CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue  
2 West 70th Street  
New York, NY 10023
In 1790, only several months before he wrote a famous letter to George Washington, Moses Seixas of Newport sent several halakhic questions to Manuel Josephson, Parnas of Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia and a learned Jew. One question pertained to the shofar that was held by the synagogue, which had a crack in it. Could this shofar be used? Josephson advised him how the shofar could be repaired in a manner that was valid according to Jewish law.

From this, one senses how Seixas, in a Newport where few Jews remained after the Revolution, and where few shofarot were available, still ardently sought to observe punctiliously the Jewish faith. This correspondence must be taken in tandem with the one he sent to America’s first president.

As Seixas wrote to Washington, Jews sought a country which gave “bigotry no sanction, persecution to assistance;” but this freedom brought with it the responsibility to live fully as Jews and as Americans. The shofar itself provides a worthy metaphor, provided by the Jewish writer Cynthia Ozick: “if we blow into the narrow end of the shofar, we will be heard far. But if we choose to be [only] Mankind rather than Jewish and blow into the wide part, we will not be heard at all; for us, America will have been in vain.”

This past July 4th, our congregation took a moving trip to Newport, and we will be returning in November to pray where Moses Seixas once prayed. In pondering his story, we realize that if we work to preserve an America where religious liberty reigns, but also where Jews sound the shofar of their faith, then Moses Seixas will live again.
The first major public program anticipating our Year of Years occurred in the Spring of 2018, with a major symposium conducted by Rabbi Soloveichik titled Passover and the American Imagination. At that time, we paid tribute to our 5778 hatanim, Simon Salama-Caro and Rob Kapito, and their respective families. Since then we have benefitted from a veritable cornucopia of truly memorable programs, including Rabbi Soloveichik’s American history lecture series; a shabbat dinner program with today’s conversos from Recife, Brazil; Iraqi and Egyptian heritage programs; a spirited S&P music program; a special Memorial Day event at our Chatham Square Cemetery; and a July 4th excursion to the Touro Synagogue. We’ve also published a variety of stellar booklets as companions to some of the programs, some of which can be purchased, and all of which are available digitally on our website at www.shearithisrael.org/year-of-years. These were BIG, even glorious events. They will stay with us for years.

There are more to come: Our capstone event is scheduled for September 10. This event will have a strong intellectual component led by Rabbi Soloveichik, who will guide us through the journey of our Torah as we, and our tradition, sojourned of our T orah as we, and our tradition, sojourned from Portugal to the Netherlands to the Americas. We will all be able to participate in a very special, and in some meaningful respects, historic ceremony. We will rededicate our historic Torah Scrolls, adorned by our three sets of Myer Myers rimonim, which we are bringing together, will display together, and will use together for the first time in history. We are incredibly excited for this momentous event and hope all of you attend and bring your family and friends to witness and take part in it. We are also planning a Shabbaton at Touro Synagogue over Veterans Day weekend as well as a Moroccan heritage event later in the year.

Who cannot be supremely proud of the range and quality of these celebrations and achievements? We should feel particularly good about how we’ve gone about and sequenced our Year of Years. First and foremost, it’s been a time of celebration. It has also been the occasion of a necessary and major fundraising campaign. We emphasized the celebrations for quite some time, and we have been gently introducing the fundraising campaign and sometimes bothersome solicitations that come with it. Not that there is any shame in fundraising. It is among the pillars upholding the world, something Jews taught the world to do, something we should embrace, not as a necessary evil but as a mitzvah of the highest, communal order that we have been given the privilege to be a part of. Our celebrations have highlighted the richness of our legacy and the vital need for our financial self-sufficiency to preserve it. We all must be deeply grateful to those congregants and friends who have already stepped up with very generous gifts. I tell you candidly: It is only because of their extraordinary generosity that we have been able to present the magnificent Year of Years events described above.

To finish our Year of Years Campaign on as high a note as we will finish our Year of Years Celebration, we need EVERYBODY’S help, both in the form of time as well as financial participation. We need more members to help make the many solicitation calls that are required in order to reach every single member. And we need every single member to contribute to the best of their ability. If each of us does that, we will all be able to say that, just as our fellow congregants did their part 365 years ago, we, all of us, did our part today. And we will all be able to smile at the thought of inspiring our fellow congregants, 365 years hence, to do their part.

Let me conclude by wishing each and every one of you a blessed new year.

Louis M. Solomon
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Mazal Tob to:

Angelina Drahi and Dr. Daniel Bassiri, upon their marriage.

Eloise Bregman, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Malaika and Gerald Bregman.

Jordana Bruckheimer, daughter of Alexandra and Robert Bruckheimer, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations as well to grandparents Carla and Jon Schein and aunts and uncle Gabrielle and Jeremy Schein.

Yvonne Cohen, upon the marriage of her son, Daniel Cohen to Gilberita Luaj.

Judi and Alan Eisenman, upon the birth of a granddaughter Rory Lou (רות לאה) born to their children Ariana and Jason Eisenman.

Lily Freilich, upon becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Helen and Elliot Freilich, and the entire Freilich family.

Margaret and Andre Guenoun, upon the birth of a grandson Aiden Nathaniel (Aryeh Netanel).

Isaac Haberman, upon his marriage to Rachel McCoy. Congratulations as well to his parents, Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, and to the entire Haberman and McCoy families.

Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, upon the birth of a grandson to their children, William Herlands and Natalia Emanuel. Congratulations as well to aunt and uncle, Susan and Avery Neumark, and to great-grandfather, Melvin Neumark.

Dr. Sarah and Elie Hirschfeld, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Aria, born to their children, Rachel and David Hirschfeld.

Lynn Summers and Roger Mesznik, upon the birth of a grandson, Rafael Gil Mesznik, to their children, Dr. Elizabeth Heller and Adriel Mesznik.

Debbie and David Sable, upon the birth of a granddaughter to Elianna and Yoel Kaye.

Gillian and Simon Salama-Caro, upon the birth of a granddaughter, Ella Sara Lily, born to their son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Emilie.

Martine and Jack Schenker, upon the birth of a granddaughter to their children, Bella and Menachem Levy.

Judy and Joel Schreiber, upon the birth of a great-granddaughter to their grandchildren, Jordan and Kyra Schreiber.

Esther Seligson, upon her marriage to Jonathan Soleimanconfig. Congratulations as well to her parents, Muriel and Alexander Seligson.

Linda and Morris Shamah, upon the marriage of their granddaughter, Elisheva Esses, to Alexander Fuchs.

Dr. Lu Steinberg, the Distinguished Alumna of the Year at the Ferkauf Graduate School’s 2019 Alumni Dinner.


NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel Family:

Ethan Borst
Sondra and Dr. Arnold Rosen
Judith Roumani
Renee and Avram Schreiber
Merry Winslow

HAZAKIM U’BERUKHIM

Members with special achievements:

Matea Frieber, who was selected to compete as a national finalist in the Hidon HaTanakh Bible Contest. She was ranked #1 in the qualifying exams at her school, Park East Day School.

Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes, the Live the Mission honoree at the 8th Annual Sephardic Academy of Manhattan masquerade gala.

Joshua Rosenberg, who was inducted into the Ben Zakkai Honor Society at the 2nd Annual NCSY Gala Dinner.

Oliver Stanton, who was an honoree at Chamah’s annual gala dinner and concert last fall at the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Chamah is dedicated to feeding the hungry, providing medical aid for the elderly and ill, educating the young, and keeping the spark of Judaism alive in Israel, Russia, and the US.


Graduates:

Atticus Bregman, son of Malaika and Anthony Bregman, upon graduating from Bookers T. Washington Middle School. He will attend the Abraham Joshua Heschel High School.

Kiki Bregman, daughter of Malaika and Anthony Bregman, upon graduating from Windward Lower School. She will attend Windward Middle School.

Akiva Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from SAR High School. He will be taking a gap year in Israel, and then attend Washington University in St. Louis.

Isaac Haberman, son of Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, upon graduating from NYU with a masters in Data Science. He will be working for Roku.

Natalie Kahn, daughter of Janegail and Jim Kahn, upon graduating from Ramaz Upper School. She will attend Harvard College.

Gabriel Lang, son of Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang, upon graduating from SAR High School. He will attend the Hartman Institute (Hevruta) in Israel, followed by the University of Michigan.

