In one of the most famous Shakespearean passages, Henry V exhorts his troops prior to the battle of Agincourt, promising them that “yearly, on the vigil” they shall have a wine-based feast celebrating their heroism. Then their feats would be recounted in exquisite detail; then every one of their names would live immortally:

Old men forget: yet all shall be forgot,
But he’ll remember with advantages
What feats he did that day: then shall our names,
Familiar in his mouth as household words
Harry the king, Bedford and Exeter,
Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and Gloucester,
Be in their flowing cups freshly remember’d.

This story shall the good man teach his son;
How different our own Passover celebration is from what Henry describes. There, too, a story is recounted; but Moses, seemingly the hero of the story we are obligated to recount, is persona non grata in the Haggadah. He merits barely a mention. We too have flowing cups, we too feast “yearly on the vigil,” but all of our gratitude is to God. In contrast, when we are recounting not the story of Pesah but of Shabuot, the anniversary of the giving of the Torah, Moses is accorded all of the credit. According to the Talmud, the first verse taught to a child is “Moses commanded us the Torah, an inheritance to the community of Jacob.” For the Rabbis knew that Moses could either be the hero of Pesah, or of Shabuot. He could either be the great redeemer, or he could be the great teacher. In choosing for which aspects of Moses’ life he would be revered, the Rabbis decided what our culture would revere most of all. Jewish warriors are essential to the wellbeing of the Jewish people; but it is through education and transmission that a nation remains immortal. In this respect, our own retelling of the story of our freedom every year on Pesah is an embodiment of immortality of which even Shakespeare could scarcely imagine.
Dear Congregants:

Well it is finally upon us. We have been given the merit of witnessing the beginning of the 365th year since our Congregation’s founding in 1654. We have been announcing and sharing our plans for our Year of Years Celebration. We are now in the thick of it – celebrations marking Shearith Israel’s 365th anniversary as well as the fundraising campaign that will secure our future as we move into our second “year of years.”

Who cannot have noticed the extraordinary range and quality of the Year of Years programming that has already taken place? What has been most gratifying is how these various programs have emphasized the diversity yet durability of our Congregation. We kicked off last spring with a major Symposium, a tour de force by Rabbi Soloveichik, entitled Passover and The American Imagination, which spoke to our unique place in American Jewish history and how, like the Passover story itself, the lessons and values of our Congregational past are as relevant today as ever. This fall we hosted a community Shabbat dinner event, inspired by our member Sam Katz, called From Recife to New York: A Shabbat Dinner with Today’s Conversos of Brazil, where we learned about and even met current day descendants of Brazilian conversos working to reconnect with their Jewish roots. Then came the stupendous Year of Years event, conceived and organized substantially by our Ritual Director and Shamash Zachary Edinger, Remembering Baghdad – Between the Tigris and the Hudson: Celebrating Iraqi Jewish Heritage at Shearith Israel. This was the first of several events that will showcase the many nationalities that made Shearith Israel their home throughout our 365 years, up until current times. It was fantastic to see the Sanctuary brimming with congregants and friends, all in attendance to learn about the Iraqi Jewish story from scholars and several of our prominent members including trustee, David Dangoor, David Lavipour, and Ezra Zilkha, and to celebrate one of the distinct heritages that comprise a 365-year tapestry. More about some of these programs can be found in this bulletin. And just recently our Sabbath worshippers enjoyed the return of the Tiffany Windows to their rightful place above the hehal. It is a palpable manifestation of our cherished values that these windows were in need of repair, and in the build-up to our Year of Years we had them removed, refurbished, and back where they belong, enhancing the ethereal atmosphere of our prayers.

As for the Year of Years fundraising campaign, you have been hearing about that, and you will be hearing more. Our excellent fundraising consultants keep begging us to resist discussing it until we have reached even greater milestones. But who can resist? In the quiet phase of our campaign, we have already secured pledges and gifts of over $4 million. With that we have retired a significant amount of debt, rescheduled the balance at extremely low rates, paid off large outstanding amounts, and have begun directing funds to a welter of projects and needs crucial for our collective future. The campaign is an ambitious one with needs and wants that are great. Some of you have already heard from members of the campaign committee. Most of you have not, but will. Please, participate as generously as your circumstances permit. We want our entire congregation – 100% of us – to do our part to make our Congregation strong for years to come.

Louis M. Solomon
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Deena and Nissim Aboodi on the birth of a grandson, Ness Arthur, born to Debra Aboodi and Steve Sasson.

Norman S. Benzaquen, upon his grandson, Max Jacob Schlanger, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Rose and Henry Edinger, upon their granddaughter, Neima, daughter of Shlomit and Benjamin Edinger, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Rose and Henry Edinger on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Aliza Tiferet, born to Chana (née Edinger) and Jono Fuchs.

Bess Castagnello and Simcha Fern on the birth of a baby girl.

Ahron Herring and Jessica Schechter, upon their marriage.

Maya Jacobs, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Tikva and Zalmie Jacobs.

Ellen and Robert Kapito, on the birth of a grandson to their children, Shira and Josh Arcus.

Becky and Eitan Kimelman, on the birth of a baby girl.

Stephanie and Roy Kirsh, on the birth of a baby boy, Theodore.

Rebecca Lewin and Morgan Resta-Flarer, on the birth of a baby boy, Jack Nathan. Mazal Tob as well to grandparents, Marjory and John Lewin.

Dr. Craig Moskowitz and Monica Friedman, on the birth of a baby boy, Henry Blake (Chaim Baruch).

Eli Schildkraut, upon his marriage. Mazal Tob as well to his parents, Ivy and Marvin Schildkraut, and to the entire Schildkraut family.

Linda and Dr. Morris Shamah, on the birth of a great-grandson, Shlomo Yair Singer, in Israel.

Marlene and Michael Sperling, upon their granddaughter, Batya Sperling Milner, becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Batya created a Braille system for rendering the Masoretic Tropes, making this a particularly special and unique celebration — mazal tov and hazak u’barukh to the family.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Hazakim U’berukhim:

Rev. Salomon vaz Dias, who was a Scholar in Residence at Tempio Rabbi Ovadia Da Bertinoro, the S&P (Livorno) synagogue of Ramat Gan, Israel.

Marco DiLaurenti, on being honored with the Community Leadership Award by the Rabbinical Seminary of America - Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim, in Queens.

Meryl Jaffe, on the publication of her book, Worth A Thousand Words: Using Graphic Novels to Teach Visual and Verbal Literacy, with her daughter, Talia Hurwich. The book is available on Amazon.com. For more information, including lesson plans, visit meryljaffe.com.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Angelina Drahi and Dr. Daniel Bassiri
Judith Deich
Daina and Greg Gurevich
Raquel and Dr. Ian Lentnek, with their daughters, Hudson and Dakota
Dr. Albert Levy

Linda and Dr. Morris Shamah, on the birth of a great-grandson, Shlomo Yair Singer, in Israel.

Marlene and Michael Sperling, upon their granddaughter, Batya Sperling Milner, becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Batya created a Braille system for rendering the Masoretic Tropes, making this a particularly special and unique celebration — mazal tov and hazak u’barukh to the family.

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IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of our members:

Sandra Bass
Agnes Dellal
Margot (Mendes) Oppenheimer

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Yaakov Ben-Avi, on the passing of his mother, Sima Ben-Avi.

