Please note: Minyan on Monday morning will be at 7:45 am because of Rosh Chodesh.

Rosh Chodesh – which literally means “head of the month” – is the minor holiday that marks the beginning of every Hebrew month. The Jewish calendar, which combines both lunar and solar aspects, has 12 months (and 13 in leap years); half of these months are 30 days long and half are 29 days.
PARASHAT VAERA
SHABBAT MEVARCHIM HACHODESH

Torah (Exodus 6:2 - 9:35): Etz Hayim p. 351 - 368

TORAH PORTION SUMMARY
In this Torah portion, God tells Moses and Aaron to go to Pharaoh to demand freedom for the Israelites. Pharaoh refuses, and God unleashes plagues on the Egyptians. Pharaoh promises to free the Israelites, but God hardens Pharaoh’s heart. The portion ends with the plague of hail stopping and Pharaoh changing his mind once again.

COMMUNITY LEARNING
THE GREAT DEBATES: A JTS CURRICULUM TAUGHT BY RABBI AIN
Mondays, January 27, February 24, March 23, April 27 & May 18 at 4:30 pm

Sign up for this exciting class where we will contemplate questions such as:
• Are religion and reason compatible?
• Can we change the siddur as our worldview evolves?
• The nature of brit: Is our relationship with God based on law or love?
• Does the Holocaust play an outsized role in Jewish identity today?
• How do we teach about Israel?

RSVP to sps@spsnyc.org
SUTTON PLACE SYNAGOGUE PROUDLY PRESENTS
A SUNDAY SYMPOSIUM

A MODERN LOOK AT TRADITIONAL JEWISH SOURCES: HOW JUDAISM SPEAKS TO OUR CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCES

Sunday, January 26

10 am  Registration
10:30 am  Welcome
11 am - 1 pm  Keynote Talks
1 - 2 pm  Facilitated lunch with Rabbi Ain and Rabbinic Intern David Chapman

Sutton Place Synagogue
225 E 51st Street, NYC 10022

We welcome Dr. JOY LADIN and Rabbi DANNY NEVINS. Dr. Ladin holds the Gottesman Chair in English at Yeshiva University, and, in 2007, became the first (and still only) openly transgender employee of an Orthodox Jewish institution. Rabbi Nevins in the Dean of the Rabbinical School at JTS.

Dr. Ladin’s recent book, ‘The Soul of the Stranger: Reading God and Torah from a Transgender Perspective’, was a Lambda Literary Award and Triangle Award finalist. The book will be available for purchase.

Rabbi Nevins, who serves on the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, will explore how Jewish Law develops today and share his thoughts on Artificial Intelligence.

Chaired by SPS Past President, Bob Berend. To register, visit www.spsnyc.org/sundaysymposium
The SPS Cantorial Search Committee is excited to present Cantor Malachi Kanfer to our community.

Cantor Kanfer will lead us in services on Friday night, February 14 & Saturday morning, February 15.

Friday night services begin at 6:15 pm. Saturday morning services begin at 9:15 am, followed by a kiddush lunch during which Cantor Kanfer will be available to meet and greet our congregation. Please join us!

Can’t be there in person? You can live stream both services from our website, www.spsnyc.org

Cantor Kanfer is currently the Cantor at Congregation B’nai Jacob, a Conservative Synagogue in Woodbridge, CT.

#SPSTALKS

ANTI-SEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST
Monday, January 27 from 7:30-9 pm

Join fellow SPS Young Professionals and Rabbi Ain on International Holocaust Remembrance Day for an open dialogue about the legacy of the Holocaust, the resurgence of global anti-Semitism, and our moral responsibility as Jews to respond to both.

RSVP at spsnyc.org/ypspstalks
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL KABBALAT SHABBAT
Friday, January 31st at 6:15 pm

We welcome everyone to sing with us at our Musical Service!

Rabbi Rachel Ain, Cantor Dov Keren & pianist Gon Halevi, guitarist Tal Yaalom, vocalist Inbar Goldmann, percussionist David Silliman, and violinist Joel Arthur

225 East 51st Street, NYC 10022
212-593-3300 | sps@spsnyc.org
www.spsnyc.org
In a thoughtful, facilitated manner, we invite members of SPS to join together to discuss issues that are near and dear to us but might place us in opposition to one another.

The only way to learn and to grow is through listening.

ANTI-SEMITISM: WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF OUR OUTRAGE AND HOW SHOULD WE BE RESPONDING?
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 PM

ZOOMING IN: WHAT IS TAKING PLACE ON THE GROUND BETWEEN “ORDINARY” ISRAELIS/PALESTINIANS...HOW DO WE MAKE TODAY BETTER?
MONDAY, MAY 18, 7:30 PM

RSVP to Jeremy Reiss at Jeremy_reiss@msn.com so he can send you reading materials in advance.
Join us for an Original Off-Broadway Production
HELLO GORGEOUS: THE PLAY
BUYER AND CELLAR
Starring Michael Urie

In a one-man comedy for which he won a Drama Desk Award, Michael Urie takes audiences inside the fascinating wonderland of a woman who grew up in a tiny Brooklyn apartment with only one doll. Playing a down-on-his-luck actor who lands a job as the mall clerk, as well as his agent, boyfriend, Barbra, her husband and housekeeper, Urie creates a poignant friendship with a superstar still scarred by a troubled childhood.

**Date/Time:** Sunday, February 23rd at 7 pm

**Place:** Temple Emanu-El, 10 E 66th Street

**Cost/RSPV:** $45. Please complete the bottom portion of this form and send your check made payable to WL of SPS, to Gabrielle Alper at 50 Sutton Place South, Apt. 10F, NY, NY 10022. Your check must be received by Sunday, February 9th.

For questions, please contact Gabrielle Alper at 212-751-2180 or gabyharold@aol.com.

Name: _________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
Phone: ___________________ Email: _______________________
Amount Enclosed: _____ Names of attendees: __________________
### The Following Members Will Be Observing Yahrzeit This Week

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Marc Wollerstein</td>
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**BIRTHDAYS**

Ryan Farago • Jeff Heifetz • Benjamin Hurwitz • Ross Levine • Harrison Moscon
Jack Seidenfeld • Rachel Shapiro • Evan Spelfogel • Evan Wolpert

**ANNIVERSARIES**

David Cohen & Sylvia Johann • Ken & Leslie Zuckerbrot

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SPS GALA 2020**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2nd**

Sutton Place Synagogue
Second Annual Gala

An Evening of Celebration
Honoring our Past Presidents:

Philip Sassower
Robert Berend
Mark Wiener z”l
Roger Cohen
Rick Kaminer

6:30 PM @ RAVEL
Long Island City