Dr. Wesley Warren Ludwig, son-in-law of Rachel Neumark, upon graduating from Johns Hopkins residency, specializing in Urology/Robotic Surgery. He has won the award for Outstanding Resident in minimally invasive surgery, and will be joining an Atlanta, Georgia urology practice.

Daniel de Sola Marks, son of Eliza de Sola Mendes, upon graduating from Boston University School of Law.

Louis Nahon, son of Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, upon graduating from Bookers T. Washington Middle School with honors. He will attend The Bronx High School of Science.

Raphael Nahon, son of Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, upon graduating from Bookers T. Washington Middle School with honors. He will attend The Bronx High School of Science.

Elizabeth Uretsky Neumark, wife of Samuel Neumark, daughter-in-law of Susan and Avery Neumark, upon graduating Fordham Law School.

Jared Ninyo, son of Elizabeth and Jak Ninyo, upon graduating from NYC School with his high school diploma. He will attend SUNY Binghamton.

Lia Adielle Solomon, daughter of Beth Goldman and Louis Solomon, upon graduating from SAR High School. She will attend Migdal Oz in Israel.

Flora Tauber, daughter of Natasha and Daniel Tauber, upon graduating from Fieldston Middle School. She will attend Fieldston High School.

Kobi Tiesarsky, son of Robyn and Mark Tiesarsky, upon graduating from Princeton University.

Robyn Tiesarsky, upon graduating from Hebrew Union College with a doctorate in Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Hannah Vorchheimer, daughter of Rachel and David Vorchheimer, upon graduating from SAR High School. After spending her gap year at Migdal Oz, she will attend Barnard College.

Sasuke, upon graduating from Heschel Middle School.

Elizabeth, upon graduating from Ramaz High School.

Shearith Israel Toddler Program Graduates:

Rafael Lubling, Matthew Rosman, Maya Simpson, Aya Shriki, Olivia Spitalny, Sebastian Sruonowitz, Miriam Weinberg, and Evan Znaty

CONDOLENCES

We extend sincere condolences to:

Yaacov Ben-Avi, on the passing of his brother, Moshe Ben-Avi.

Chaim Edelstein, on the passing of his sister, Sarah Friedel.

Daniel Feder, on the passing of his father, Aaron Feder.

Mindy Lamm, on the passing of her sister, Gloria Mehl.

Gabriel Goldstein, on the passing of his mother, Reta Goldstein.

Margaret Guenoun on the passing of her mother, Bridget Martin.

Malvin Newman on the passing of his brother, William Newman.

Alexander Seligson, on the passing of his mother, Anita Seligson.

Barbara Shabmoon, on the passing of her father, Jean H. Schwartz.

Rivka Shoulson (Wiznia) on the passing of her grandfather, Rabbi Solomon Shoulson.

IN APPRECIATION

Special thanks to:

Our team of volunteer docents, 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: Rose Edinger, Zachary Edinger, Janet Kirchheimer, Vivienne Roumani, and Arthur Tenenholtz. If you would like to learn more about becoming a docent, please contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

The Shearith Israel Sisterhood, for sponsoring the gorgeous Shabuot flowers that adorned our Sanctuary.

Gjilberta Luci and Daniel Cohen for their contribution to the Sisterhood for the Shabuot flowers, in honor of their marriage.

Class Sponsors:

Henry G. Rieser, for sponsoring a Shabbat Afternoon Class, in honor of Rabbi Meir Soloveichik.

Scott Shay, for sponsoring the Fall Semester of Rabbi Soloveichik’s Shabbat Afternoon Class, in memory of his mother, Chana Razell bat Aharon v’Sara.

Minyan Breakfast Sponsors and Supporters:

Anonymous, for a full summer semester.

The Haberman Family, in memory of Eva Haberman on the occasion of her second naḥala.

Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, in memory of Philippe Nahon.

Bequests

Please consider including Shearith Israel in your estate planning. To learn more or for more information, please speak with our Executive Director, Barbara Reiss.
Kiddush Fund Sponsors and Contributors:
Anonymous

Angelina Drahi and Dr. Daniel Bassiri, in honor of their wedding.

Malaika and Anthony Bregman, in honor of Eloise’s Bat Mitzvah.

Ina and Steve Beispel, in honor of Paul Beispel’s 90th birthday.

Doina and Dr. Lawrence Bryskin, in memory of Doina’s mother, Hermina Levi, on the occasion of her nahala.

Gjilberta Lucaj and Daniel Cohen, in honor of their recent marriage.

Karen and Jack Daar, in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11’s moon landing.

Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman, in honor of Avi Friedman reading his first Haftarah (with thanks to Rabbi Rohde for teaching him so diligently and to Z for his encouragement) and also in honor of Samuel chanting Kol Yisrael in the large synagogue for the first time.

The Haberman Family, in memory of Eva Haberman on the occasion of her second nahala.

Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, in honor of Isaac’s marriage to Rachel McCoy.

Marco di Laurenti, in honor of Leon Hyman’s birthday.

Hebra Hased vaAmet

The Julis Rabinowitz family, in memory of Maurice Raphael Julis.

Mrs. Lisa Rohde and family, in memory of Lisa’s father, Herbert Brun.

Carla Salomon Schein and Jonah Schein, in honor of their marriage at Shearith Israel 50 years ago.

Rabbi Soloveichik’s Pre-Purim Lecture
Yasmine Ergas and Leonard Groopman
Suzanne and Norman Javitt

Purim Dinner:
Suzanne and Norman Javitt
Carol and Alan Schechter
Karen and Roy Simon
The Solomon Family

Purim Youth Programming Supporters:
Zoya Raynes and Naftali Friedman

Purim Breakfast:
Arthur Tenenholz, in memory of his father, Benjamin Tenenholz.
Joel Tenenholz, in memory of his father, Benjamin Tenenholz.

Shabbat HaGadol Derasha Sponsors:
Debbie and David Sable, in memory of Debbie’s father, Ambassador Yehuda Avner, on the occasion of his nahala.

Kiddush in honor of our Shir HaShirim Readers:
Anonymous
Faith Fogelman

Shabuot Lecture Sponsors and Contributors:
Nicole and Raanan Agus
The Bengio Misrahi Family
John Chapman
Lynette and Jonathan Tulkoff

Kiddush in honor of our Book of Ruth Readers:
Benefactor:
Isabelle and Nugi Jakobishvili
Patron:
The Wiznia Family

Sponsors:
The Roberts Family
The Wolłowsky Family
Supporters:
Laury Frieber
Raquel and Dr. Ian Lentnek, Hudson, and Dakota

Contributors:
Nicole and David Cohen
Faith Fogelman

Graduation Kiddush:
Sponsors:
Janegail and Jim Kahn, in honor of Natalie Kahan.
Elizabeth Flisser Rosman and Adam Rosman, in honor of Matthew Rosman.
The Solomon Family, in honor of Lia Adielle Solomon.

Contributors:
Anonymous
Faith Fogelman, in honor of all the graduates.
Jennifer Ash and Seth Haberman, in honor of Akiva Haberman and Isaac Haberman.
Rachel Neumark Herlands and Jonathan Herlands, in honor of Dr. Wesley Warren Ludwig.
Leslie Cohen and Jeffrey Lang, in honor of Gabriel Lang.
Daniel de Sola Marks, in honor of his graduation from Boston University School of Law.
Francine Alfandary and Laurent Nahon, in honor of Louis and Raphael Nahon.
Natasha and Daniel Tauber, in honor of Flora Tauber.

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.
HOLIDAYS

HIGH HOLIDAYS

INTRO TO SHOFAR
Wednesday, September 4
Learn about the customs and laws of blowing the shofar: Who can blow shofar? What makes a shofar kosher for use? What are the types of sounds to be produced and their different lengths? What are the blessings made over the shofar? (A variety of different shofars, and techniques of blowing will be demonstrated.) For those who are curious about becoming a ba’al tokeah, or simply want to understand more about this special mitzvah. Open to males and females of all ages.

SHABBAT TESHUBA DERASHA
Shabbat Morning, October 5
Rabbi Soloveichik will deliver a major address illuminating the themes of teshuba. To co-sponsor the Kiddush following the derasha, go to shearithisrael.org/shabbat-teshuba2019.

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN
Rosh HaShanah, Kippur, and Succot
During youth groups, children will participate in special holiday activities. For more information, see page 24.