William Dellal, on the loss of his mother, Agnes Dellal.

Charles Gourgey and Annette Gourgey, on the passing of their mother, Louise Gourgey.

Alan Greenberg, on the passing of his father, Harold Greenberg.

Ira Kalfus, on the loss of his mother, Frieda Kalfus.

Mrs. Lisa Rohde, on the passing of her father, Herbert Brun.

Bequests and Planned Giving

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. To learn how, or for more information, please speak with our executive director, Barbara Reiss.
IN APPRECIATION

Special thanks to:

Our Team of Volunteer Docents
We appreciate those who continue to do a wonderful job guiding all our visitors on public and private tours of the Synagogue. Tours this past season were led by: Shlomo Brody, Zachary Edinger, Sarah Gross, Janet Kirchheimer, Michael Lustig, Barbara Reiss, Rabbi Ira Rohde, Viviene Roumani, and Arthur Tenenholtz.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a docent, please contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

Class Sponsors:
Anonymous, for sponsoring the Spring Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik’s Shabbat Afternoon Class.

Anonymous, for sponsoring the Spring Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik’s Shabbat Afternoon Class.

The Bengio Misrahi Family, for sponsoring a session of Friday Night Lights, in memory of their grandparents, Henri Misrahi and Rachel Amram Bengio.

The Julis Family, for sponsoring the 2018-2019 season of Friday Night Lights.

Chavie Kahn and Heshy Kofman, for sponsoring a session of Friday Night Lights, in commemoration of the nahala of Chavie’s father, R. Solomon Kahn, and in memory of the victims in Pittsburgh.

Tikva and Irwin Ostrega, for sponsoring a Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of Tikva’s father, Ezra Meir Shohet.

Debbie and David Sable, for sponsoring a session of Friday Night Lights, in memory of Rabbi Jack Sable.

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Winter Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik’s Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of Gutman b. Shmuel Nesiya.

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Summer Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of Chana Razel b. Aharon v’Sara.

Minyan Breakfast Sponsors and Supporters:
Anonymous
Arthur Tenenholtz, in memory of his grandmother, Pearl Goldlust.

Kiddush Fund Sponsors:
Anonymous
Anonymous, in honor of the visit by Rabbi Richard Hidary.

Ruthy and Max Benoliel and Shira and Joel Jacobs, in honor of the marriage of their children, Yael and Danny Benoliel.

Joleen and Mitch Julis, in memory of Richard Julis.

Vicki and Sam Katz, in honor of former Member of Knesset Rabbi Haim Amshalem for his great work with “Zera Yisrael.”

Raquel and Dr. Ian Lentnek, in honor of the first birthday of their daughter, Dakota Peri (Nachama Lev).

Suzanne Morad, on the occasion of the first nahala of her father, Said Benjamin Morad.

The Neumark family, in memory of Debby Neumark.

Mary Ellen and James Rudolph

The Schildkraut family, in honor of Eli’s marriage.

Emanuel Vazquez-Senior, in memory of his parents, Ana Senior and Angel Vazquez.

The children and grandchildren of Barbara Herlands Smith, in her honor.

Thanksgiving Festivities Sponsors:
Dr. Martin L. Fox

The Bengualid-Goldstein Family

Esther and Bill Schuler

From Recife to New York Dinner Sponsors:
Ash Haberman Family
Jackie and Andrew Klaber
Liliane Marks
Juan Mesa-Freydell
Joy and Bruce Roberts
Karen and Roy Simon
The Solomon Family
Madeline and Stan Towne

Shabbat Shira Sing-Along Luncheon Sponsors:
Liliane Marks, in memory of her husband, Neville Marks, and in honor of her granddaughter, Elowyn Sage.

Carla and Jonah Schein
Drs. Lu Steinberg and Michael Schuder
The Solomon Family
The Wiznia Family

Remembering Baghdad:
Underwriter:
Ezra Zilkha

Contributors:
Aaron Kaza
Charles Moche
Joseph Mukamal
Kenneth Pinzower
Edward Snyder
Rena Solomon Kadoory
Madeleine and Stan Towne

Scotch and Arak Sponsors:
Dr. Harry Engel
Simon Gerson
Arthur Tenenholtz
Thanksgiving Pack-A-Thon 2018 Donors:

Jeffrey Abraham
Lisa Adams
Heather Andrews
Eric Aubrey
Aufzien Family
Kimberly Blanchard
Ari Burstein
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Angela Carder
Sarit Chalamish
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Laury, Reuben, and Matea Frieber
Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman
Shifra Friedman
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Robert Garson
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A. Goldfeder
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Elana and Bradley Saenger
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Jennifer Smith
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Nathan Stilwell
Lauren Sullivan
Patricia Tesoriero
Susie Verde
Adina and Philip Wagman
Dina Weinstein
Ronald White
David Wildman
Ann Wimpfheimer
Frances Zelazny

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 so we can share the news in our handouts and bulletins.

SHABBAT HAGADOL DERASHA
Shabbat Morning, April 13
Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a major address illuminating the themes of Pesah.

TEEN GIRLS’ SHIR HASHIRIM READING
Eighth Day of Passover, Saturday, April 27
After musaf, the teen girls of our synagogue take part in our unique tradition as they read the Song of Songs for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary after services. For more information, see page x.

GIRLS’ MEGILLAT RUTH READING
First Day of Shabu’ot, Sunday, June 9
Following morning services, the girls of our synagogue recite Megillat B’sheva for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary. If your daughter would like to participate, and we would be delighted if she would, please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-rsi@yahoo.com.

TISHA B’AB LECTURE
Ereb Tisha B’Ab, Saturday Night, August 10
Following the reading of Eikhah, Rabbi Soloveichik gives a major public lecture. Read more about our deeply moving Tisha B’Ab Services on page x.
On the evening of December 16, a very special event was held at Shearith Israel to honor the heritage of the Iraqi Jewish community of Shearith Israel. The event began with a tasty reception featuring Iraqi appetizers and desserts catered by Aodi Zilkha of Beth Torah Caterers. The reception was followed by a well-attended program in the Main Sanctuary—about 350 people filled the sanctuary! The program began with an excerpt from Ezra Zilkha’s “Sephardi Voices” interview as well as an in-person interview with Mr. Zilkha and David Dangoor.

Mr. Zilkha was born in Baghdad to a prominent Iraqi family and is a longtime member of Shearith Israel. We were honored that he could attend and participate in this special program. We then watched the short film What We Left Behind by Professor Henry Green about the Iraqi Jewish Archive. The program then continued with presentations from David Dangoor, Carole Basri, and David Lavipour. Finally, to conclude this wonderful evening we saw a preview of the film Letters from Baghdad.

In addition to the reception and the formal program, a special booklet was prepared with family histories of many of Shearith Israel’s families from Iraq. This beautiful booklet was prepared in memory of Mrs. Cecile Zilkha. You can see a web version of this booklet as well as a slideshow with pictures and family stories on our website at shearithisrael.org/baghdad-heritage.

