Shearith Israel is Proud to Co-Sponsor Two Unique Opportunities for Women to Learn from Yoetzet Halakha, Shiffy Friedman

Medicine, Halakha, and the Modern Woman
Wednesday, March 27 | 7:30 pm | Women Only
Hosted at: Congregation Ramath Orah, 550 W110 Street
Join a discussion about common issues relating to women’s health and mikvah, presented by Shiffy Friedman, and OB/GYN Dr. Theresa Linsner.

Top 10 Myths and Misconceptions in Keeping Taharat Hamishpaha
Tuesday, April 2 | 7:30 pm | Women Only
Hosted in a private home on the UWS—address provided upon RSVP
Join Shiffy Friedman for a discussion of the Top 10 Myths and Misconceptions in Keeping Taharat Hamishpaha (Jewish Family Purity Law), including issues of mental health and anxiety that can arise from keeping Taharat Hamishpaha, and how the laws of Taharat Hamishpaha can remain relevant for married women of all ages and stages.
To RSVP, visit tinyurl.com/misconceptions-rsvp.

Choir Selections This Shabbat
Friday Night
V’Shamru (p. 166) | Samuel Naumberg (#1)
Psalm 23 (p. 174) | Leon Kramer
Yigdal (p. 177) | “Mi Kamokha” melody traditional for Shabbat Zkorah
Shabbat Morning
Yehi Hasdeka (p. 215) | Leon Hyman
Tebilat (p. 216) | #3 (Arr. Siegfried Landau)
En Kelohenu (p. 229) | Traditional Purim melody (Italian)
Adon Olam (p. 232) | Salamone Rossi

Erasring Amaele in Modern Times
—Steven Gottlib and Asher Shanabrook—

This Shabbat and Keriah HaTorah is a two for one, both Paatshat Vayikra, the first parasha in Sefer Vayikra, but also Paatshat Zkorah.

At the beginning of the parasha, Kashi comments that the word “Vayikra,” “and He called” is a call of affection from G-d to Israel. Given that Vayikra is a sefer full of korbanot and halakhat, it is difficult to see the affection that G-d puts into the beginning of the sefer. Behind all of the enigmatic rituals, we see that G-d gives us powerful ideas, meant as gifts from a loving Father to his children.

One such example is in the second aliya, we have the paatshak concerning the Korban Olah “[The kohen] shall remove its crop [of a dove] with its contents, and cast it into the place of the ashes, at the east side of the altar” (Vayikra 1:16). The Ramban comments that the word used for “content” in the paatshak has the connotation of something disgusting. The Gemara in Zeraachim 61 explains the procedure as cutting out the disgusting contents of the korban, and then disposing of them on the easternmost section altar, which the Ibn Ezra notes is the farthest away from the Sanctorum. Surely the strong language and striking action described in the Torah is not without significance. From one simple step of the Korban Olah, we see the message that even the holiest of offerings contain fault, and it is our imperative to remove that which contaminates the pure. This is true for us as well, as though we may be good and holy people, we still can, and must try to remove our negative qualities.

The same idea can be mirrored in a deeper understanding of Amaele. Rav Hirsch writes that even in our time, the people of Amaele are no longer a threat, but the idea in the Torah of Amaele, like everything in the Torah, lasts forever. Today, we fight the idea of Amaele by keeping ourselves up right, removing that which is antithetical to the Torah, and staying true to our ethos and values.

Purim was a time in which we exemplified this idea. Not only did we rid the world of Haman, a descendant of Amaele, but the Jewish people purged themselves of their errors committed in feasting with Ahashverosh on the kelim of the Beit Hamidash, and united under Esther and Mordecai, confirming their commitment to Hashem and His torah. ‘Ben zam hazeh in our current times, we can take the lessons from the Korban Olah and from the mitzvah of Zekher Amaele and with Hashem’s help remove the bad, and elevate the good within each and every one of us. Shabbat Shalom and Purim Allegre!

Steven Gottlib and Asher Shanabrook are both university students in our ongoing Open Bet Mitzvah program with Rabbi Yisetzky, which meets on most weeknights, from 5:15 until evening services. Every Thursday, one of our students delivers a short dekor torah — come next week to learn more! If you have any questions, please contact Z. Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

Candlelighting | 6:44 pm
Evening Services | 6:30 pm
Friday Night Lights | Rabbi Soloviechik | “Memory and Memento” | 2018-2019 season sponsored by the Julis Family.
Morning Services | Main Sanctuary | 8:15 am
Tov Shabbat | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Fidnique Youth Room
Youth Groups | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room
Junior Congregation with Torah Reading | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue Lecture | Rabbi Soloviechik | “The Merchant of Venice and the Pirkei deVenice”
Kiddush Luncheon | Levy Auditorium | Sponsored by Mary Ellory and James Ralph in memory of Sol and Besie Feffer and Leon and Dina Sehab, and in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary, and by Ina & Steve Beispel, in honor of Paul Beispel’s 90th birthday.
Shabbat Afternoon Shuir | Rabbi Soloviechik | 5:40 pm | “Reading and Singing the Megillah” | Levy Auditorium
Evening Services | 6:40 pm
Habdala | 7:37 pm

Purim begins on Wednesday night. See inside for full Purim schedule.