SUCCHOT
LUJAB AND ETROG ORDERS
Orders due before midnight, Thursday, October 10
Purchase your Lulabim and Etrogim through the Synagogue at $68 per set. To place your order, visit shearithisrael.org/lulab. Payment must be made at time of order and before the deadline. (We cannot bill these charges to your account.) For questions contact Zachary Edinger at zedinger@shearithisrael.org.

SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION
Thursday, October 10 | 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Friday, October 11 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sunday, October 13 | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Our unique open-air Elias Room Succah is considered one of the most beautiful in the world. Decorated lavishly and lovingly by the Shearith Israel Sisterhood, who sponsors Succot kiddushim served on vintage Shearith Israel branded Tiffany Limoges china and elegant silver for all congregants to enjoy. Teens and adults, women and men, are invited to help decorate in preparation for the Succot Festival. To participate in this fun mitzvah, contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at lirohde-csi@yahoo.com or Aimee Margolis at art1show@verizon.net or sign up at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5780.

Financial contributions to the Sisterhood’s Succah Fund are also welcome to help defray the costs of decorating and maintaining the succah. To make a contribution to the Sisterhood Succah Fund, please either send a check made out to “Sisterhood of the Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue” indicating “succah fund” in the memo, or make a donation online at shearithisrael.org/sisterhood-succah-decorating-5780.

VISITING SCHOLAR IN THE SUCCAH: DAVID MOSTER
Sponsored by The Shearith Israel League
Thursday, October 17 Following 6:00 pm Evening Services
Rabbi David Moster, one of the foremost etrog experts, explores the etrog’s most pressing mysteries, including: How did the etrog make its way from China to Israel by the Second Temple period, ca. 400 BCE? How and why did the etrog become the “choice tree-fruit” (פרי עץ הדר) of Leviticus 23:40? What does the archaeological evidence from the “paradise” garden at Ramat Rahel say about the history of the etrog? Why does the etrog appear so prominently in Jewish art from the Roman and Byzantine periods?

David Z. Moster, PhD and Rabbi, is the founder and director of the Institute of Biblical Culture (www.BiblicalCulture.org) and the author of Etrog: How a Chinese Fruit Became a Jewish Symbol. He received his PhD in Hebrew Bible from Bar-Ilan University, his MA in Ancient Israel from NYU, and an MA, MS, and Semikha from Yeshiva University. David currently lives in Yonkers, NY with his wife and children.

— continued —
HOLIDAYS

MEALS IN THE SUCCAH
For Shearith Israel members and their guests who wish to eat self-catered meals in the Elias Room Succah, we offer timed seatings on yom tov following kiddush, and on hol hamoed. Registration is required for all meals and we charge $12 per person per meal to help defray costs. You bring the food (strictly kosher, of course) and we supply tablecloths, disposables, and basic beverages. Space is highly limited, so register early.

We will accommodate members and immediate family on a first-come-first-serve basis. Non-member guests will be accommodated closer to the date subject to availability. To register, go to shearithisrael.org/meals-succah-5780.

THANKSGIVING
THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS
Thursday, November 27
In 1789, Shearith Israel responded to George Washington’s call for a day of national thanksgiving with a special service. Today, we observe Thanksgiving with the addition of Psalms during Shahrit and the omission of tahanunim and a Thanksgiving-themed lecture by Rabbi Soloveichik. We invite the children of the congregation for parade viewing on the CPW Porch and hot chocolate for all in the Elias Room.

5TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING PACK-A-THON
Thursday, November 28
9:30 am  |  Levy Auditorium
In what has become yet another wonderful annual Shearith Israel tradition, following Rabbi Soloveichik’s special Thanksgiving address, registered volunteers will pack meals to be distributed to hungry New Yorkers. We are joined again in this endeavor by our local faith community partners: The Jewish Center, Church of Latter-day Saints, the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan, West End Collegiate Church, and Drisha. If you’d like to join this planning committee and help ensure the success of this important activity, please contact Sarah Meira Rosenberg at srosenberg@shearithisrael.org.

SIMHAT TORAH
WOMEN’S HAKAFOT
Monday night, October 21  |  6:30 pm
Little Synagogue
On the evening of Simhat Torah, a parallel Hakafot ceremony is held for women. This joyous Shearith Israel tradition began in 1991 and has been held annually ever since.

ANNUAL SIMHAT TORAH DINNER AND ICE CREAM EXTRAVAGANZA
Monday night, October 21
Following Simhat Torah Hakafot in the sanctuaries, we host a casual dairy dinner. Pre-registration is required; details to follow.

Following hakafot, CHILDREN ONLY are invited to enjoy our annual ice cream part in the Elias Room. After the dinner, adults are also welcome to partake. Volunteer teen scoopers are needed.

Sponsored by the Haberman and Lustig families.

Reflections on an Independence Day Trip to the Touro Synagogue
One of our newest members, Dr. Arnold Rosen, attended our July 4th trip to the Touro Synagogue in Newport, RI. He was so moved by the experience that he shared his impressions of the trip, his experience of Shearith Israel, of and reconnecting to the roots of American Jewry, in the following letter to his granddaughter, Bella, who was away at Camp Ramah at the time:

Dear Bella,

You are at camp and I expect you are too busy having fun (as it should be) to sit down and answer this long-winded letter from your grandpa (who is gaining a reputation for writing long-winded letters). A simple reply (letter? postcard?) consisting of “I received your letter, grandpa” will suffice. In a way, this process of communicating back and forth is an appropriate backdrop for this letter. My topic will be: how I spent yesterday, July 4th, which, to an extent, involved learning about two letters written over 200 years ago, and what these letters mean for us now.

For the past 3 months or so, I have spent Saturday mornings attending Shabbat services at the “Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue,” located on West 70th and Central Park West. That title (or “S&P”) is how it is generally known, or spoken of, here on the Upper West Side. Its formal name is “Shearith Israel,” which ironically is the name of the synagogue associated with my family in Dallas. (Shearith Israel is the name of the shul that “I grew up in,” although, it must be said, its impact on me growing up was as profound as my overall impact on it. I promised not to bother it, expecting the same. We generally held to our bargain.) S&P is the oldest congregation in America, organized in 1654!, well over a hundred years before we became an independent country. It was the first Jewish congregation set up upon these shores, by people fleeing the lingering effects of the Spanish Inquisition.
The people who founded the shul were Sephardim from the Iberian peninsula. They had either been in hiding (as Marranos) or running — north to the Netherlands or east to the Ottoman Empire. Neither of these places would ever be considered a haven today. The Netherlands was still a province of Spain and remained under its authority. It’s true it was by comparison somewhat enlightened but it may have simply been sluggish in carrying out Spain’s anti-Jewish agenda. The Ottoman Empire in turn was ruled by an absolute monarch, who embodied both the Sultan (as head of state affairs) and Caliph (as head of the religion). These Sephardim must have been, in Spain, as mice scurrying about on a burning roof. Can we possibly imagine now an America where travel was possible.

Later on, I found all this information very interesting, but it was not the reason that I began to attend services in a regular way. The reason I became interested in S&P was that I enjoyed hearing the rabbi, Meir Soloveichik. He is a member of one of those prominent rabbinical families. (Your great-grandparents, already in their 60’s when I came into my wife’s family, held Rabbi Soloveitchik’s great-uncle to be the wisest and most-revered Torah sage of the age!) But that information, also, was peripheral to that which drew me to Rabbi Soloveichik.

He had gained a reputation as giving a really good sermon! And indeed, I went and did find them interesting. His approach to Jewish history, to our identity as a people, included the entire range of human experience. I went to hear him draw parallels between being Jewish and Shakespeare’s famous speech in Henry V. I went to hear him identify aspects of Rembrandt’s painting that bore on Jewish life at the time in Amsterdam. He drew upon an impressive, wide range of knowledge, but all his sermons were presented in a subtle mocking self-defeating manner. He might refer his years at the University of Chicago by reminding us that its motto is “This is where fun goes to die.” He might cite a quotation from his great-uncle, the Rabbi Soloveitchik. But if he did, he would do so with the same degree of pride he took, in being a long-suffering, ultimately redeemed, Chicago Cubs’ fan. And he could derive and develop the same religious message from both sources.