Following the well-received Remembering Baghdad event, we also held two additional events of interest to the Iraqi Jewish community. In January, we screened the film Letters from Baghdad. The film was introduced by our trustee David Dangoor, who was one of the producers of the film. It tells the history of Gertrude Bell and the creation of the modern state of Iraq. In February, we screened the film The Last Jews of Baghdad by Carole Basri. Ms. Basri introduced the film and also stayed to answer questions afterward. The Last Jews of Baghdad is about the persecution and exodus of the Jewish Community of Iraq from 1940-2000. This event was held in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Baghdad Hangings.

During this Year of Years, we have endeavored to highlight the extraordinary diversity found within the Shearith Israel community. We are extremely proud of our Iraqi Jewish Heritage and hope that these events have helped to highlight this heritage to a larger audience. We are especially thankful to Ezra Zilkha for making this event possible.

My father, Khedouri Zilkha, was born into a successful merchant family in Baghdad. He left school at a young age and started a bank when was just 15 years old! His dream was to have bank branches all over the Middle East. Very early on, he traveled to Istanbul and began trading in precious metals, especially gold, between Istanbul and Baghdad, all the while building his bank. He was able to grow his business by relying on the strength of personal relationships and his strong commitment to ethics.

My mother, Louise Bashi was born into a prominent Baghdadi family. She married my father in 1912. I was born in Baghdad in 1925, the sixth child of seven siblings. My parents had gone to pray at the tomb of Ezra the scribe in Basra - so when I was born they named me Ezra. In the 1920’s a criminal gang, “the Black Hand,” extorted money from several wealthy Baghdad families and threatened our family. As a result, my father moved our family to Beirut when I was very young. I grew up mainly in Beirut. During the 1930’s as my brothers grew up, they entered into my father’s banking business and the firm grew. The Zilkha bank expanded significantly during this time and had branches in Baghdad, Damascus, Beirut, Alexandria and Cairo.
In 1938, my father became nervous about the prospects of war in Europe. He very presciently transferred a significant sum to a New York bank. During the War years, I, together with my siblings and parents, relocated temporarily to New York. We traveled to South Africa and from there came to America in 1941. For my first nine months in America, I was in the “National Hospital for Speech Disorders” to help treat a stutter. Afterward I attended a preparatory school and then attended Wesleyan University for college.

In 1946, after the war, my father returned to Baghdad and I went to work in Hong Kong. But, in 1947, my father realized that the end of British Mandate Palestine and the creation of a Jewish State would dramatically impact our family’s banking business. He returned to New York and told us that we should build our lives in the US and leave the Middle East behind us. My father was right of course. Our bank in Baghdad was expropriated in 1951 and the government of Iraq jailed our employees in order to extort money for their release. Then the Syrian government expropriated our Damascus bank in 1954. Egypt expropriated our Cairo branch in 1956. Finally in 1957 we sold the Beirut bank and left the Middle East completely.

I met my wife Cecile at a Baghdadi wedding in New York in 1950. We danced together and were immediately taken with one another. We were married not long after! The Iny family was a prominent Baghdadi family that had relocated to Teheran in the 1930’s, where my wife was born. Cecile came to the US together with her family in 1948. Both the Zilkha and Iny families became members of Shearith Israel. In those days, Shearith Israel was the only Sephardi synagogue in Manhattan, and many Baghdadi Jews came to Shearith Israel at that time. In particular I remember the Hakak family who were later influential in the creation of the A.A. Society. Of course there were many other Sephardic Jews from throughout the Middle East who came to Shearith Israel during this time as well.

Cecile and I were active in many charities including: Wesleyan University, The Metropolitan Opera, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. We have also been proud of our connection to Shearith Israel, where I arranged for the donation of two special Torah scrolls from Iraq some years ago. I attend services mainly on the high holidays and to commemorate the anniversary of the passing of my relatives. Sadly my wife, Cecile passed away in 2017. Now, as an older man, I look back and am proud of the banking business that my father built, of his dedication to his clients and his reputation for high ethical standards. I have always tried to emulate these ideals. I am proud of the philanthropic endeavors that my wife and I have been involved in, the family we built together, and of course of our Iraqi Heritage.
SISTERHOOD MUSEUM EXCURSION
Sunday, May 5
Yeshiva University Museum
Join the Sisterhood on a trip to the Yeshiva University Museum exhibit on the Kindertransport (German for “Children’s Transport”), the organized rescue effort that brought thousands of Jewish children from Nazi Germany to Great Britain between 1938 and 1940. The exhibition will explore the story of this rescue effort through moving personal stories, artifacts, and engaging media.

MAJOR HISTORY LECTURE: SPOTLIGHT ON WINSTON CHURCHILL
Monday, May 6 | 7:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Join Rabbi Soloveichik as he explores the complex legacy of one of the 20th century’s towering historical figures, Winston Churchill.
Co-sponsored by YU’s Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought.

MAJOR HISTORY LECTURE: SPOTLIGHT ON MENAHEM BEGIN
Sunday, May 19 | 7:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Menashe Begin is one of the most pivotal men in the history of the state of Israel. Come hear Rabbi Soloveichik analyse his philosophy, his actions, and what lessons they hold for us today.
Co-sponsored by YU’s Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought.

HONORING OUR VETERANS OF THE REVOLUTION AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
Sunday, May 19
Chatham Square Cemetery, Shearith Israel’s First Historic Cemetery
Head down to Chatham Square Cemetery in Chinatown to honor members of our congregation who participated in the Revolutionary War. Our historic ceremony and Color Guard is a special Shearith Israel tradition and is open to military veterans, clergy, and members of the community. Join us to place American flags at the graves of our twenty-two veteran congregants. The cemetery, active from 1682-1828, is located at 55 St. James Place, opposite Chatham Square.

YOUNG FAMILIES YEAR-END PICNIC
June 1 | Following Morning Services
Chairled by Zoya Raynes and Rivka Wiznia
Who wants to worry about the weather getting in the way of their picnic lunch? Not us! This year’s end-of-year picnic will be held at the synagogue, where we can enjoy our protected, park-facing Portico as well as the Elias Room.

THREE WEEKS FILM SCREENING
Wednesday, July 31
Faith after the Holocaust is a theme that is rarely touched upon in Holocaust-related documentaries, let alone examined deeply. In the film, More Precious Than Pearls, Shearith Israel member, Naftali Friedman, attempts to explore these ideas through the life of his father, Alex Friedman, a survivor of Nazi concentration camps. The film examines how Alex succeeded in achieving self-renewal as a human being and as a committed Jew, without forgetting the vivid, yet incomprehensibly painful memories of the past.
BEFORE THERE WAS A KING – BOOK OF JUDGES
Sundays through April 14 | 10:00 am
Rabbi David Silber
Tuition: $275; FREE for Shearith Israel members

The book of Judges takes place in the time period following the death of Joshua and during the Jewish nation's transitional period from tribal society to a monarchy.

In this class, Rabbi Silber, Founder and Dean of Drisha, will study the existential and governing challenges faced by the developing Jewish nation during this time period, along with the personalities of the judges, particularly Devora, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson. The class will explore their strengths, their weaknesses, and discuss the overall attitude in the verses toward their leadership and implications for kingship.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY LEARNING WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK
On select Mondays and Tuesdays | 7:00 pm
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Rabbi Soloveichik delivers major lectures on select Mondays and Tuesdays, with Mondays devoted to history, and Tuesdays focused on Judaic/Torah/Talmud content. Dates will be announced in advance, so keep an eye for announcements in our emails, on our website, and on our Facebook page. If you’re not already on the Rabbi’s email distribution, sign up at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

TUESDAY MORNING MINYAN BREAKFAST AND SHIUR
Tuesdays | Following Morning Services
The loyal members of our morning minyan know the pleasure of camaraderie and learning that is especially enjoyed every Tuesday morning. All worshippers are welcome to enjoy breakfast and a short shiur by a member of our clergy.

