



W elcome to Battery Park Synagogue

“serving the downtown community since 1986”

The Battery Park Synagogue is an unaffiliated egalitarian congregation. We welcome individuals and families of all backgrounds and traditions. We are committed to serving the religious, spiritual and educational needs of the downtown Jewish community.

We were founded in 1986 by pioneer downtown residents moving into the newly opened Battery Park City seeking High Holiday, Festival and Shabbat services as well as the creation of a nurturing environment for Jewish education.

More than thirty years later, the synagogue still provides bar- and bat-mitzvah instruction arranges for personalized b’nai mitzvah experiences, hosts monthly Shabbat services, joyously celebrates Festivals, sponsors adult education, Hebrew lessons, Senior’s activities and lectures, addresses lifecycle events and provides a focus for Jewish community in Battery Park City and the surrounding downtown area, including Tribeca and the Financial District.

Our membership includes individuals from diverse backgrounds working to create and sustain a vibrant Jewish community in lower Manhattan. Our community is strong, determined and resourceful; for example, shortly after the horrific events of September 11, 2001, dozens of our temporarily displaced members, as well as many fire, police and military units, came together from across the New York metropolitan area to observe taschlich in Battery Park City at the Hudson River. One week later, more than 250 individuals braved barricades to return for Yom Kippur services at the TriBeCa Grand hotel. Every year, we Break Fast together after Yom Kippur, celebrate in our communal Sukkah, offer a Passover model seder and participate in *Shabbat Across America* and the *National Jewish Outreach* Hebrew reading program.

Religious services are designed and conducted to encompass the full spectrum of the modern Jewish community but generally adhere to the basic tenets of Conservative Jewish practice. Services include a mixture of Hebrew and English to accommodate our diverse membership. Participation, at all levels, by all congregants is strongly encouraged. Particular attention is paid to including women in Jewish ritual. Our services are modern, musical, spiritual, welcoming and egalitarian.

Most regular Shabbat services as well lectures and educational offerings are centralized in a first floor suite in the *Gateway Plaza* apartment complex across from the *World Financial Center* off Liberty Street in Battery Park City. Larger festival celebrations and services, as well as congregational meetings, are held in a variety of community facilities in Battery Park City.

Bar and Bat Mitzvah instruction is set up with the active participation of families who want their children to experience this important passage into adulthood in a personalized setting. Mastering of Torah and/or Haftarah portions are facilitated by individualized private study. However, families are encouraged to create a unique experience personalized to their individual needs and desires to make a more meaningful entrance in Jewish adulthood.

Congregants receive updates and news about services and community events, as well as weekly parsha summaries and commentary, by e-mail. In addition, we publish a comprehensive and fact filled Newsletter. To subscribe, simply provide us with your mailing and/or e-mail addresses.

We welcome everyone who has an interest in discovering or reuniting with the special spiritual and social pleasures that come with joining a vibrant Downtown Jewish community.

Join us!