I also grew to appreciate the atmosphere of the shul. Although it is strictly orthodox in the Sephardic manner (men downstairs, women in the balcony), we usually gather together to hear the rabbi speak. I appreciated their traditions (top hats at the bimah [or telush, as they call it], ritualistic processions with bowing instead of handshakes). Many of our New York friends, who like Sondra grew up in a modern orthodox Ashkenazi tradition, found the service alien and unfamiliar. I was spared that feeling because both my attendance and attention at shul had been so limited through the years that everything was equally alien. I had little to compare. I suppose that gave me an advantage. I particularly loved the fact that their service, as traditional as found in any modern orthodox synagogue, was somehow able to accommodate and integrate a professional male choir. It is situated in the front balcony, separate from where the women sit and above from my preferred seat. (How they managed to pull off the choir trick, I do not know.)

So I hope all this explains why yesterday (July 4th) morning at 7:15, I found myself sitting on a bus, heading north on the Major Deegan with Yankee Stadium passing by to my right. I had joined Rabbi Soloveichik and 60 of his congregants in a day’s trip to Newport, Rhode Island. There we planned to visit the Touro Synagogue and participate in Newport’s Fourth of July celebration. Whereas S&P is the nation’s oldest congregation, having gradually moved through the years from their downtown origins, the Touro Synagogue is this country’s oldest synagogue building. Like the founders of S&P those of the Touro Synagogue were of Sephardic origin (as were almost all the Jews of colonial America). The building was designed and constructed to be a truly impressive edifice, not some simple humble shatbí cowering in a European ghetto. It was designed by America’s first prominent colonial architect and was completed in 1763. It was meant to be grand. It is situated on a hill in Newport. There, with other equally prominent buildings and churches, it overlooks in almost lordly fashion the town itself and the harbor below.

We arrived before noon and left the bus by the entrance to the synagogue. Walking a mere 100 or so steps downhill from the shul took us to the colonial courthouse. We watched as a member of the town, dressed in colonial uniform, walked out upon the front steps and read out the Declaration of Independence. He was re-enacting the actual event as it occurred in 1776, where the Declaration, after being proclaimed (so he told us), was then nailed to the front door of the King’s official building. Kind of like, take that, your kingship lordship. To honor the Fourth and America’s independence, we watched the volunteer artillery corps send off a 21-gun salute, in cannons cast by Paul Revere. We then followed the rabbi as he took us on a walking tour through the town, sites of notable colonial achievements. Thus ended my day in Newport.
the center of colonial Newport (only a 3 or 4 block radius), showing us where important figures from the shul and the community at large lived. He explained how these shul figures came into contact with their neighbors, and how all together they found their individual roles in the birth of our country. Finally, we ended up nearby at Touro's Jewish cemetery, where we were handed poems by Longfellow and Emma Lazarus. Both had come here, reflected upon the tombstones, and put their thoughts to verse. And there, in the cemetery, under the rabbi's tutelage, we studied and read them.

I found the entire afternoon to be enlightening and inspiring: watching and hearing the re-enacted reading, flinching with the cannons' roar and seeing the houses of notable personalities, Jewish and non-Jewish, and learning how they interacted with one another. As I stood in the cemetery, poems in hand, I remembered with a smile how Grandma would laugh with pleasure thinking how concerned you were that camp would cut you off from all news of the census issue and the gerrymandering case before the Supreme Court — how was it going to rule on that? I remembered accompanying you to the Bronx Science HS open house, and recalled how interested you were in their debate club and political issues in general. And I thought, “Bella should be here. Bella would have appreciated this afternoon.” That thought, more than anything else that I have witnessed since your Bat Mitzvah (now almost a year ago), told me, in no uncertain terms, that I now (psychologically) viewed you as an adult.

Later that day, after dinner, we filed into the Touro sanctuary to hear the rabbi's formal lecture. His topic was “A Tale of Two Letters: Washington's Words to Newport and Savannah.” He spoke about how the “Old Testament,” both in language and in thought, had animated all our founding fathers. In the main, however, he spoke about the two letters that George Washington wrote one year into his presidency: one to a Jewish congregation in Savannah, Georgia and one to the leader of the Touro Synagogue. (Washington had visited Newport and the synagogue as part of a national tour following his election.) He wrote these letters upon receiving letters of congratulation from both congregations. Both letters are well known in American history. There is no way that I can summarize or do justice to the interesting and at times humorous stories the rabbi told as he developed his themes and elaborated on the events leading up to the letters.

Suffice it to say, these two letters were written in the summer of 1790. The constitution had been ratified and Washington was President, but the “Bill of Rights,” the first 10 amendments to the constitution, were still an entire year away from being ratified. Yet even without the “freedom of religion” amendment, the constitution specified (under Article VI) that “no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.” This notion, having now been enshrined in our country’s founding document, when measured against the general philosophical tenor of the times, was not only revolutionary but practically unthinkable.

In the first letter, to Savannah, Washington extolled these ideas “of liberality and philanthropy” which were not even to be found “among the enlightened nations of the earth referenced above, the American concept of religious freedom constitutes no grant of indulgence or toleration of the Jews’ right to peacefully practice their religion unfettered. Rather it is simply their entitlement as free citizens. And America, by recognizing this as something innate, not granted to Jews from on high, enlarges both the Jew and the American people as a whole. Then he closes his letter with his prayer from the prophet Micah that “everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall make him afraid.”

With a much deeper understanding of the unique quality of our history, both as a proud American and Jew, I boarded the bus and was soon heading south, back to New York City. So that’s how I spent my July 4th. I hope yours was equally wonderful and eventful.

Love,
Grandpa Arnie
Year of Years Event

THE TRAVELS OF THE TORAH:
FROM SPAIN TO PORTUGAL, FROM
AMSTERDAM TO AMERICA

Tuesday, September 10

Join us for an unmissable event, marking 365 Years of Judaism in America, featuring a historical ceremony and lecture by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik.

The ceremony will include: a reunion between descendants of Don Isaac Abarbanel, one of the greatest Sephardic rabbinic figures of all times, and certainly the greatest Jewish Portuguese figure of all times, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Braganza; the welcoming and rededication of a newly restored centuries-old American Torah; the unprecedented return of our three precious sets of Myer Myers rimonim, which we are bringing together for the first time ever.

We are incredibly excited for this momentous event and hope all of you attend and bring your family and friends to witness and take part in it. Register at shearithisrael.org/capstone2019.

SISTERHOOD FAMILY PHOTO DAY

Sunday, September 15 | 4:00 pm

Join the Sisterhood for the unique opportunity to have your family portrait taken by a professional photographer against the backdrop of Shearith Israel’s majestic front Portico. A Rosh HaShanah themed project will keep kids occupied and engaged throughout any downtime. Details coming soon at shearithisrael.org/photo-day.

HEBRA HASED VA’AMET’S ANNUAL
PRE-HIGH HOLIDAY COMMUNAL
BETH OLAM CEMETARY TRIP

Sunday, September 22

10:00 am at Beth Olam Cemetery
Cypress Hills Street, Ridgewood (Queens)

Round-trip transportation available by advance registration (departing Shearith Israel at 9:00 am)

Join us for our annual visit to Beth Olam Cemetery where members can visit the graves of loved ones before the High Holidays and participate in a memorial service in the Calvert Vaux-designed “metapher house.” A highlight of the visit is an illuminating tour given by our sexton, Zachariah Edinger. Register at shearithisrael.org/beth-olam-trip5780.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS 5780
SEASON PREMIERE

Friday Night, October 25
following Shabbat Evening Services
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. Don’t miss the return of Rabbi Soloveichik’s inspiring series! To learn more about this series, see page 22.

HATANIM LUNCHEON

Shabbat, October 26
following Shabbat Morning Services

On Shabbat Bereshit, our community and friends come together to honor our Hatanim — David J. Nathan, Hatan Torah, and Jack Daar, Hatan Bereshit — with an elegant luncheon and celebration. Stay tuned for invitations and further details.

“UNVEILING LIBERTY”

A Live Original Stage Production by Charlotte Rahn-Lee and Jennie Contuzzi

Sunday, October 27 | 2:00 pm

Experience an exclusive live performance co-sponsored by Shearith Israel and the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan. The whole family will enjoy this play that is sure to bring American history to life as you’ve never seen it before! For more about “Unveiling Liberty,” see page 24.