OPEN BET MIDRASH
Most Weeknights (Monday-Thursday) 5:15 until Evening Services

On most weeknights, men and women, adults and youth, are invited to learn with university-level and rabbinical students from Yeshiva University in the Elias Room at our “Open Bet Midrash.” Learn your way; join a habruta, hear a short debor Torah, or simply pick a sefer off the shelf. Take advantage of this unique opportunity, and don’t hesitate to contact Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org with any questions.

Participants are welcome to stay for evening services and help strengthen our minyan.

FEASTS AND FASTS: THE FESTIVALS IN JEWISH THOUGHT
A Class for Women
Tuesdays | 9:00 am
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Women meet on Tuesdays to examine the rituals that we have been performing our lives. Rabbi Soloveichik sends a reminder email each Monday which includes occasional cancellation notices. Make sure to sign up for this specific email distribution at shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists. Class sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT
Fridays | Following Evening Services
Through Shabbat HaGadol
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

During the chillier months, when Shabbat starts early and the evenings loom long, congregants are invited to stay around for a bit after Friday evening services for an inspiring shiur delivered by Rabbi Soloveichik. There is no better way to transition from the workweek to the aura of Shabbat than experiencing our magnificent Friday night service followed by Friday Night Lights. The 2018-2019 season is sponsored by the Julis family. To sponsor an individual session, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT
Shabbat Afternoon, Year-Round
One Hour Before Mincha
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and frequently cited maxim in Pirkei Abot actually hints at the extraordinary, and unique, life story and worldview of its rabbinic source. What’s more, the chapters of Abot are joined in a structure that tells the story of the transmission of the Oral Law. We will see how studying the history of the rabbinic figures cited lends an entirely new understanding to these statements, and how Abot represents the diverse response of the rabbis to an age of crisis and transition that was, in many ways, not unlike our own. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To find out more, go to shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

To find out when your favorite class is held, canceled, or for special topics, go to shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists.
SPOTLIGHT ON THE SISTERHOOD

By Carla Salomon Schein, Sisterhood President

Recent Events and Initiatives:

Our revitalized Sisterhood has been quite busy since the High Holidays. Beginning with our annual decoration of our Succah, we have held several events and engaged in new projects. On Sunday, February 3, we sponsored an event with Baltimore-based Wrapunzel which featured demonstrations on how to use their scarves and accessories in creating stylish head coverings. Each attendee had the opportunity to try several head wrapping techniques herself. The event was a great success that brought together many Shearith Israel regulars as well as women of various faiths and backgrounds. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit Sharsheret, an organization dedicated to helping Jewish women who are cancer patients and their families. Thanks to Rivka Wiznia for making this happen!

As of this writing, we are in the midst of planning a Judaica Appraisal Event with Jonathan Greenstein, noted antique Judaica authentication expert, who will enlighten us about the field of antique Judaica. Some of Shearith Israel’s treasured objects will be highlighted, with attendees bringing articles for Mr. Greenstein to evaluate and discuss (our own kind of “Antiques Road Show”). Thank you, Rose Edinger, for having the vision for this ambitious event, and for organizing it!

Our annual Purim Mishloah Manot project, spearheaded by Rivka Wiznia and Lisa Rohde, has become an annual tradition that always brings our community closer in celebration of the holiday. Our thanks goes out to all of the participants in this major fundraising event.

Upcoming Events and Initiatives:

A trip to the Center for Jewish History is planned for May 5 to see the Kindertransport exhibit co-sponsored by the Yeshiva University Museum and the Leo Baeck Institute. Laury Frieber is organizing this event.

The Sisterhood is organizing a “Sewing Circle” to help maintain and mend some of the materials used in the Synagogue such as Torah mantels and tallitot. Many years ago this was a regular Sisterhood activity and we hope it will become so again.

After a great three-session knitting course for teenagers led by Karen Daar, the Sisterhood hopes to initiate a “Knitting for Hesed” group, open to all ages.

Lastly, once again the Sisterhood will provide the flowers in the Main Sanctuary for Shavuot, adding beauty and color to the festival’s celebration.

MITZVOT WORKSHOP WITH ZACHARY EDINGER

For Elementary School Aged Children

Final Session of the school year:
Sunday, April 14 | 10:00 am

On select Sundays, our Shamash, Zachary Edinger, leads our PTTS students and CSI youth in an interactive and educational tefillah class. Students learn to sing the melodies of selected prayers from the Shabbat and holiday services as well as learn about the parts of the Torah service, and get trained in the hands-on parts of the service.

For full schedule of workshop dates and registration, visit shearithisrael.org/mitzvot-workshop.

If you would like to learn more and get involved, email Carla at scheinc@ujafedny.org.

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YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

REGISTER FOR OUR TODDLER SUMMER CAMP

Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:30 am - 11:30 am | June 18-August 15

For children ages 16-34 months. Parent or caregiver attendance required.

Registration deadline: May 31, 2018

Toddlers run and jump while enjoying the company of other children on a regular basis. Our beautiful Fidanque Youth Room is equipped with all new furniture, gear, and toys, and when the temperatures rise, our toddlers enjoy small outdoor wading pools on our “beach.” There is time for play, craft projects, exercises, saying berakhot (blessings), snack, stories, music and more.

To register your child, to shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp.

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Mondays and Wednesdays
9:30 am – 11:30 am

For children ages 16-34 months. Parent or caregiver attendance required.

Shearith Israel’s popular Toddler Program is held twice a week for children aged 16-34 months with an adult caregiver. The program focuses on learning colors and shapes, creating arts and crafts, singing songs, exploring Jewish holidays, music and more. For more information, go to shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram.

YOUTH ON SHABBAT

TOT SHABBAT

10:00 am – 11:45 am | ages 0 – 4

Our little ones enjoy Tot Shabbat all year round, led by our beloved teachers, Liz and Shanade. Held in our newly refurbished Fidanque Room, independent play, snacks, and circle-time with songs will entertain the toddlers while parents are in services.

Parents: please note that children under the age of 2 must be accompanied by an adult. Furthermore, children will only be released to their parent or other pre-authorized adult. Please cooperate with these important policies for the safety of your children and everyone else.

YOUTH GROUPS AND JR. CONGREGATION

September – June
10:00 am until the end of services

Children ages 5 – 12 gather in the Elias Room for a fun curriculum of educational and entertaining activities connected to the parasha of the week and other Jewish themes, created by our Youth Group Leader and Programming Coordinator, Nat Bernstein, and Youth Group Leader, Daniela Bernstein. At 10:30 am, the children come together for Junior Congregation, a lively, participatory service in the Little Synagogue (after which they return to the Elias Room with their group leader until the end of services).

