

## A NOTE *from* OUR SHAMASH

This Shabbat, we are celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of Eli Aaron. For this special occasion, we will be using our "**Liberty Bells**," which were gifted to the Congregation in 1961 in honor of Judge Edgar J. Nathan Jr.'s 70th birthday. The bells were commissioned by Eli's grandfather, Arthur Goldberg, and crafted by the silversmith Nissim Hizme. These bells are modeled after Philadelphia's iconic Liberty Bell and bear a Hebrew inscription from Leviticus 25:10: "*Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land.*"

This Shabbat also marks the anniversary of the consecration of the **Nineteenth Street Synagogue**, which served as our congregation's home from September 12, 1860, to May 15, 1897. We commemorate this occasion with a semi-festive service, during which the Ark remains open for much of the time, and the Torah scrolls are dressed in festive colors. The beautiful poem *Todot El* (p. 342) is sung before *Nishmat*, and special blessings and memorial prayers are recited before the Torah reading.

At the time of its consecration, Jaques Judah Lyons was the Minister of the congregation, and Rev. Arnold Fischel served as Lecturer. The Nineteenth Street Synagogue was a large, impressive edifice built in the Palladian style. Its exterior was a blend of neoclassical designs, crowned by a prominent octagonal dome. It was considered a notable landmark of its time, described as "one of the prominent lions and curiosities of New York." The *hehal* was acclaimed as the finest in the world.

However, the synagogue's grandeur came with challenges. The building's great height, which allowed ample light and air in the sanctuary, also required congregants to climb several stories to reach it. It was notoriously drafty and so cold in winter that extra stoves had to be installed. The magnificent dome caused acoustical issues, leading to the temporary installation of unsightly fabric gauze to improve sound quality inside the sanctuary.

An 1893 guidebook to New York described the synagogue as "one of those structures of unfamiliar appearance which makes New York cosmopolitan in architecture." The guide noted its "broad and high entrance," windows topped with semi-circular arches, and a "Moorish dome, prominent from a considerable distance." The synagogue "loomed high over the houses of West 19th Street with its classic front and ponderous dome."



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

## Shabbat Nitsabim-Vayelekh

September 27-28, 2024 | 25 Elul, 5784

### SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Kaplan: p. 1010 | Haftarah: p. 1242

Hertz: p. 878 | Haftarah: p. 883

*Consecration Anniversary of 19th Street Synagogue (1860)*

**The Choir returns this Shabbat for the season**

**Candle Lighting** | 6:26 pm

**Evening Services** | 6:30 pm | Main Sanctuary

**Zemirot** | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

**Shahrit** | 9:00 am | Main Sanctuary

**Tot Shabbat** | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

**Junior Congregation** | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

**Kiddush** | following services | *Sponsored by Penny & Mark Aaron, in honor of Eli's Bar Mitzvah*

**Shabbat Afternoon Class** | 5:35 pm | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

**Teen Shiur will return next week.**

**Evening Services** | 6:20 pm

**Habdala** | 7:16 pm

*Rosh HaShana begins on Wednesday night. For the full schedule, visit [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org).*

### Weekday Service Times

**Mornings:** Sunday: 8:05 am | Monday & Tuesday: 7:05 am

Wed., Ereb Rosh HaShana Early Morning Selihot: 6:15 am | Shahrit: 7:05 am

**Evenings:**\* Sunday-Tuesday: 6:15 pm

*\*includes Selihot prayers*

### Selihot at Shearith Israel

**At Evening Services from September 4-October 9**

The Sephardic custom is to prepare for Rosh HaShana by reciting *Selihot* during the entire month of Elul. Unlike other communities, however, the Spanish & Portuguese custom is to recite a very short form of *Selihot* following Arbit every evening. Our community is virtually the only one left in the entire world that still recites Selihot in the evening service after Arbit.

## HIGH HOLIDAYS AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

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### Your High Holiday Checklist

Complete it at [shearithisrael.org/high-holidays-5785](http://shearithisrael.org/high-holidays-5785)

- Print your tickets
  - Make your holiday offerings
  - Sponsor Rabbi Soloveichik's Shabbat Teshuba Derasha
  - Order your lulab & etrog set through the synagogue
  - Reserve self-catered meals in the Succah
  - Honor our 5785 Hatanim
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### COMING UP

*If registration required, sign up at [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org)*

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### Elul Learning with Baruch-Lev Kelman

Final Session: **THIS Sunday, September 29 | After Evening Services**

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### Sisterhood Succah Decoration

**Monday, October 14 | 3:00 - 8:00 pm / Tuesday, October 15 | 3:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Wednesday, October 16 | 8:00 am - 12 pm | *RSVP requested***

This year, we again will build a beautiful Succah in our Elias Room. As always, this succah will be decorated lavishly and lovingly by the Shearith Israel Sisterhood, who also sponsors Succot *kiddushim* for all congregants to enjoy. Teens and adults, women and men, are invited to help decorate in preparation for the Succot Festival.

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### Youth Succah Decoration on Paved Paradise

*With Baruch-Lev Kelman - and Pizza!*

**Monday, October 14 | 4:30 pm | for school-aged children**

Join Baruch-Lev in decorating our beautiful outdoor Succah on Paved Paradise - plus a pizza party while you work! RSVP to Baruch-Lev at [bkelman@shearithisrael.org](mailto:bkelman@shearithisrael.org).

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### Hatanim Celebration 5785

**Luncheon on Shabbat, November 2 | after Shabbat Morning Services**

We are delighted to announce this year's Hatanim:

**Adam Hurwich**, Hatan Torah

**Aaron E. Nathan**, Hatan Bereshit

Please join us on Shabbat Noah as we bring our community together to honor these two special congregants, and raise funds to repair our roof and protect our Tiffany windows.

## RABBI SOLOVEICHIK'S UPCOMING MAJOR ADDRESSES

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*Registration & sponsorships at [shearithisrael.org](http://shearithisrael.org)*

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### Rabbi Soloveichik's Pre-Rosh HaShana Online Address

**THIS Monday, September 30 | 7:30 pm | On Zoom**

A Beacon in Darkness:

The Most Inspiring Moments of the Past Year,  
and Their Lessons for the Year Ahead

Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

Sponsorship opportunities are available upon registration.

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### Rabbi Soloveichik's Special Pre-October 7

#### Shabbat Teshuba Derasha

**Shabbat, October 5 | Following Morning Services**

To Life, The Book of Life, and the People of Israel Live:

The Fascinating Origin, and the Poignant Relevance,  
of Three Famous Phrases

We invite the community to come together on this special Shabbat preceding October 7, to hear words of wisdom and inspiration by Rabbi Soloveichik.

Sponsorships appreciated.

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Mazal tob to **Eli Aaron**, upon becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to the proud parents, **Penny & Mark Aaron**, and grandparents, **Carol & Arthur Goldberg**.

We mourn the loss of our longstanding member **Maurice Dana**.

Condolences to his wife, **Erna Dana**, and to his children **Michel, Pauline**, and **Robert Dana** (Michelle).

Condolences to **Fred Ehrman** (Suzan), upon the passing of his brother, Jules Ehrman, and to **Susie Dellal** (William) on the passing of her uncle.

Condolences to **Caryl Englander**, upon the passing of her mother, Rhoda Jean Schechter.