SHABBATON AT TOURO WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK

Veterans Day Weekend
Friday-Sunday, November 8-10

Come with us to Newport for a full Shabbat experience at the Touro Synagogue. This trip promises many extraordinary historic experiences, fascinating lectures, stimulating intellectual discussions, and time to enjoy the sites of Newport on Sunday. Registration and additional details coming soon at shearithisrael.org/touro-shabbaton.

RAVI MARC ANGEL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN THE RABBINATE

Shabbat Morning, December 8

Our Rabbi Emeritus, Marc Angel, is celebrating 50 years in the rabbinate and will mark the occasion with a seminar, “Reflections on 50 Years of Rabbinic Service.” Congregants are then welcome to wish Rabbi Angel mazel tov at the kiddush to follow.

— continued —
PTTS SHABBATON  
Shabbat, November 23

PTTS students are warmly encouraged to take advantage of all our Junior Congregation services as a free supplement to the Hebrew School curriculum—and on special Shabbatot like this one, we welcome PTTS students to celebrate learning to lead parts of the service themselves. Please be in touch with PTTS Principal Yona Glass at yglass@shearithisrael.org to discuss your student’s participation.

CELEBRATING MOROCCAN JEWISH HERITAGE AT SHEARITH ISRAEL  
November, Date TBA

Many Moroccan Jews who reached these shores many years ago found the sounds of Shearith Israel to be the most familiar to them, and made Shearith Israel their spiritual home. And from that time until today, we have retained a strong contingent of Moroccan Jewish families and are proud of the unique character they contribute to our community.

“This program is one of our many Year of Years, 365th Anniversary celebration events, which showcase the extraordinary diversity of our congregation, throughout its history until today.

MONTHLY SYNAGOGUE TOURS

Tours of Shearith Israel provide a unique opportunity for visitors and tourists to learn more about America’s first Jewish Congregation—Shearith Israel—and view ritual objects dating back to the Colonial period. We are pleased to lead guests through our beautiful space with enlightening facts about our proud history and unique traditions. Individuals and groups are welcome to attend a free guided tour once a month led by a member of our clergy or a trained docent. There is a suggested donation of $5 per person, although any amount is appreciated. Tours generally last 45 minutes. Go to shearithisrael.org/tours for more information.

THE ROAD TO KINGSHIP  
Sundays | 10:00 am  
Rabbi David Silber

Beginning October 27

An exploration of the Samson story, the last 5 chapters of the Book of Judges, and Megillat Ruth as texts that prepare us for the institution of kingship. The sessions will include a survey of attitudes towards monarchy and the centralization of human authority in other biblical texts—both narratives and biblical poetry.

Rabbi David Silber received ordination from Yeshiva University’s Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and is the Founder and Dean of Drisha Institute for Jewish Education. He received the Covenant Award in 2000. He is the author of A Passover Haggadah: Go Forth and Learn, published by JPS in 2011, and the newly released For Such a Time as This: Biblical Reflections in the Book of Esther, published by Koren Publishing in 2017 (Hebrew).

Shearith Israel members can register for FREE at shearithisrael.org/silber-kingship.

THE GUIDE TO THE DUTIES OF THE HEART  
Sundays | 8:45 am  
Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander

While The Guide to the Duties of the Heart (completed around 1075 CE) is sometimes called the first work of Jewish ethics, it aims to guide us towards a spiritual dedication, taught within a philosophical outlook that has similarities with both Saadiah Gaon and Maimonides. Besides philosophical concepts, Bahya ibn Paquda frequently uses stories and concepts from Sufism (Islamic mysticism) to stir in us a spiritual mindfulness and to deepen our love of God.

Rabbi Sjimon den Hollander was born in the Netherlands. He received his Master’s degree in Arabic and Islamology from the University of Leiden. After subsequently earning a Bachelor’s degree in education, he taught Comparative Religion at Ichthus Teachers’ College in Rotterdam. More recently, Rabbi den Hollander received semikha from Rabbi Eliyahu Ben Haim and from Yeshiva University. He teaches Jewish literature at Hunter College. In addition, he does research on Islam’s perception of Judaism and writes online articles in Arabic explaining Judaism to a Muslim audience.

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.
**JUDAIC EDUCATION**

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**OPEN BET MIDRASH**

Most Weeknights (Monday-Thursday)

5:15 pm 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 *babruta*, hear a short *debar torah*, or simply pick a *sifra* 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.

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**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.

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**FEASTS AND FASTS: THE FESTIVALS IN JEWISH THOUGHT**

**A Class for Women**

Tuesdays  |  9:00 am

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Women meet on Tuesday mornings to examine the rituals that we have been performing our entire 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.

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**FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: THE MAKING AND MEANING OF SHABBAT**

**2019-2020 season sponsored by the Julis family**

**Fridays  |  Following Evening Services**

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 2019-2020 season commences on Shabbat Bereshit, Friday, October 25.

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**THE MISUNDERSTOOD MASTERPIECE: A NEW APPROACH TO PIRKEI ABOT**

**Shabbat Afternoon, Year-Round**

One Hour Before Minha

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

*Pirkei Avot* is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and frequently cited maxim in *Pirkei Avot* 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.

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**SPOTLIGHT ON THE SHEARITH ISRAEL LEAGUE**

Lucienne Carasso Bulow

The Shearith Israel League was founded in 1919 and recently celebrated its 100th anniversary.

The League organizes social events, helping congregants get to know each other and develop friendships, both inside and outside the Synagogue. Over the years, The League has organized visits to museums, galleries, plays on Broadway, opera, and apple picking outings. It sponsored stimulating lectures and panel discussions, concerts of Ladino songs and traditional music, and films.

Importantly, the League helped to preserve our Spanish and Portuguese musical tradition. In the 1950s, the League sponsored and published recordings of Dr. David de Sola Pool, Reverend Abraham Lopes Cardozo, and Dr. Louis C. Gerstein. These recordings were re-published by the League in 2003 and are currently available for purchase through the Synagogue website at shearithisrael.org/store.

Out of that evening is also available for purchase at shearithisrael.org/store. The commemorative book of that evening is also available for purchase at shearithisrael.org/store.

The League has been an incubator of new ideas and the supporter of members’ volunteerism in organizing interesting activities that contributed to a dynamic Shearith Israel. We are always looking for new ideas and new members. If you have ideas for social activities or would like make or meet friends in the congregation, please contact Lucienne Bulow at lucienne.bulow@gmail.com. George Bulow continues to serve as the President of the Shearith Israel League Foundation.

The League is a great place to bring your ideas for social activities to fruition – please join us!
HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN
Rosh HaShanah, Kippur, and Succot
While the adults of the congregation are enjoying the beautiful tefilla of the High Holidays in the sanctuary, we have wonderful, fun, and educational learning activities as well as youth-led tefilla for the children. Ages 0-4 have babysitting, holiday storytelling and songs. Children 5-12 will play fun educational games lead by our engaging leaders. Past holiday activities have included a shofar blowing exercise and a sheheheyanu party.

Don't forget to register your children for high holiday youth programming along with your seating selections.

“UNVEILING LIBERTY”
A Live Original Stage Production by Charlotte Rahn-Lee and Jennie Contuzzi
Sunday, October 27  |  2:00 pm
Experience an exclusive live performance co-sponsored by Shearith Israel and the Sephardic Academy of Manhattan. The whole family will enjoy this play that is sure to bring American history to life as you’ve never seen it before!

It’s 1886 and ten-year-old Isabelle is enamored of the enormous statue about to be unveiled in New York harbor. Her father and brother are going to watch the dedication, and Isabelle doesn’t understand why she’s not allowed, just because she’s a girl. But it turns out that the very thing Isabelle loves about the statue—that a woman has been chosen to represent liberty—has drawn the attention of the Woman’s Suffrage Association. Meanwhile Jackie, a young black woman, has her own thoughts about this statue, but is she even at liberty to express them? Accompanied by hot chocolate and snacks in the Elias Room. Registered Pack-A-Thon kids also get to “give back” in the Kids‘ Craft Activity. For more details on the Pack-A-Thon, see page 12.

For tickets, visit shearithisrael.org/unveiling-liberty.

PTTS SHABBATON
Shabbat, November 23
PTTS students are warmly encouraged to take advantage of all our Junior Congregation services as a free supplement to the Hebrew School curriculum—and on special Shabbatot like this one, we welcome PTTS students to celebrate learning to lead parts of the service themselves.

Please be in touch with PTTS Principal Yona Glass at yglass@shearithisrael.org to discuss your student’s participation.