For a list of parts your child may lead in Jr. Congregation, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

TEEN GIRLS’ SHIR HASHIRIM READING

Eighth Day of Passover
Saturday, April 27

After maasaf, the teen girls of our synagogue take part in our unique tradition as they read The Song of Songs for the congregation in the Main Sanctuary after services.

Full preparation and training provided. Newcomers welcome! For information and to participate, please contact Hazzan Rabbi Ira Rohde at irohde@shearithisrael.org.

To sponsor the kiddush in the girls’ honor, go to shearithisrael.org/teen-girls-shir-hashirim-2019.

WOMEN’S SHABBAT SERVICES

On select Shabbat Mornings

By and for women, these services are an opportunity for women to lead prayer, read from the Torah and perform the rituals associated with the day’s services.

We welcome the opportunity to celebrate momentous occasions—such as a girl becoming a Bat Mitzvah or a bride before her wedding—in the context of our service. To participate and for more information, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com.

YOETZET HALAKHA

Shearith Israel is a co-sponsor of the Manhattan Yoetzet Halakha Initiative. If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpaha (Family Purity) or the laws of Niddah, please contact our Yoetzet Halakha, Shifty Friedman, in confidence at nycoyoetzet@gmail.com.

Shifty Friedman has been serving as a Yoetzet Halakha in Manhattan since 2017. She graduated from Nishmat’s Miriam Glaubach Center’s U.S. Yoatzot Halakha Fellows Program in 2015. She has been counseling women in the area of women’s health and holakha, both through her role as Yoetzet Halakha in Westchester County and through teaching brides and couples before marriage. Shifty 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 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 Columbia/ Barnard Hillel.

ONE-ON-ONE TOUR OF THE UWS MIKVAH

If you are interested in learning more about Taharat Hamishpaha, the laws of Family Purity, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at 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 mikvot are also possible. Women only.
Caring Connection, our Congregation’s hesed network, trains community members as sensitive volunteers, enabling them to proactively help others through times of need, one of Judaism’s greatest mitzvot. This vital assistance greatly aids the individual, and also strengthens and unifies our community, enhancing our sense of responsibility for one another. This group of volunteers responds to a variety of situations, both in times of difficulty, such as illness or mourning, and times of joy, such as the exciting and often overwhelming challenges accompanying the arrival of a new baby.

Our volunteers coordinate meals to those in need; arrange visits and phone calls to the elderly, homebound, and recuperating; and even provide transport or wheelchair assistance to those who wish to attend synagogue services or events.

If you know someone who might need assistance in any form, or would like to get involved as a volunteer yourself, please email caringconnection@shearithisrael.org. If Caring Connection lacks the expertise or resources to provide appropriate assistance, they do their best to direct people to other congregational and communal organizations.

MEALS FOR MOURNERS AND NEW PARENTS
Shearith Israel’s Caring Connection provides meals for members and their families after the birth of a child, and the Hebra Ha’esed Va’Amot provides mourners and their family with their shiva meals.

If you would like to sponsor a meal, we offer several options and easy ways for you to do so. Simply go to shearithisrael.org/hesed-meals and select the meal type you would like to sponsor. The family will be notified of your generous gesture. Please be assured that our Caring Connection and Hebra volunteers are in touch with the affected families and will ensure that their specific needs (quantities, dietary restrictions, etc.) will be considered. Any surplus sponsorships will be used to ensure that all of our members are provided meals in their times of need.

If you would prefer to cook and deliver your own home-cooked meals, or place food orders on your own rather than participate in Caring Connection’s fund, please contact Layaliza Soloveichik at layaliza@gmail.com beforehand. Layaliza is our congregation’s volunteer coordinator for meals for new parents, and she makes every effort to ensure that the family’s preferences and requests are accommodated and that duplication of efforts are avoided.

Barbara Shahmoon and her husband Sassoon have maintained their links to the Synagogue going back to Sassoon’s parents, Ezra and Lydia, who were part of Shearith Israel back in the days of Rabbi Gerstein, Hazan Abraham and Irma Cardoza (dear friends), and Arnie Goldfarb. Barbara and Sassoon celebrated their wedding here with Rabbi Marc Angel and their son David’s berit, which took place on Shabbat Yom Kippur, 1984. They love their connection to this special and unique Synagogue. It has a deep place in their hearts and family’s history. Even though they now live in Montreal, they have maintained their membership and attend services whenever they come to the city, which is growing in frequency lately since their children, David and Lydia, have left the nest. They welcome you to say hello to them whenever they come to services; they would love to reconnect!

**Ingredients:**
- Chicken:
  - 2 – 3 lbs skinless legs and thighs
  - 1 red pepper, sliced in bite-size pieces
  - 1 fennel, sliced in bite-size pieces

- Marinade (pulse in food processor):
  - 8 cloves garlic
  - 1-inch piece of ginger root
  - ½ cup parsley
  - ¼ cup olive oil
  - ½ tsp oregano or thyme
  - salt and pepper

**Instructions**

Marinate chicken pieces in marinade in plastic bag for 30 minutes or overnight in fridge.

Remove from bag and add red pepper and fennel to chicken and marinade.

Let mixture sit until room temperature.

Bake in roasting pan in one layer.

First at 400 degrees, uncovered for 5 minutes, then 350 degrees, covered for 25 minutes.

Check that chicken is moist and not too dry.

Serve with 3-color quinoa.

Using skinless dark-meat, this marinated chicken is healthy, easy to prepare, and simply delicious. And pairing with tri-color quinoa creates a meal that is light yet very satisfying.

**Marinated Chicken with Red Pepper and Fennel**

by Barbara Shahmoon

Barbara Shahmoon and husband Sassoon have maintained their links to the Synagogue going back to Sassoon’s parents, Ezra and Lydia, who were part of Shearith Israel back in the days of Rabbi Gerstein, Hazan Abraham and Irma Cardoza (dear friends), and Arnie Goldfarb. Barbara and Sassoon celebrated their wedding here with Rabbi Marc Angel and their son David’s berit, which took place on Shabbat Yom Kippur, 1984. They love their connection to this special and unique Synagogue. It has a deep place in their hearts and family’s history. Even though they now live in Montreal, they have maintained their membership and attend services whenever they come to the city, which is growing in frequency lately since their children, David and Lydia, have left the nest. They welcome you to say hello to them whenever they come to services; they would love to reconnect!
We often recall the twenty-three Jews from Recife, Brazil, who were the founders of Congregation Shearith Israel, but the Friday night program on December 15, From Recife to New York, following an especially inspirational service and a special community meal, was a new take. The subject was not New Amsterdam, but rather the Bnei Anusim of northern Brazil, descendants of Iberian Jews who underwent forced conversions but maintained a secret Jewish identity. Aldrey Ribeiro de Brito, who was born in Campina Grande – Paraiba, Brazil, told us “My grandfather lit hidden candles on Friday evening, and his only explanation was ‘because my grandmother did it.’ We never ate pork.” It was particularly striking when he told us that upon first hearing Had Gadyah at a Passover seder, “I recognized the words that my grandmother had sung to me as a child at bedtime.” Once he became aware of his Jewish roots, he underwent a conversion to officially return to Judaism. “‘Until 120’ is what my grandmother wished me on my birthday, and when I asked why 120, she said ‘do you want more? It’s a good number.’”

