afternoon Class	Shabbat Afternoon	Habdala	Notes
DECEMBER							
1-2	Vayishlach	4:11 pm	4:15 pm	3:30 pm	4:10 pm	4:56 pm	
8-9	Vayesheb	4:11	4:00	3:30	4:05	4:55	Hanukkah
15-16	Miketz	4:12	4:15	3:30	4:05	4:56	
22-23	Vayyigash	4:14	3:45	3:30	4:10	4:59	
29-30	Vayehi	4:19	4:30	3:30	4:15	5:04	
JANUARY							
5-6	Shemoth	4:25	4:30	3:35	4:20	5:10 pm	
12-13	Vaera	4:32	4:30	3:45	4:30	5:18	
19-20	Bo	4:40	4:45	3:50	4:35	5:26	
26-27	Beshallah	4:48	4:45	4:00	4:45	5:35	Shabbat Shira
FEBRUARY							
2-3	Yithro	4:57 pm	5:00 pm	4:10 pm	4:55 pm	5:45 pm	
9-10	Mishpatim	5:05	5:15	4:15	5:00	5:54	Shabbat Rosh Hodesh
16-17	Terumah	5:14	5:15	4:25	5:10	6:03	
23-24	Tetsavveh	5:22	5:30	4:35	5:20	6:12	
MARCH							
1-2	Ki Tissa	5:30 pm	5:30 pm	4:40 pm	5:25 pm	6:21 pm	
8-9	Vayakhel	5:38	5:45	4:50	5:35	6:30	Shabbat Shekalim
15-16	Pekude	6:45	6:45	6:00	6:45	7:38	
22-23	Vayikra	6:53	6:45		6:55	7:47	Shabbat Zachor
29-30	Tsav	7:00	6:45	6:15	7:00	7:55	Shabbat Parah

Shabbat Morning Services: 8:15 am Zemiroth / 9:00 am Shahrit

HAMISHA ASAR (TU)  
BISHEBAT  
Wednesday Eve, Jan 24-Thursday, Jan. 25  
(No Service Changes)

PURIM HOLIDAY  
Fast of Esther  
(Observed in Advance)  
Thursday, March 21  
Dawn (Fast Begins) ..... 5:44 am  
Sunrise ..... 6:57 am  
Morning Service ..... 7:05 am  
Minha (Men wear Tefillin) ..... 6:30 pm

Eve of Purim  
Saturday Evening, March 23  
Minha ..... 6:55 pm  
Habdala ..... 7:47 pm  
Arbit ..... 8:05 pm  
Reading of Megillah ..... 8:15 pm  
Late Reading of Megillah ..... 9:00 pm

Purim Day  
Sunday, March 24  
Morning Service ..... 8:05 am  
Morning Reading of Megillah ..... 8:30 am  
Women's Megillah Reading ..... 8:30 am  
Late Morning Reading of Megillah ..... 11:00 am  
Minha & Arbit Services ..... 6:30 pm

Purim Shushan  
Monday, March 25  
(No Service Changes)

ROSH HODESH DATES  
(No service time changes)  
Shebat (One-Day)  
Wednesday Eve, Jan. 10-Thursday, Jan. 11  
Adar (Two-Day)  
Thursday Eve, Feb. 8-Sunday, Feb. 10



LEGAL HOLIDAYS  
Monday, December 25  
Shahrit ..... 8:05 am  
Arbit ..... 6:30 pm  
  
Monday, January 1  
Shahrit ..... 8:05 am  
Arbit ..... 6:30 pm

Monday, January 15 (MLK Day)  
Morning Service ..... 8:05 am  
Arbit ..... 6:30 pm

Monday, February 19 (Presidents Day)  
Morning Service ..... 8:05 am  
Arbit ..... 6:30 pm

DAILY SERVICES

Mornings:  
Sunday Shahrit ..... 8:05 am  
Monday-Friday Shahrit ..... 7:05 am

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:  
Dec 1, 2023 – Feb 29, 2024  
Arbit only ..... 6:30 pm  
March 3 – 7  
Minha & Arbit ..... 5:45 pm  
March 10 – June 6  
Minha & Arbit ..... 6:30 pm



*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 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. 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](mailto: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](http://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. From \$25 Arak sponsors to \$2,500 Kiddush Luncheon sponsors, we offer sponsorship levels for all budgets.

## 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](http://shearithisrael.org/giving). Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation's mission and legacy.*







## BOARD AND STAFF

**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

**Baruch-Lev Kelman** Rabbinic Intern  
bkelman@shearithisrael.org

**Sarah Gross**  
Office Manager & Financial Associate  
sgross@shearithisrael.org  
212-873-0300 x 230

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

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

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Louis M. Solomon, Parnas  
Karen Daar, Segan  
Michael P. Lustig, Segan

Leah Albek  
Ariel Bengio  
Dr. Victoria R. Bengualid  
David E.R. Dangoor  
Seth Haberman  
David J. Nathan, Honorary Parnas  
Avery Neumark  
Peter Neustadter, Honorary Parnas  
Bruce Roberts  
David Sable  
Oliver Stanton  
L. Stanton Towne

Clerk: Adam Hurwich  
Treasurer: Aaron Nathan

## HONORARY TRUSTEES

Dr. Edgar Altchek  
Paul J. Beispel  
Henri Bengualid  
Norman S. Benzaquen  
Esmé E. Berg  
Arthur A. Goldberg  
Michael Katz  
Jonathan de Sola Mendes  
Zoya Raynes  
Gilles Sion  
Mark Tsesarsky  
Ralph J. Sutton  
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)  
**Ellin Cooper** 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](http://shearithisrael.org/membership).