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS
Parade Viewing, Snacks, and Pack-A-Thon
Thursday Morning, November 28
Our Thanksgiving festivities always draw a big crowd, but some, but some special opportunities are just for kids! Come watch the Thanksgiving Day Parade from our Portico — it is a view and experience that is not to be beat! Accompanied by hot chocolate and snacks in the Elias Room. Registered Pack-A-Thon kids also get to “give back” in the Kids’ Craft Activity. For more details on the Pack-A-Thon, see page 12.

For tickets, visit shearithisrael.org/unveiling-liberty.

BRUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI SOLOVEICHIK
For PTTS Students and Their Parents
Sundays  |  10:30 am
December 8, February 9, and March 29
Students of PTTS and their parents enjoy a special time with the rabbi. On several Sundays over the course of the year students and their parents start the day together with morning services after which they will proceed to a topical “Brunch and Learn” with Rabbi Soloveichik. CSI members with elementary school aged children are heartily welcome by registration at shearithisrael.org/brunch-learn-registration.

MITZVOT WORKSHOPS WITH ZACHARY EDINGER
For Elementary School Aged Children
Sundays  |  10:00 am
November 17, January 5, March 15, and May 3
On select Sundays, our Shamash, Zachary Edinger, leads our PTTS students and CSI youth in an interactive and educational tefilla 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.

YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL
For everyone’s safety, children should be either in a youth program or in the Sanctuary accompanied by a parent. Children should not be anywhere in the synagogue unattended. We appreciate your understanding.
YOUTH AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

— continued —

HEBREW SCHOOL: POLONIES
TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL (PTTS)

2019 - 2020 school year begins on
October 24

Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm and
special programming on select Sundays

Our Hebrew School, led by Principal Yona
Glass, provides students with a substantive
supplemental Jewish education in a positive
and engaging environment. Students develop
Hebrew language skills (reading, writing, and
comprehension), learn the major portions
of the Tanakh, Jewish holiday rituals, Jewish
history, and how Jewish ideas inform our
values in modern times. To learn more and to
enroll, go to shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool.

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 cheerful, safe,
and well equipped Fidanque Youth 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.

WEEKDAY TODDLER PROGRAM

Fall 2019 Semester begins on
Wednesday, September 4

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
with childhood educator extraordinare, Liz
Rios, 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 and to enroll, go to
shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram.

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.

SISTERHOOD SUCCAH DECORATION

Thursday, October 10 | 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Friday, October 11 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sunday, October 13 | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Our unique open air Elias Room Succah
is considered one of the most beautiful in
the world. Decorated lushly and lovingly
by the Shearith Israel Sisterhood. For more
information, see page 11.

WOMEN’S HAKAFOT

Monday night, October 21 | 6:30 pm

Little Synagogue

On the evening of Simhat Torah, a parallel
Hakafot ceremony is held for women. This
joyous Shearith Israel tradition began in 1991
and has been held annually ever since.

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. For dates of meetings,
sign up for our email list on our website at
shearithisrael.org/join-our-email-lists.

YOETZET HALAKHA

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

Shiffy 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 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 Beit Midrash
for Women in Migdal Oz. She and
her husband, Rabbi Noam Friedman,
live with their children 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 Hamishpacha, 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
mikvaot are also possible. Women only.
CARING CONNECTION
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. Caring Connection also facilitates and organizes important communal conversations, raising awareness on mental health issues, such as our recent “Smash the Stigma” panel on suicide and depression.

If you know someone who might need assistance, or if you would like to volunteer or help with events, please email caringconnection@shearithisrael.org. When 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 Hased Va’Amot provides mourners and their family with their shibah 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.

DUTCH JEWISH
GINGER BUTTER CAKE
by Elisheva Friedman

Elisheva Friedman came to New York after she won the Green Card Lottery in the Netherlands. In Amsterdam, she was a member of the Esnoga back in the days of Rabbi Drukarch and Hazzan Sam Behar. Elisheva and her husband Dan, who grew up in Israel, celebrated their wedding at Shearith Israel with Rabbi Marc Angel. Their daughter, Gita Rebecca, has enjoyed many fun Shabbat mornings with Liz and Shanade at Tot Shabbat.

Today Dan, Gita, and Elisheva feel honored to be part of and surrounded by the special and caring community led by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik, and would like to share this Dutch recipe for a taste of Elisheva’s country of origin.

Ingredients:
- ½ pound (2 sticks) butter, room temperature
- ½ pound flour (about 2 cups)
- ½ pound sugar (1 cup)
- 1 egg, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Grated peel of 1 lemon
- ½ cup chopped candied ginger
- Flaked almonds to decorate

Instructions
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Mix all ingredients in a bowl by hand until it does not adhere to bowl.
Press dough into an ungreased 8- or 9-inch round glass or ceramic baking pan with straight sides.
Bake in preheated oven 30 to 40 minutes, until the edge is a little brown; the top should not be brown. Do not overbake. Bake it for less time if you want the cake to be chewier.
Sprinkle flaked almonds on top to decorate.
Let cool in pan about 20 minutes, then turn out and cut into 1½-inch squares.

Makes about 2 dozen pieces.

Moist, sweet, and somewhat spicy, this easy-to-prepare Dutch cake will quickly become a favorite at your family table.
RETROSPECTIVE:

“OUT OF EGYPT”—CELEBRATING EGYPTIAN JEWISH HERITAGE AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

Vivette Ancona

On May 8, the sanctuary at Shearith Israel was crowded with people of Egyptian heritage and their friends. There were people whose connection to Egypt was short and there were people whose Egyptian heritage was several centuries old. We all came to remember a community which flourished in Egypt for thousands of years, and which has now disappeared. The reminiscences of Shearith Israel’s Egyptian Jewish families were placed in context by scholarly presentations. We heard about the Egyptian Jewish community in pre-modern times, documented by the extraordinary trove of the Cairo Geniza, from Professor Arnold Franklin. We also were shown a slideshow of synagogues of Egypt, attesting to the size, wealth, and acceptance of the Jews by the surrounding community, shown by Eddie Ashkenazie of the Diarna Geo-Museum. We were treated to a talk by the foremost writer on the dissolution of the Egyptian Jewish community in the twentieth century, Andre Aciman. And then there were the reminiscences of our members. Mrs. Emy Cohenca and her children, to whose family the evening was dedicated, were the first to talk about their family’s years in Egypt. Their loving and detailed talks were a hard act to follow but our panelists, Jeffrey Mosseri, Lucienne Carasso Bulow, and Rabbi Albert Gabbai of our sister S&P synagogue, Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia, provided a superb ending to the evening.

The evening started with wine and delicious desserts from the Mansoura bakery. Even that was symbolic: before Brooklyn, the Mansoura bakery resided in Heliopolis, a district of Cairo, where many Syrian Jews lived after emigrating to Egypt. It was a great evening, but it was more than that. It showcased the variety, richness, and depth of the Shearith Israel community. We follow the minhagim of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, but we come from all parts of the world. There are many of us who come from communities in the Middle East, which disappeared in our time after thousands of years. An evening such as the one on May 8 on Egyptian Jews and the one in December on Iraqi Jews remind us of those destroyed communities. It brings these communities back to life with personal stories about real people, not just numbers. In the reminiscences presented on May 8 and the ones included in the handsome commemorative booklet, we see many similar themes and differences too. Shearith Israel, by putting this all together, is doing a service to history. The symbolic significance of the date of the evening on the cusp of Yom HaZikaron (Israel’s Memorial Day) and Yom HaAtsmaut (Israel’s Independence Day) was emphasized by Rabbi Soloveichik, by Dr. Jason Guberman, Executive Director of the American Sephardi Federation, our program partner, and by Rabbi Gabbai, We came out of Egypt not once but twice. Shearith Israel reminded us that the destroyed communities are still alive and thriving, if in a different place.

We all owe our beloved shamash, Z. Edinger, a great debt of gratitude for imagining these evenings and planning them so well. Our thanks go also to Emy Cohenca and her children who spearheaded the event and contributed not only their reminiscences but documents and photos. Thank you to all the fascinating presenters. The evening of May 8, in short, reminded us all why Shearith Israel is such a special place: diverse, warm and inviting.

Vivette Ancona is an active member of Shearith Israel, who often serves as a volunteer at our special events and as an occasional docent.