Coincidently, four days after the program, the prestigious journal Nature Communications, in an article on Latin American genealogy, reported a significant Sephardic heritage among some Latin American communities that was consistent in origin with the expulsion and forced conversion of Spanish and Portuguese Jews.

The Friday evening program, moderated by Rabbi Soloveichik, was introduced by longtime Shearith Israel member, Sam Katz, who described his introduction to Rabbi Haim Amsalem, author of the magnum opus Zera Yisrael (“Seed of Israel”), which addresses Jewish identity and conversion. Rabbi Amsalem, who was born in Algeria and immigrated to Israel in 1970, is a former member of Knesset who is on a compassionate mission to help reconnect Bnei Anusim communities, descendants of an estimated quarter million 15th Century Sephardic Jews, to their Jewish roots. He spoke of his goals in Hebrew, with Rabbi Soloveichik translating. We then heard from Rabbi Gilberto Venturas, who, with his wife Jacqueline, has been active in working with Bnei Anusim for twenty-five years; they currently provide support to more than twenty communities of Bnei Anusim throughout Brazil in many ways, including classes, celebrating Jewish holidays, and even WhatsApp consultation. They were amazed initially at how many Brazilians approached them, eager to return. Rabbi Venturas translated for Aldrey Ribeiro de Brito, who spoke next in Portuguese.

Finally, we heard about the Zera Israel Foundation, from Arie Toledano, the founder. He is a native of Morocco who lives in Jerusalem, and was an accomplished international businessman until he took on the goal of helping the “millions of seeds of Israel” from around the world to reconnect to Judaism. The program then ended with a description of the Foundation’s plans and efforts by Chen Hay, the Foundation’s Managing Director.

It is sobering to think of the millions of individuals descended from Spanish and Portuguese Jews who were forced to convert, and especially those who retained at least some memory of their Jewish heritage for hundreds of years. Shabbat Vayiggash, with its story of the reuniting of brothers, was an especially meaningful time to learn about some of those millions who have chosen to return to Judaism, and to know that others, throughout the Americas and elsewhere, are being offered support and encouragement if they wish to do so.

Vivienne Roumani is an active member of Shearith Israel, and a frequent volunteer docent for synagogue tours.
SHABBAT SERVICES

April 5th-6th Shabbat Rosh Hodesh-Hohadesh
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............. 7:07 pm
Friday Evening Services [Early]............. 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services............... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot........................................ Jacob Daar
Parashat Tazria-Rosh Hodesh-Hohadesh
Haftarah........................................ Joseph A. Solomon Ezekiel 45:18-46:15, Isaiah 66:1 & 23
Class............................................. 6:00 pm
Minhah & Arbit................................ 7:00 pm
Saturday Sunset................................ 7:26 pm
Habdalah........................................ 8:02 pm
Shabbat Hohadesh derives its name from the special reading of the Torah, Exodus 12:1-20. This “portion about the month” refers to the special consecration of Nisan, the month of Passover. In 5779, Shabbat Hohadesh coincides with Nisan 1, Rosh Hodesh, itself.

April 12th-13th Shabbat HaGadol 1818 – 2nd Mill St. Consecration Anniversary
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............. 7:14 pm
Friday Evening Services [Early]............. 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services............... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot........................................ Sjimon Den Hollander
Haftarah Malachi 3:4-24.............. Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Class............................................. 6:10 pm
Minhah & Arbit................................ 7:10 pm
Saturday Sunset................................ 7:33 pm
Habdalah........................................ 8:30 pm
Shabbat HaGadol, the “ Sabbath of the Great [One]” is the designation used for the Sabbath just preceding Passover, which was always the occasion for a sage of rank to exhort the congregation concerning Passover. At Shearith Israel, this Shabbat is also observed as the anniversary of the consecration of its 2nd Mill St. Synagogue Building, completed and dedicated just in time for Passover 1818.

May 3rd-4th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............. 7:36 pm
Friday Evening Services [Early]............. 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services............... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot.......................................... Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Ahare Moth..................... Lev. 16:1-18:30
Haftarah I Samuel 20:18-42............. Avi Friedman
Class............................................. 6:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit................................ 7:30 pm
Saturday Sunset................................ 7:55 pm
Habdalah........................................ 8:35 pm

May 10th-11th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............. 7:43 pm
Friday Evening Services [Early]............. 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services............... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot.......................................... Jacob Daar
Parashat Kesodim......................... Lev. 19:1-20:27
Haftarah Ezekiel 20:2-20................. Eli Sason
Class............................................. 6:35 pm
Minhah & Arbit................................ 7:35 pm
Saturday Sunset................................ 8:02 pm
Habdalah........................................ 8:42 pm

May 17th-18th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)............. 7:50 pm
Friday Evening Services [Early]............. 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services............... 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot.......................................... Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Emor............................... Lev. 21:1-24:23
Haftarah Ezekiel 44:15-31............. Laurent Nahon
Class............................................. 6:45 pm
Minhah & Arbit................................ 7:45 pm
Saturday Sunset................................ 8:09 pm
Habdalah........................................ 8:49 pm

— continued —
May 24th-25th Consecration Shabbat
1897-1907 Street Consecration Anniversary
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............7:56 pm
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Avery E. Neumark
Parashat Nasso ...................................Numbers 4:21-7:89
Haftarah..................................................Judges 13:2-25
Minhah & Arbit........................................8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:30 pm
Habdalah................................................8:56 pm

The Shabbat after Lag LaOmer is the anniversary of the consecration of our current synagogue building on 70th St. and Central Park West, which was completed and dedicated on Lag LaOmer in 1897, in time to open it to worshippers for Shabbat that year.

May 31st-June 1st
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:02 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Behukkothai ......................Leviticus 25:1-end
Haftarah Jeremiah 16:19-17:14.............Noah Lang
Class ...................................................6:55 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit......................7:55 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:21 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:02 pm

June 7th-8th Shabbat on Eve of Shabuot
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:07 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Matthew Kaplan
Shabbat Minha & Shabuot Arbit ...............8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset.................................8:26 pm
Shabat Ends/Light Festival Candles...........9:07 pm
Mishmarah/Tikkun: Late Class.................11:00 pm
(See Festival of Shabuot for further schedule)

June 14th-15th
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:11 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Zachary S. Edinger
Parashat Naos .....................................Numbers 4:21-7:89
Haftarah..................................................Samuel 1:1-22
Judges 13:2-25.....................................7:05 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit......................8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:29 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:10 pm

June 21st-22nd
Friday Evening Services [Early*]..............6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Jacob Daar
Parashat Beha'alotseha ...............Numbers 8:1-12:16
Haftarah..................................................Jacob P. Seligson
Zacharias 2:14-4:7.................................7:05 pm
Class ...................................................8:00 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit......................8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:31 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:13 pm

June 28th-29th
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:13 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Sjimon Den Hollander
Haftarah..................................................Steven Bielski
Joshua 2:1-24.....................................7:05 pm
Class ...................................................8:00 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit......................8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:31 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:13 pm

July 5th-6th
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:12 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Korah ....................................Numbers 16:1-18:3
Haftarah..................................................I Samuel 11:14-12:22
Judges 11:1-33......................................7:00 pm
Saturday Minhah & Class.....................8:00 pm
Saturday Minha & Arbit.......................8:05 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:27 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:10 pm

