

A NOTE FROM OUR SHAMASH

By Rev. Z. Edinger

This past Thursday marked the *nabala* of Joseph M. Corcos (1872-1926), who served as hazzan of our congregation from 1919 to 1922. He came from a distinguished rabbinical lineage, his grandfather, Abraham Corcos, had served as a *Dayan* of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews of England. Hazan Corcos received his rabbinical education in Mogador, Morocco, under Judah BenAttar, and received *semikha* from Moses Gaster in London. From 1893-1903 he served as minister in the Spanish & Portuguese congregations of Jamaica and of Curacao. During this time, he authored a catechism for the Hebrew School of Jamaica and became the first person to publish a History of the Jews of Curacao. He later moved to New York, where he pursued a business career.

When Dr. Pool left for the Holy Land in 1919, Joseph Corcos was appointed "Acting Minister" of Shearith Israel, serving until Dr. Pool's return in 1922. In 1922, he was appointed hazzan in Montreal, where he remained until 1925. Sadly, he passed away in January 1926 at the age of fifty-three. The version of "Bendigamos" that we sing today was composed and transmitted to our congregation from Curacao by hazzan Corcos.

One of Joseph & Angelita's children, Vida Corcos, met her husband, Fred Simons, at Shearith Israel's "Young People's Group." Fred, a recent immigrant from Holland escaping the growing Nazi threat, and Vida were married in our synagogue on January 18, 1944, eighty years ago this week. After their marriage, Fred was sent back to Europe as a GI. Upon his return from the War, he convinced Vida that the only place for Jews to live was Palestine. They made the move to Israel in 1951 with two children, David and Anita. They remained in Israel for the rest of their lives, raised four children, enjoyed fifteen grandchildren, and were blessed with twenty-two great-grandchildren. Despite the distance, they always remained close friends of our congregation.

This Shabbat, Anita Tamari, Fred and Vida's daughter, is visiting from Kfar Saba, Israel. She generously sponsored the *kiddush* this Shabbat in honor of her parents' wedding anniversary. Over the years, Anita has visited Shearith Israel from Israel with many of her grandchildren. We pray that the memory of her parents and grand- parents continues to thrive in her family and in our congregation for years to come.



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

Shabbat Bo

January 19-20, 2024 | 10 Shebat, 5784

SCHEDULE

Kaplan: p. 300 | Haftarah: p. 1102

Hertz: p. 248 | Haftarah: p. 263

Candle Lighting | 4:40 pm

Evening Services | 4:45 pm

Friday Night Lights | Following Services | Main Sanctuary

Zemirot | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

Shahrit | 9:00 am | Main Sanctuary

Morning Talk | At Morning Services | Rabbi Soloveichik

Tot Shabbat | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

Youth Groups | 10:00 am | Elias Room

Jr. Congregation | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

Kiddush | following services | *Kiddush sponsored by Anita Tamari, in memory of her parents, Fred Simons & Vida Corcos Simons | Arak sponsored by Bonnie Barest, in memory of Hazzan Joseph Corcos and Bendigamos, and her father*

Shabbat Afternoon Class | 3:50 pm | Rabbi Soloveichik | Main Sanctuary | *Session Sponsor: Ellen Zimmerman & Edward Miller, in honor of Susan & Avery Neumark, and in memory of Charlotte & Joel Zimmerman, Symma & Leon Miller*

Teen Class | 3:50 pm | Baruch-Lev Kelman | Elias Room

Evening Services | 4:35 pm

Habdala | 5:26 pm

Tu B'Shebat begins on Wednesday night.

Weekday Service Times

Sunday Morning: 8:05 am | Monday-Friday Mornings: 7:05 am

Sunday-Thursday Evenings (Arbit Only): 6:30 pm

THIS WEDNESDAY

Tu B'Shebat Seder in Safed

THIS Wed, Jan. 24 | 7:00 pm | Baruch-Lev Kelman, Rabbinic Intern
All ages welcome!

Light refreshments will be served

Our newest CSI gourmand, Baruch-Lev, will lead this tasty banquet of fruity delights native to the land of Israel. Join him for this night of flavors, mysteries, and histories!

Registration and sponsorships available at
shearithisrael.org/events/tu-bshebat-seder.

COMING UP

The Shearith Israel League is a proud co-sponsor of

Bendichas Manos: The 7th Annual New York Ladino Day

THIS Sunday, January 21 | 2:00-4:30 pm

15 W 16th St | Hosted by the American Sephardi Federation

Featuring: **Rabbi Marc Angel, Rachel Amado Bortnick**, teacher and founder of the renowned online group, Ladinokomunita, **Elizabeth Graver**, author of the 2023 Sephardic novel *Kantika*, **Sarah Aroeste**, singer/songwriter, and **Susan Barocas**, foodwriter

Register at tinyurl.com/nycladino.

Sign up by January 29!

COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER

featuring **Rabbi Soloveichik**

in Conversation with Author Liel Leibovitz

Friday Evening, Feb. 2 | after Evening Services & Friday Night Lights

Join Rabbi Soloveichik and Liel Leibovitz for a spirited discussion of Leibovitz's inspiring book, *How the Talmud Can Change Your Life:*

Surprisingly Modern Advice from a Very Old Book.

Register at shearithisrael.org/events/leibovitz.

COMING UP

CSI YOUTH:

Upper West Side-Wide Dave & Buster's Trip

Saturday Night, February 3 | 7:00 pm

Registration Deadline: January 29

Details and registration at wsisny.org.

Volunteer for a Shearith Israel CSS

(Community Security Service) Team

Entry Point training on Zoom | Virtual one-hour training session

Tuesday evening, February 6 | 8:30 pm

Refer to our emails for the link and signup details.

Grandparents, parents, and kids are invited to bond at

Parent-Child Learning

Next Session with Dr. Pasha Kletenik, Head of School, MDS

Motzei Shabbat, February 10 | 6:30 pm

Make sure to register at shearithisrael.org/pcl-5784.

SAVE THE DATE - Registration coming soon!

A Shabbat Adar Community Dinner

From Singapore to Savile Row to Bespoke in Brooklyn:

A Hasidic London-Trained Tailor In Conversation With

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Friday Evening, March 8

Following Evening Services & Friday Night Lights

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome new members, **Eric Lunzer & Esther Wagner**, to our growing Shearith Israel family.

Rev. Salomon Vaz Dias participated in and recited the *Hashcaba* at the Congressional Holocaust Commemoration program held this week in Washington, DC.