NYPD VISIT TO SHEARITH ISRAEL

In April, Police Officer Michael Riomao of the New York City Police Department’s community outreach division visited Shearith Israel to discuss security concerns and deepen our relationship with the local police. He and his colleagues were so impressed by Shearith Israel’s majestic building and extensive history that they profiled us as their Featured House of Worship in their quarterly newsletter.

Regarding security, Shearith Israel is continually updating and strengthening our protocols, including training of our staff; retaining highly trained contracted security guards on Shabbat, holidays, and major events; ongoing consultation with our security consultants; updating our professional security assessment and reviewing our priorities; obtaining grants from the Department of Homeland Security to enable us to update our equipment and reinforce our exits; regular contact with the NYPD; evacuation maps and drills, and more. Your support and cooperation is appreciated.
DAILY SERVICES

Mornings:
Sundays Shahrit.............................. 8:00 am
Monday-Friday Shahrit..................... 7:15 am

Evenings, Sunday-Thursday:
Sep. 1st-26th Minhah, Arbit & Selihot......6:30 pm
Oct. 3rd-7th Minhah, Arbit & Selihot......6:15 pm
Oct. 7th-10th Minhah & Arbit..............6:15 pm
Oct. 16th & 17th Minhah & Arbit.........6:00 pm
Oct. 23rd-31st Minhah & Arbit............5:45 pm
Nov. 3rd-Feb. 27th Arbit Only................6:30 pm

SHABBAT SERVICES

September 6th-7th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............7:02 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Shoftim.......................... Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
Haftarah Isaiah 51:12-52:12...............Charles Gourgey
Class ..................................... 5:55 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.........6:55 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 6:19 pm
Habdalah ................................ 7:55 pm

September 13th-14th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............6:51 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Jacob Daar
Parashat Ki Tense.......................... Deuteronomy 21:10-25:39
Haftarah Isaiah 54:1-10..................... Elie Saxson
Class ..................................... 5:40 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.........6:40 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 7:40 pm
Habdalah ................................ 7:42 pm

September 20th-21st
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............6:39 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 6:45 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Simjon den Hollander
Parashat Ki Tav............................ Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Haftarah.................................. Louis Nahon
Isaiah 60:1-22
Class ..................................... 5:30 pm
Saturday Minhah, Arbit & Selihot.........6:30 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 6:55 pm
Habdalah ................................ 7:30 pm

September 27th-28th
1860 - 19th St. Consecration Anniversary
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............6:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:30-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Nitsabim......................... Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
Haftarah................................. Akeva R. Haberman
Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Class ..................................... 5:20 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit (no Selihot)....6:20 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 6:45 pm
Habdalah ................................ 7:17 pm

October 4th-5th
Shabbat Teshuva
(See High Holy Days Schedule)

October 11th-12th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............6:04 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 6:00 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Jacob Daar
Parashat Hazinu.......................... Deuteronomy 32:1-52
Haftarah................................. Adam F. Jackson
II Samuel 22:1-51
Class ..................................... 4:55 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit............... 5:55 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 6:21 pm
Habdalah ................................ 6:55 pm

October 18th-19th
Shabbat Hol HaMoed
October 25th-26th
Shabbat Bereshit
(See Fall Festivals Schedule)

November 1st-2nd
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............5:34 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 5:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Simjon den Hollander
Parashat Noah............................. Genesis 6:9-11:32
Haftarah Isaiah 54:1-10................... Mark Aaron
Bar Mitzvah.............................. Elia Mateus-Tique
Class ..................................... 4:25 pm
Minhah & Arbit......................... 5:25 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 5:51 pm
Habdalah ................................ 6:21 pm

November 8th-9th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............4:27 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Parallel Women’s Service.................. 9:00-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Lekh-Lekha....................... Genesis 12:1-17:27
Haftarah................................. Gregory Levin
Isaiah 40:27-41:16
Bar Mitzvah.............................. Gregory Levin
Class ..................................... 3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit......................... 4:20 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 4:44 pm
Habdalah ................................ 5:12 pm

November 15th-16th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............4:20 pm
Friday Evening Services.................... 4:30 pm
Saturday Morning Services.................. 8:15-11:45 am
Zemirot .................................. Jacob Daar
Parashat Vayera........................... Genesis 18:1-22:24
Haftarah II Kings 4:1-23.................. Reuben Friebert
Bar Mitzvah.............................. Matea Friebert
Class ..................................... 3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit......................... 4:10 pm
Saturday Sunset ......................... 4:34 pm
Habdalah ................................ 5:05 pm

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SERVICES

November 22nd-23rd
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............4:15 pm
Friday Evening Services..........................4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.........................8:15-11:45 am
Zeminor .............................................Adam F. Jackson
Parashat Haye Sarah.............................Genesis 23:1-25:18
Haftarah I Kings 1:1-31..............................Jacob Daar
Class ..............................................3:30 pm
Minhah & Arbit .....................................4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset ....................................4:32 pm
Habdalah ..........................................5:00 pm

November 29th-30th
Candles (18 min. before sunset)..............4:12 pm
Friday Evening Services..........................4:15 pm
Saturday Morning Services.........................8:15-11:45 am
Zeminor .............................................Joseph A. Solomon
Parashat Toledoth.................................Genesis 25:19-28:9
Haftarah Malachi 1:1-2:7.........................Aaron Nathan
Class ..............................................3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah & Arbit .........................4:05 pm
Saturday Sunset ....................................4:29 pm
Habdalah ..........................................4:56 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS
Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Friday, Evening, August 30nd through
Sat. & Sun., August 31st & September 1st
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Elul:
Fed. & Sat. Services follow Shabbat Schedule
Sunday Morning Services: 10:00 am
Sunday Even Minhah, Arbit & Selihot .............6:30 pm

Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Monday, September 2nd
Morning Service (Shahrit).........................8:00 am
Rosh Hodesh Elul (Two-Day)
Monday, September 2nd through
Tue. & Wed., October 29th & 30th
(Services Follow Daily Schedule)

Rosh Hodesh Kislev (Two-Day)
& American Thanksgiving Holiday
Rosh Hodesh: Wed. Eve, Nov. 27th
through Thu. & Fri., Nov. 28th & 29th:
Eve of Rosh Hodesh, Wed. Eve, Nov. 27th
Wed. Evening Service (Arbit only)..................6:30 pm
Thanksgiving Holiday & First Day:
Thursday Morning, November 28th
Shahrit, Hallel, Musaf & Lecture ..................7:45 am
Eve of Second Day, Thu. Eve, Nov. 28th
Thursday Evening Service (Arbit only).............6:30 pm
Second Day Rosh Hodesh Daytime:
Friday Morning, November 29th
Shahrit, Hallel, & Musaf.............................7:15 am
Friday Evening, November 29th
Rosh Hodesh Minhah/Shabbat Arbit ...............4:15 pm

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5780
Rosh Hashanah - New Year 5780
Sunday Eve, Sep. 29th-Tuesday, Oct. 1st
PREPARATIONS
Sunday Morning, September 29th
Special Morning Selihot Service...................7:15 am
Morning Shahrit Service..........................8:00 am
EVE OF 1ST DAY ROSH HASHANAH
Sunday Evening, September 29th
Sunday Evening Candle Lighting ..............6:24 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) ..............6:15 pm
Sunday Evening Sunset ..........................6:42 pm
1ST DAY ROSH HASHANAH MORNING
Monday, September 30th
Zeminor .............................................7:45 am
Shahrit ..............................................8:35 am
Special Prayers & Taking Out Torah .............9:35 am
Torah Reading & Haftarah .........................9:50 am
Offerings ..........................................10:30 am
`Et Sha`arei Ratzon & Shofar Service .........10:40 am
Ashrei and Returning Torah ......................11:05 am
Musaf ..............................................11:20 am
Sermon ............................................12:20 pm
Adon `Olam & Conclusion.......................12:40-12:45 pm

EVE OF 2ND DAY ROSH HASHANAH
Monday, October 30th
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) ..........6:15 pm
Monday Evening Sunset ..........................6:40 pm
Mon. Evening Candle Lighting .................after 7:02 pm
2ND DAY ROSH HASHANAH MORNING
Tuesday, October 1st
Zeminor .............................................7:45 am
Shahrit ..............................................8:30 am
Special Prayers & Taking Out Torah .............9:30 am
Torah Reading & Haftarah .........................9:45 am
Offerings ..........................................10:25 am
`Et Sha`arei Ratzon & Shofar Service .........10:30 am
Ashrei and Returning Torah ......................10:55 am
Musaf ..............................................11:10 am
Sermon ............................................12:05 pm
Adon `Olam & Conclusion .......................12:25-12:30 pm

