



Chanukah Customs and Practices

When: Chanukah begins on Sunday, December 6th at night. The last candle is lit on Sunday night, December 13th and the holiday ends at nightfall on Monday, December 14th.

Work is permitted on Chanukah (except for Shabbat). Women have a custom not to work for the first 30 minutes after the candles are lit.

Food: Holiday meals are not required, but we do have a custom to celebrate with special meals. Some people eat dairy on Chanukah. There is a custom to partake of latkes and jelly donuts. Children have a custom to play dreidel and other games related to Chanukah.

Special prayers: We add *al hanissim* in Grace after meals and the *amidah*. If one forgets, it need not be repeated. We recite *hallel* and a special Torah reading each morning. On the Shabbat that coincides with Chanukah we read from 3 Torah scrolls since it is also Rosh Chodesh and a special *Haftarah* for Chanukah. Sunday, December 13th, is also Rosh Chodesh, and we will read from 2 Torah scrolls.

Candle lighting: We light one oil lamp or candle on the first night, adding an additional candle each night, until we light 8 candles on the last night. It is customary to first light a *Shamash*, a helper candle, from which we light the rest. Candles should be large enough, or use sufficient oil, for the lights to burn for at least 30 minutes.

Placement: Our custom is to place the *chanukiah* by a window that faces the street. If not placed by the window, it should be placed by the main house door, opposite the *mezuzah*.

When do we light: Candles should be lit after nightfall (5:14 PM), except for Friday night (see below), or as soon thereafter as possible, but no later than dawn. In emergency situations candles may be lit earlier on condition that there is enough oil or large candles to remain lit until at least 5:44 PM. Please consult the rabbi.

How do we light: We place the first candle on the right side of the *chanukiah* as we face it, and add each new candle to its left. We light the *Shamash*, recite the 2 *b'rachot* (3 on the first night) as found in the siddur, and kindle from left to right. The *Shamash* is placed in the *chanukiah* separated from the other candles. It is customary to recite *haneirot halalu* and sing *maoz tzur* following the lighting.

Shabbat and Chanukah: Friday night, December 11th we light 6 candles (plus the *shamash*). Chanukah candles **must be lit before** Shabbat candles, before 4:13 PM. Enough oil or large candles must be used so that they remain lit until at least 5:44 PM. On Saturday night, December 12th, we must light **after** Shabbat ends, no earlier than 5:14 PM. It is customary to recite *havdalah* at home before lighting the Chanukah candles.

Travelers: If you are on the road, you are still required to light Chanukah candles. Please consult the rabbi for details and how you can observe the mitzvah.

Winter Solstice Eve Day

BREAKFAST

10:03 AM, Sunday, December 20

Beth David Synagogue 39 Riverside Drive

Beth David Men's Group

Are you suffering from pre-Winter Solstice Syndrome??? Do you know the Winter Solstice is the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere?? In numerous psychological studies a lack of day time sunlight has been linked to feelings. What feelings, you ask!! I believe we may have a possible answer and a cure. Attend this breakfast, socialize, schmooze, listen and participate with some of the greatest minds, some less than great minds and some mindless minds (if you don't mind), in our area. If you have WSS, we believe participation in this breakfast study *could* materially improve your condition.

ALL participants will receive a free cup of coffee, or tea, after paying the \$9 entry fee.

The entry fee also entitles you to participate in our **Fantastic Breakfast Buffet.**

Seating is *limited* to the first 1,000 applicants.

Make your reservation by Dec 17, or sooner.

Don't miss your opportunity to attend.

Arrive early for minyan and join "The Minyanaires". Send or bring \$9/ person.(includes all applicable taxes and gratuity.) So call me 765-3304 and let me know.

Always serving: Good food and Good schmooze.

Factoid: Some pyramids in Central and South America, as well as Stone Henge, were built so that sunlight on the Winter Solstice passing through an opening, illuminates a special spot.

Remember; 10:03 AM, Sunday, December 20

Call Charlie, 765-3304

Happy
Chanukah



Thanks To

Moshe Shmaryahu for the beautiful *tefillot*

Aaron Alweis for arranging all the honors, his excellent work as *gabbai*, expertly finding replacements for planned honors, and changing the ark curtains and Torah covers

Leonard Preston for handling the seating arrangements for the Yom Tovim

Meryl Sasnowitz for the Yizkor announcements and preparing the weekly kiddush lists

Lillian Zodikoff for making the weekly reminder calls for the Kiddush workers

Shirley Lash for the office work, preparing all the Yom Tov documents, child care, and always willing to do anything we need, beyond the call of duty

The women of Sisterhood for supplying, enhancing, and/or presenting the holiday and Shabbat *kiddushim*, Yom Kippur children's lunch, break-the-fast, and Yom Tov candles

Marlene Serkin for all the shopping for the Yom Tov *kiddushim*, preparing the candles, putting out the break-the-fast and the many behind the scenes jobs she takes care of

Cathy Velenchik for providing the Yahrtzeit candles, shopping and arranging for people to serve and clean up for the holiday *kiddushim*

Lori and Brian Tuberman for the flowers in the sanctuary on Rosh Hashanah in honor of Maxine & Marvin Kaplan, Brian's parents; and the flowers on Yom Kippur in memory of Lori's father, Jack Harary, and in honor of Lori's mother, Joyce Harary

Rabbi Zev Silber for excellence in Shofar blowing

Sheldon and Ahren Edison for donating the herring for the *kiddushim* in memory of Sheldon's parents and wife (Ahren's grandparents and mother) and in honor of our *gabbai*, Aaron Alweis

Meryl and Harold Sasnowitz for donating the candy bars for Simchat Torah

Marcy and Gaby Yonaty for donating the apples for Simchat Torah

Paula and Charles Rubin for donating the kichzel in memory of their beloved son, Stephen

The Chevra Kadisha for sponsoring the Shmini Atzeret Kiddush

Dan Gold for checking the *eruv* each week, and Dan and Charlie Manasse for the frequent last-minute *erev* repairs

Gaby Yonaty, Charlie Manasse, and Bob Kutz for putting the *schach* covering on the Sukkah

The Shabbat luncheon sponsors and speakers throughout the year

Judy Silber for all the time and effort she puts into the monthly Shabbat luncheons

Dora Polachek for arranging for the interesting speakers for the Shabbat luncheons

The Wrights for hosting Moshe Shmaryahu

Barbara Bank and/or David Serkin for proofing each issue of the *ChaiLine*

Hadassah Gold and her daughter Tziona, for polishing the silver crowns that adorn our sifrei Torah

Happy Chanukah!