HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?
Caring Connection & The League present:
Upper West Side Blood Drive
The Esther Goldfarb Memorial Blood Drive
January 7, 2018 | 10:00 am-4:00 pm
The Jewish Center, 131 West 86 Street

Kick off the new year by giving the gift of life—be a blood donor or do a simple bone marrow cheek swab.
To maximize our impact, this year we are partnering with numerous congregations on the Upper West Side, so far including: Darkhei Noam, The Jewish Center, Lincoln Square Synagogue, Congregation Shaare Zedeck, and Young Israel of the Upper West Side.

To register to reserve a convenient time slot, or to volunteer at the drive, visit shearithisrael.org/uws-blood-drive.
Walk-ins are also welcome.

Tu B’Shevat Shiur
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Tuesday, January 30, 2018
7:00 pm

Rabbi Soloveichik’s will deliver a shiur dedicated to the themes of Tu B’Shevat. Tasty Tu B’Shevat treats will be served.

To join our list of sponsors for this public lecture, visit shearithisrael.org/tu-bshebat-shiur.

Pre-pay your sponsorship by this Sunday, December 31, 2107 to ensure its tax deductibility this year.

ASK THE YOETZET
— by Shiffy Friedman, Yoetzet Halakha —

This is the second installment in a new column that will appear on occasion, featuring our Yoetzet Halakha, Shiffy Friedman, who will provide helpful answers to questions that congregants pose to her. You may submit a question by email to nycoyoetzet@gmail.com.

Q&A with the Yoetzet:
Believe it or not, a yoetzet halakha is often asked... Question: What type of birth control should I use?
Answer: When a couple decides to use contraception (preferably in consultation with a halachic decisor), questions may arise, both in terms of the medical as well as halachic aspects. Certain birth controls may make it challenging for a woman to go to the mikvah; others may be preferred for a woman observing the laws of T’brit HaMishpaha (Jewish family life) because they make her menses infrequent, shorter, or predictable. Talking this decision through with a yoetzet halakha (and in consultation with her doctor) can help a woman weigh all of the pros and cons and make an informed decision that will work for her, both in terms of her general health and how this affects her practice of T’brit HaMishpaha.

Shiffy Friedman graduated from Nishmat’s Miriam Glaubach Center’s U.S. Yoetzet Halakha Fellows Program in 2015. She has been counseling women in the area of women’s health and halakha, both through her role as Yoetzet Halakha in Westchester County and through teaching brides and couples before marriage. Shiffy has taught at SAR Academy and currently teaches at Ma’ayanot Yeshiva High School. She received her B.A. in Judaic Studies from Stern College and a dual M.A. in Education and Jewish Studies from New York University. Prior to that, she spent a year studying in Israel at the Stella K. Abraham and Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz. She and her husband, Rabbi Noam Friedman, live with their two children, Avital and Adir, in Morningside Heights, where they serve as the OU-JLIC couple at Columbus/Barnard Hillel. They look forward to getting to know members of the broader Manhattan community.

Shearith Israel is proud co-sponsor of the Manhattan Yoetzet Halakha Initiative. If you have any questions regarding T’brit HaMishpaha (Family Purify) or laws of Niddah, please contact our Yoetzet Halakha in confidence at nycoyoetzet@gmail.com, or by calling or texting 646-598-1080.

CANDLES FOR SHABBAT

SHABAT VAYHEE
December 29-30, 2017

Candle Lighting: 4:19 pm
Minhat & Arvit: 4:30 pm | Main Sanctuary
Friday Night Lights: Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | “When the President Came to Shabbat Services” | This week’s Friday Night Lights is sponsored by Debbie and David Sable, in memory of Rabbi Jack Sable. 2017-18 season sponsored by the Suth family.

Zemirot: 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary
Shaharit (Nishmat): 9:00 am | Main Sanctuary
Tot Shabbat with Liz and Shanaede | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Fidance Youth Room
Youth Groups with Rachel | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room
Junior Congregation with a Torah Reading | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue
Seminar | Rabbi Meir Soloveichik | “Our Banner Yet Waves: The Flags of the Tribes of and Francis Scott Key” | Sponsored by the Neumark family, in commemoration of first nafah of Debbi Neumark.
Kiddush | Levy Auditorium | Sponsored by the Neumark family, in commemoration of first nafah of Debbi Neumark.
Minhat & Arvit: 4:15 pm
Habdalalah: 5:04 pm

Weekday Service Times
Mornings:
Sunday-Monday: 8:00 am
Tuesday-Friday: 7:15 am
Evenings:
Sunday-Thursday (Arvit only): 6:30 pm

Central Park West at 70th Street, New York City • www.shearithisrael.org
PLANNING FOR THE UNCERTAIN TAX YEAR AHEAD

With new tax rules on the horizon, the best way to ensure the tax deduction of your donations is to submit them prior to 2018. The new year starts on Monday, so now is your last chance! We’d like to offer a variety of ways for you to donate or prepay 2018 sponsorships during the 2017 tax year. But hurry: all donations and sponsorships must be postmarked or submitted online by this Sunday, December 31 to qualify.