EVE OF 2ND DAY ROSH HASHANAH CONCLUSION
Tuesday Evening, October 1st
Tue. Evening Minhah, Arbit & Selihot ..........6:15 pm
Tuesday Evening Sunset ..........................6:38 pm
Tuesday Evening Habdalah ......................7:00 pm

Fast of Gedaliah
Wednesday, October 2nd
Fast Begins (Dawn) ................................5:32 am
Begin Fasting .....................................before 6:09 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) ..............6:15 pm
Wednesday Morning Sunrise ..................6:53 am
Wednesday Morning Shahrit ....................7:15 pm
Minhah (with tefillin), Arbit & Selihot ...........6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Sunset .....................6:37 pm
End of Fast .......................................6:58 pm

Shabbat Teshubah
Sabbath of Penitence
EVE OF SHABBAT TESHUBAH
Friday Evening, October 4th
Candles (18 min. before sunset) ..............6:15 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) ..........6:15 pm
Friday Evening Sunset ..........................6:35 pm

SHABBAT TESHUBAH DAY
Saturday Morning, October 5th
Zeminor, led by Jacob Daar .......................8:15 am
Shahrit ..............................................9:00 am
Torah Service & Offerings .......................9:45-10:50 am
Parashat Vayelekh ................................Deuteronomy 31:1-30
Haftarah ............................................Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveitchik
Hosca 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20
Musaf, Sermon & Conclusion .............10:50-11:55 am
Saturday Evening, October 5th
Class ...............................................5:05 pm
Sat. Evening Minhah, Arbit & Selihot ..........6:05 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset ......................6:32 pm
Habdalah .........................................6:58 pm

Yom Kippur-Day of Atonement
PREPARATIONS
Tuesday, October 8th
Special Morning Selihot Service ..............6:30 am
Morning Shahrit Service .........................7:15 am
Early Afternoon Minhah Service ..............1:30 pm
EVE OF YOM KIPPUR
Tuesday Evening, October 8th
Tuesday Candle Lighting .......................before 6:09 pm
Tuesday Evening Kal Nidre Service ...........6:00 pm
Begin Fasting .....................................before sunset, 6:27 pm
Sermon & Evening Arbit Service ..............6:30-8:45 pm
YOM KIPPUR DAY
Wednesday, October 9th
Zeminor .............................................8:00 am
Shahrit ..............................................9:00 am
Torah Service and Offerings ...................10:55 am
Midday Sermon ................................12:10 pm
Musaf ..............................................12:30 pm
Minhah ............................................3:00 pm
Perpetual Hashcabot & Offerings ...........4:50 pm
Sermon before Neilah ..........................5:20 pm
Neilah .............................................5:45 pm
Sunset .............................................6:25 pm
Shofar, Arbit & Habdalah .......................6:56 pm

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FALL FESTIVALS 5780

Sucot

Festival of Tabernacles

Sunday Eve, Oct. 13th-Saturday, Oct. 19th

Sucot: First Two Days (Yom Tob)

EVE OF 1ST DAY SUCCOT

Sunday Evening, October 13th

Candle Lighting ........................................6:01 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) .................6:00 pm
Sunset ..........................................................6:19 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah .........................6:45 pm

1ST DAY SUCCOT DAYTIME

Monday Morning, October 14th

Zemiriot ...................................................8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel ...........................................9:00 am
Torah Service .............................................10:00 am
Musaf & Hoshanot ....................................10:45-11:30 am
Concentration & Sermon ..........................11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................12:00 pm

EVE OF 2ND DAY SUCCOT

Monday Evening, October 14th

Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) .................6:00 pm
Sunset ..................................................6:17 pm
Candle Lighting .........................................after 6:38 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................6:45 pm

2ND DAY SUCCOT DAYTIME

Tuesday Morning, October 15th

Zemiriot ...................................................8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel ...........................................9:00 am
Torah Service .............................................10:00 am
Musaf & Hoshanot ....................................10:45-11:30 am
Concentration & Sermon ..........................11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................12:00 pm

HOL HaMoed Succot

Intermediate Days of Tabernacles

INTERMEDIATE WEEKDAYS

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday Mornings

October 16th, 17th & 18th:

Shahrit, Musaf, & Hoshanot .........................7:15 am
Breakfast in Succah .................................8:15 am

Wednesday & Thursday Evenings

October 16th & 17th:

Minhah & Arbit Services .........................6:00 pm

SHABBAT HOL HaMoed DAY

Saturday Morning, October 19th

Zemiriot ...................................................8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel ...........................................9:00 am
Torah Service .............................................10:00 am
Musaf, Shabbat Hoshanah .................10:45-11:30 am
Concentration & Sermon ..........................11:30 am-12:00 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................12:00 pm

Saturday Afternoon, October 19th

Class in Succah .........................................4:45 pm
Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit .............5:45 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset .........................6:10 pm
Habadalah, end of Shabbat ......................6:41 pm

HOSHAANA RABBa DAY

Saturday Evening, October 19th

Mishmarah-Tikkuon & Rabbi’s Special Class ..........................9:00 pm

HOSHAANA RABBa DAY

Sunday Morning, October 20th

Zemiriot, led by Avery E. Neumark..................8:00 am
Shahrit & Hallel ...........................................8:30 am
Torah Service .............................................9:00 am
Musaf, Hoshanot, Shofar ..........................9:35-10:15 am
Service Conclusion ................................10:15-10:30 am
Breakfast in Elias Room Succah ..............10:30 am

Shemini Hag Atseret

Eighth Day Convocation Festival

EVE OF SHEMINI HAG ATSERET

Sunday Evening, October 20th

Candle Lighting .........................................before 5:53 pm
Evening Services (Minhah & Arbit) .................5:45 pm
Sunset ..........................................................6:08 pm
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................6:30 pm

SHEMINI HAG ATSERET DAY

Monday Morning, October 21st

Zemiriot ...................................................8:15 am
Shahrit & Hallel ...........................................9:00 am
Torah Service .............................................10:00 am
Musaf, Tikkuon HaGeshem .................10:40-11:20 am
Service Conclusion & Sermon ...............11:20-11:45 am
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................11:50 am

Tikkuon HaGeshem is the Sephardic poem added at the inauguration of Israel’s rainy season, for the duration of which, until Passover, a request for rain is inserted in the second blessing of the Amidah.

Simhat Torah

End of Reading-Cycle Celebration

EVE OF SIMHAT TORAH

Monday Evening, October 21st

Minhah & Arbit, with Tenu Shebah ..................5:45 pm
Sunset ..................................................6:07 pm
Candle Lighting .........................................after 6:27 pm
Hakafot & Children’s Celebration ...............6:30 pm
Women’s Hakafot (Little Synagogue) ..........6:30 pm

SHABBAT BERESHIT

The First Parashah-Shabbat Hatanim

EVE OF SHABBAT BERESHIT

Friday Evening, October 25th

Candle Lighting .........................................before 5:43 pm
Minhah&Arbit, with Tenu Shebah ..................5:45 pm
Friday Evening Sunset .................................6:01 pm

SHABBAT BERESHIT DAY

Saturday Morning, October 26th

Zemiriot ...................................................8:15 am
Shahrit ..........................................................9:00 am
Torah Service .............................................10:00 am
Musaf, Tikkun HaGeshem .................10:40-11:20 am
Service Conclusion & Sermon ...............11:20-11:45 am
Kiddush in Elias Room Succah ..................11:50 am

Parashah ..................................................Genesis 1:1-6:8
Haftarah .......................................................Isaiah 42:5-21; 61:10; 62:5
Musaf ..................................................10:50-11:40 am

SHABBAT BERESHT CONCLUSION

Saturday Evening, October 26th

Class ..................................................4:35 pm
Saturday Afternoon Minhah & Arbit ..........5:35 pm
Saturday Evening Sunset .........................6:00 pm
Habadalah, End of Shabbat ......................6:30 pm
HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

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.
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MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES
Interested in becoming a member or curious to learn more about our membership options? Executive Director, Barbara Reiss, would be delighted to speak with you. Information and applications are also available online at shearithisrael.org/membership.