Weekday Service Times
Mornings: Sunday: 8:00 am | Monday-Friday: 7:15 am
Evenings: Sunday-Tuesday, & Thursday (Minha & Arbib): 6:30

Central Park West at 70th Street, New York City | www.shearithisrael.org
PURIM AT SHEIRITH ISRAEL

CSI Youth Presents: Megillat Esther Puppet Show
Wednesday, March 20 | Arrive at 7:00 pm for 7:15 showtime
We welcome back The Talking Hands Theatre puppet show during the reading of the Megillah this year! All children are invited for an interactive Purim puppet show featuring big, colorful, Carnivale-inspired puppets. The audience is invited to sing, dance, learn a Middle Eastern rhythm, play "Haman Says," and get to know the characters of the Purim story. Children under 2 must be accompanied by their own caregiver.
If you would like to sponsor our Purim youth festivities, visit shearithisrael.org/purim-youth.

Annual Women’s Megillah Reading
Thursday, March 21 | 8:00 am
(Following 7:15 am Morning Services)
All women are invited to join in this beautiful annual tradition. Come listen and be inspired!

Annual Purim Breakfast
Thursday, March 21 | Following megillah readings
Every year we treat our congregation to a festive Purim Breakfast, following the 8:00 am readings of the megillah on Purim morning. To help ensure that we have we have plenty of hamantaschen to go around, visit shearithisrael.org/purim-breakfast.

Don’t Forget to Give Matanot La’Eylonim
It is one of the mitzvot of Purim to give charity to the poor. You can easily fulfill this mitzvah through the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund. Donate online, or send a check made out exactly to "Cong. Shearith Israel Rabbis Discretionary Fund" (in the memo, write: "Purim").
Your gifts will be distributed by Rabbi Soloveichik on Purim to those in need.
Go to shearithisrael.org/matanot to donate.

Shabbat Zachor/Mi Khamokha
This week, the Shabbat preceding Purim, we add Deut. 25:17-19, which begins with the word “Zachor” - "Remember [Amalek]." Haman, because of his wicked designs to exterminate the Jewish people, was thought to have been a spiritual descendant of Amalek, the first presumed “annihilators” of the Israelites. Sephardic congregations everywhere mark the occasion with the reading of Yehuda Halevy’s poem, “Mi Khamokha” as we do at 9:00 am as a prelude to Shabbat.

PURIM SCHEDULE

Fast of Esther, Wednesday, March 20
Dawn (Fast Begins).......................... 5:38 am
Morning Service............................. 7:15 am
Eve of Purim, Wednesday Evening, March 20
Minha (men wear tefflin)..................... 6:30 pm
Arvit Service.................................. 7:00 pm
Reading of Megillah.......................... 7:15 pm
End of Fast..................................... 7:30 pm
Following Megillah: Purim Dinner for Registered Guests
Late Reading of Megillah...................... 9:00 pm
Purim Day, Thursday, March 21st
Morning Service.............................. 7:15 am
Morning Reading of Megillah............. 8:00 am
Women’s Megillah Reading................ 8:00 am
Following Megillah: Purim Breakfast for All
Late Morning Reading of Megillah...... 11:00 am
Purim Day Minha & Arvit Services...... 6:30 pm
End of Day.................................... 7:31 pm
Purim Shushan, Friday, March 22
Morning Service.............................. 7:15 am

Sisterhood Mishloah Manot Pickup
Wednesday Evening, March 20 & Thursday Morning, March 21 | Outside Levy Auditorium
If you selected the pickup option online for your mishloah manot, you can pick up your package at the Synagogue on Purim outside Levy Auditorium. Otherwise, you will receive a card with well-wishes. Purim Allegré!

2019 New York Sephardic Jewish Film Festival
March 6-20
The Center for Jewish History, 15 W 16th Street
Shearith Israel is a proud co-sponsor of the 2019 New York Sephardic Jewish Film Festival. Shearith Israel members can get discounted tickets (see below). The festival showcases films about Jewish communities in Morocco, France, Spain, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Syria, and Iraq. Many films will be followed by a Q&A session with the directors as well as other guests.
Visit nysephardifilmfestival.org to select the film(s) you’d like to see and use discount code SHEIRITH.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
Toddler Summer Camp
June 18-August 15 | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 am
For ages 16-34 months | Caregiver attendance required
During our summer session, weather permitting, we enjoy outdoor time with small wading pools outside on our Portico “beach,” in addition to the beautiful Fidanque Youth Room. There is time for play, craft projects, exercises, saying berakhot (blessings), snack, stories, music and more.
To learn more and enroll, visit shearithisrael.org/toddler-summer-camp.

Are You a Part of Our Morning Minyan?
Morning minyan participants are treated to a breakfast of champions (cereal and milk). Jumpstart your day by nourishing your body and soul and help make this minyan strengthening initiative a success. To sponsor, go to shearithisrael.org/cereal.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mazel Tov to Joshua Rozenberg, who is being inducted into the Ben Zakkai Honor Society at the 2nd Annual NCSY Gala Dinner on Sunday, March 17 at Marina Del Rey.
To register and/or contribute, visit ncsy.org/gala.
Condolences to Margaret Guenoun, on the passing of her mother, Bridget Martin.

Public Tours
Our next public tour is Wednesday, April 10, at 11:00 AM
Parnass Office Hours
Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet with you. Please schedule a visit at parnass@shearithisrael.org.