- Visit shearithisrael.shulcloud.com/form/omnibus2017 to submit your end of year gift and to select any and all funds you wish to support.
- Visit shearithisrael.shulcloud.com/form/earlybird-membership_2018-2019 to log in and pre-pay your 2018-2019 membership dues at current rates. If you have any outstanding balances, now is also a good time to take care of those.
- Visit shearithisrael.org/kiddushfund to sponsor a 2018 kiddush, either for a specific shabbat, a lifecycle celebration, or a shabbat to be specified at a later date - even if you don’t know when you would like your sponsored kiddush to take place, you can still sponsor!
- Visit shearithisrael.org/tu-bshebat-shiur to sponsor Rabbi Soloveichik’s upcoming Tu B’Shebat Shiur, to be held on Tuesday, January 30.
- Visit shearithisrael.org/tu-bshebat-lunch to sponsor (and sign up for) our Young Couples and Families Pre-Tu B’Shebat Luncheon with Rabbi and Layaliza Soloveichik, to take place on Shabbat, January 27.
- Visit shearithisrael.org/pulpit-swap to sponsor the kiddush at our upcoming “Pulpit Swap” Shabbat with Rabbi Levine of the Jewish Center, on Shabbat, March 10.
- Visit shearithisrael.org/giving to make an earmarked gift.

On behalf of the clergy, staff, and Board of Trustees, we offer our heartfelt appreciation for your continued generosity and support.

Schedule and Office Closure Alerts
- Morning Services on Monday, January 1 will be at 8 am.
- Our office is closed on Monday, January 1.
- Rabbi Soloveichik’s Tuesday Morning Women’s Class will NOT meet next week.
- Rabbi Soloveichik’s Tuesday Evening Talmud Class will NOT meet next week.

Rabbi Yanetz Joins Us For Shabbat Next Shabbat, January 5-6, 2018

We are pleased to welcome Rabbi Yosef Chaim Yanetz, his wife Rivka, and children Abigail and Ariel, to our community next Shabbat. Rabbi Yanetz will be delivering the talk after morning services. Rabbi Yanetz offers Habrata (One-on-One Learning) for all levels, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

REGISTER NOW!

Young Couples and Families Pre-Tu B’Shebat Luncheon Shabbat, January 27 | Following Morning Services

Hug a tree and celebrate the new year with Rabbi and Layaliza Soloveichik & Co. Join us and invite your friends for a family luncheon of Torah and fruity goodness.

Got a New Year’s Resolution to sign up for programming on time? We’ll help you stick with it with our Early Bird Pricing:

- Members: $35 $30/adult, $15 $12/child under 12
- Non-Members: $40 $35/adult, $18 $15/child under 12

For registration and sponsorship details, visit shearithisrael.org/tu-bshebat-lunch.

Pre-pay your sponsorship by this Sunday, December 31, 2107 to ensure its tax deductibility this year.

SAVE THE DATE

Pulpit Swap Shabbat Shabbat, March 10, 2018

This year, both Shearith Israel and The Jewish Center, our peer synagogue on the Upper West Side, are looking forward to milestone anniversaries. The Jewish Center is about to celebrate its Centennial anniversary and Shearith Israel is preparing to celebrate our 365th, our Year of Years.

In the spirit of friendship and mutual respect, we have decided to share our riches with each other. Rabbis Levine and Soloveichik will “swap” synagogues on this shabbat, enjoying the warmth of their peer kehillot and each treating us to a special lecture after morning services.

To join our list of sponsors for the kiddush following the lecture, visit shearithisrael.org/pulpit-swap.

Pre-pay your sponsorship by this Sunday, December 31, 2107 to ensure its tax deductibility this year.

JNF’s Tu B’Shebat Festival: Shuk Shack “Experience Israel in NYC”
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 | 7:00 pm
IAC HQ, 555 West 18 Street, New York, NY

Shearith Israel is proud to be supporting this enormous communal festival along with 70 other Jewish institutions. To RSVP and learn more about the festival, the VIP Cocktail Reception, and JNFuture afterparty, visit jn.org/shukshack.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazel tov to Vicki Bengualid and Gabe Goldstein on their daughter Tova’s marriage to Yshai Chamudot in Israel. Congratulations to Tova’s grandfather, Henri Bengualid.

We mourn the passing of Francis Nathan. Condolences to her children, Bill Nathan, Fred Nathan, Jr., and Jean Nathan, and the entire Nathan family.