July 12th-13th
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:10 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Jacob Daar
Parashat Hukkah ................................Numbers 19:1-22:1
Haftarah..................................................Judges 11:1-33
Saturday Minhah & Class.....................7:00 pm
Saturday Minha & Arbit .......................8:00 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:27 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:10 pm

July 19th-20th
Friday Evening Services [Early*]..............6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:06 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Sjimon Den Hollander
Parashat Balak ..............................Numbers 22:2-25:9
Haftarah..................................................Lewis Barzman
Micah 5:6-6:8......................................6:55 pm
Saturday Minhah & Class.....................7:55 pm
Saturday Minha & Arbit.......................8:25 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:25 pm
Habdalah..............................................9:05 pm

July 26th-27th Shabbat Dibre
Friday Evening Services.........................6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............8:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Matthew Kaplan
Parashat Pinhas ................................Numbers 25:10-30:1
Haftarah..................................................Zachary S. Edinger
Jeremiah 1:1-23
Class ...................................................6:50 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....................7:50 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:17 pm
Habdalah..............................................8:59 pm

The Three Weeks between the Fast of the 17th of Tamuz and the Fast of the 9th of Ab are a traditional period of mourning and penitence for Jerusalem and the Temple; prophetic passages of reproof and foreboding are designated as the haftarot readings on the three intervening Sabbaths. Sephardic custom is to refer to these Sabbaths by the opening words of the particular haftarah read on that day. Shabot Dibre is the first; its reading is the opening of the Book of Jeremiah. All three haftorot are chanted in a dirge of lament, although each ends on notes of comfort.

August 2nd-3rd Shabbat Shimiu
Friday Evening Services [Early*]..............6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)..............7:53 pm
Saturday Morning Services....................8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot..................................................Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Mattoh-Mase .......................Numbers 30:2-end
Haftarah..................................................Charles Gourgey
Jeremiah 2:4-28 and 4:1-2
Class ...................................................6:45 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit.....................7:45 pm
Saturday Sunset......................................8:10 pm
Habdalah..............................................8:51 pm

Shabot Shimiu continues the theme of reproof and ominous foreboding with a reading from the second chapter of Jeremiah.

— continued —
**August 9th-10th Shabbat Hazon**

**Friday Evening Services**
6:45 pm
Candles* (18 min. before sunset)............7:35 pm
Saturday Morning Services..............8:30-11:45 am
Zemiriot (18 min. before sunset)............7:35 pm
Parashat Devarim.............Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Hafтарah.......................................Rabbi Ira Rohde

Isaiah 1:1-27
Shabbat Afternoon Minhah.............3:30 pm
Sat. Sunset (Fast Begins)..............8:01 pm
End of Shabbat..........................8:42 pm
Eve of the Fast Arbit Service...........9:00 pm

Shabbat Hazon refers to the opening “vision” of the Book of Isaiah, parallel to the opening prophetic vision of the book of Jeremiah which was read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the group of these three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read by the hazzan or some other scholar who is “well-versed in lamentation,” as it is at Congregation Shearith Israel. This year the 9th day of the Month of Ab falls on Shabbat, and the Fast is put off until the following day; so that this year Shabbat Hazon is the Eve of the Fast of Ab. Saturday afternoon Minhat is held early at 3:30 pm, so that all may go home to eat their Third Meal at suppertime and begin their fast by sunset (8:01), concluding the Sabbath at 8:42 by reciting “barukh hamahidal ben kodesh lehol,” and returning to the synagogue for the Motza’e Shabbat/Fast of Ab Arbit Service, which is called for 9:00 pm. The service begins immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read by the hazzan or some other scholar who is “well-versed in lamentation,” as it is at Congregation Shearith Israel. This year the 9th day of the Month of Ab falls on Shabbat, and the Fast is put off until the following day; so that this year Shabbat Hazon is the Eve of the Fast of Ab. Saturday afternoon Minhat is held early at 3:30 pm, so that all may go home to eat their Third Meal at suppertime and begin their fast by sunset (8:01), concluding the Sabbath at 8:42 by reciting “barukh hamahidal ben kodesh lehol,” and returning to the synagogue for the Motza’e Shabbat/Fast of Ab Arbit Service, which is called for 9:00 pm. The service begins immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks. This last of the three haftorot, the one which immediately precedes the Fast of Ab, is often read during the preceding two weeks.
**FESTIVAL OF SHABUOT (Two-Day)**

**PENTECOST, THE FEAST OF WEEKS**

**Saturday Eve, June 8th - Monday, June 10th**

**Shabbat on the Eve of Shabuot**

**Friday Eve, June 7th - Saturday, June 8th**

(Full schedule listed under Shabbat Services)

**Eve of the First Day of Shabuot**

**Saturday Evening, June 8th**

Shabbat Minhah & Shabbat Arbit .......... 8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel .......... 9:00 am
Taking Out Torah & Readings .......... 9:50-10:45 am
Exodus 19:1-20:23 (The Ten Commandments)
Hafirah ......................... Ezekiel 1:28 & 3:12
Musaf & Sermon ................. 10:45-11:25 am
Girls’ Reading Book of Ruth .......... 11:30-12:50 am
Bat Mitvah ................. Eloise Bregman

**Eve of the Second Day of Shabuot**

**Sunday Evening, June 9th**

Reading Intro & 1st Part of Azharot .......... 7:30 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) .......... 8:00 pm
Sunday Evening Sunset ............ 8:26 pm
Candle Lighting ............. after 8:53 pm

**Second Day of Shabuot Morning**

**Monday Morning, June 10th**

Zemirot ......................... 8:15 am
Shahrit, Hallel, Sermon, Musaf .......... 9:00-11:50 am

**Second Day of Shabuot Conclusion**

**Monday Evening, June 10th**

Reading 2nd Part of Azcharot ............. 7:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit .......... 8:00 pm
Monday Evening Sunset .......... 8:27 pm
Monday Evening Habadalah .......... 8:54 pm

Shabuot, The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost comes on the fifteenth day, just after the 7-week Omer period between the beginnings of the barley and wheat harvests, and traditionally commemorates the Revelation at Sinai seven weeks after the Israelites left Egypt.

The Book of Ruth is traditionally read on Shabuot, since it deals with both the Israeli grain harvest at this time of year, which this festival marks, as well as acceptance of the Torah, in this case by Ruth as a faithful convert. The younger girls of the congregation who take part are pre-assigned a few verses each, which they carefully rehearse, learning to chant them according to the congregation’s unique traditional cantillation system for the Book of Ruth. Girls wishing to take part, or their parents, should please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde (lirohde-csi@yahoo.com) well in advance of the festival. The girls will read their portions at the end of Sunday Morning Services at 11:30 am.

Azharot (“Admonitions”) is the name given to the poem by Shelomo Ibn Gabirol with introduction by David Ibn Eleazar Pekudah. It enumerates all 613 Commandments of the Torah in rhymed verse. The introduction and the first part, which lists the 248 positive Commandments, is read on Sunday evening at 7:30, before Minah. The second part, which enumerates the 365 negative Commandments, is read on Monday evening at 7:30, before Minah. The poem is chanted by the men and boys of the congregation to the Spanish & Portuguese traditional Shabuot melody in round-robin style, with each participant leading two lines at a time.

**MINOR HOLIDAYS**

**Rosh Hodesh Nisan (One-Day)**

Shabat Rosh Hodesh - HaHodesh Friday Evening, April 5th through Saturday, April 6th
(For Services see Shabbat Schedule)

**Yom HaShoah**

Holocaust Remembrance Day
Wed. Eve, May 1st through 11th, May 2nd
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

**Rosh Hodesh Iyar (Two-Day)**

Saturday Evening, May 4th through Sunday & Monday, May 5th & 6th
(For Services see Shabbat & Daily Schedule)

**Yom Ha’Atzma’ut**

Israel Independence Day
Wednesday Evening, May 8th through Thursday, May 9th
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

**Lag La’Omer**

Wednesday Evening, May 22nd through Thursday, May 23rd
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

**Memorial Day Legal Holiday**

Monday, May 27th
Morning Service (Shahrit) ................. 8:00 am
Evening (Minha & Arbit) Services .......... 6:30 pm

**Yom Yerushalayim**

Jerusalem Reunification Day
Sat. Eve, June 1st through Sunday, June 2nd
(For Services see Shabbat & Daily Schedules)

**Rosh Hodesh Sivan (One-Day)**

Monday Evening, June 3rd through Tuesday, June 4th
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

**Rosh Hodesh Tammuz (Two-Day)**

& American Independence Day
(Fourth of July Legal Holiday)

Tuesday Evening, July 2nd through Wednesday & Thursday, July 3rd & 4th
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday Eves
Eve of the First Day of Shabuot, The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost

(For Services see Shabbat & Daily Schedules)

**Fast of the Seventeenth of Tammuz**

Shiba Asar BeTammuz (Observed)
Sunday, July 21st
Dawn (Fast Begins) ................. 4:00 am
Sunrise ................... 5:42 am
Morning Service (Shahrit) .......... 8:00 am
Minhah (men wear tefillin) .......... 7:30 pm
Sunset .................. 8:22 pm
End of Fast ............... 8:50 pm
The Fast of Tammuz commemorates the breach of the city walls of Jerusalem as well as the destruction of the first tablets of the Ten Commandments following the sin of the Golden Calf. Shabat postpones it to Sunday.

**Rosh Hodesh Ab (One-Day)**

Thursday Evening, August 1st through Friday, August 2nd
(For Services see Daily Schedule)

— continued —
MINOR HOLIDAYS (Cont’d)

Fast of (the 9th of) Ab
Tisha BeAb (Observed)
Eve of the Fast, Saturday, August 10th
Saturday Afternoon Minnah..................3:30 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset (Fast Begins) ..........8:01 pm
End of Shabbat....................................8:42 pm
Eve of the Fast Arbit Service ......................9:00 pm
Fast of Ab Day, Sunday, August 11th
Morning Service..............................8:00 am-12:15 pm
Sunday Minnah & Arbit..........................7:00 pm
Sunday Evening Sunset .........................8:00 pm
End of Fast & Habdalah (wine only)...........8:27 pm
The Fast of (the Ninth of) Ab, three weeks after
the Fast of Tammuz, commemorates the breaching
of the Temple Mount fortifications and the dates of
destruction of both the First and Second Temples. Shabbat postpones the fast to Sunday this year.

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Friday Evening, August 30th through
Saturday, Aug. 31st & Sunday, Sep. 1st
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Elul:
Fri. & Sat. Services follow Shabbat Schedule
Sunday Morn Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf...........8:00 am
Sunday Eve Minnah, Arbit & *Selihot...........6:30 pm
*Sep. 1-Oct. 6 Selihot after Daily Arbit

Rosh Hashanah, 5780
Sunday Eve, Sep. 29th through
Mon. Sep. 30th & Tue., Oct. 1st
Shabbat Teshubah, 5780
Fri. Eve, Oct. 4th through Sat. Oct. 5th
Yom Kippur, 5780
Tue. Eve, Oct. 8th through Wed., Oct. 9th
First Two Days of Succot, 5780
Sunday Eve, Oct. 13th
through Mon. & Tue., Oct. 14th & 15th
Shabbat Hol HaMoed Succot, 5780
Fri. Eve, Oct. 18th through Sat. Oct. 19th
Shemini Hag Aseret, 5780
Simhat Torah, 5780
Mon. Eve, Oct. 21st through Tue., Oct. 22nd
Shabbat Bereishit (Shabbat Hatanim), 5780
Fri. Eve., Oct. 25th through Sat. Oct. 26th

DAILY SERVICES
Mornings:
Monday-Friday, Shahrit.........................7:15 am
Sundays & Legal Holidays, Shahrit...........8:00 am
Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:
Mar. 10th-May 30th, Minnah & Arbit.........6:30 pm
June 2nd-July 25th, Minnah & Arbit.........6:45 pm
July 28th-Aug. 29th, Minnah & Arbit.........6:30 pm
Sep. 1-Oct. 6, Minnah, Arbit & Selihot........6:30 pm

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FALL HOLIDAY PREVIEW

STAY CONNECTED

CONNECT WITH US

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Sign up for any or all of our email lists! Visit shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists

Share on Facebook
Have you attended a Shearith Israel tour, lecture, or event that you loved? Leave a post on our Facebook page so that others can share your enthusiasm!

To learn about upcoming events and fascinating historical Shearith Israel tidbits, follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc.

DON’T MISS RSVP DEADLINES
Enroll in our text messaging service at: shearithisrael.org/text-message-notifications
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.

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 Cyprus Hills, Queens. These donations ensure a strong future through engaging educational programs with rigorous ritual and liturgical training for youth including PTTS, our Toddler Programs, Junior Congregation, and 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.

KIDDUSH FUND
The congregational kiddush is an opportunity for congregants and visitors to socialize and mingle after services, humbly serving an important congregational function. 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 fellow congregants to catch up with friends, meet new members and guests, and greet synagogue leaders.

SPONSOR SCOTCH AND ARAK
In addition to our weekly Kiddush sponsors and contributors we are now also accepting sponsors for the scotch and arak that we make available each week.

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
The Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund is a charitable arm of our congregation. These funds are designated by our rabbis for members in need and communities in crisis. This past year, our funds have assisted a number of members who have hit hard times as well as important causes such as the Houston Jewish Community recovering from flooding, the Food Bank for NYC and worthy institutions in Israel.

CLASS AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS
Help us strengthen educational initiatives at Shearith Israel by supporting a warm and inviting atmosphere to learn, debate, and grow together as a community. Sponsor a class, Monday Night Learning, minyan breakfast, Tuesday morning women’s class, Tuesday evening Talmud shiur or Shabbat afternoon class. Or, contribute to sponsor an event, such as academic symposiums, lectures, and discussions with Jewish scholars from around the world and maintain our synagogue as a leader in contemporary Jewish dialogue.

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. 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 and Young Leadership 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, 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.

Thank you for enabling the continuation and strengthening of our congregation’s mission and legacy.
We hope to see you soon! Here are a few great ways to stay connected and get more involved at Shearith Israel:

- Come to an event: Our full events calendar is available online
- Join our email list: Get weekly invites to our events and classes
- Take a class
- Make a donation
- Become a member
- Work with youth
- Help host or organize an event
- Join a committee
- Sponsor a kiddush
- Support our historic preservation projects
- Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc