

## March-April Minyan Times

### Mornings (times constant)\*

Sunday .....	8:30 am
Monday – Friday .....	6:40 am
*Except March 7, April 5 .....	6:30 am
*Shabbat .....	9:00 am

### Evenings (times vary)

Friday, March 4 .....	5:40 pm
Shabbat, March 5 .....	5:30 pm
Sunday, March 6 .....	5:45 pm
Monday-Thursday, March 7-10 .....	7:00 pm
Friday March 11 .....	5:50 pm
Shabbat, March 12 .....	5:35 pm
Sunday-Wednesday, March 13-16 .....	6:50 pm
Thursday-Sunday, March 17-20 .....	see Purim Schedule
Monday-Thursday, March 21-24 .....	7:00 pm
Friday, March 25 .....	7:05 pm
Shabbat, March 26 .....	6:50 pm
Sunday-Thursday, March 27-31 .....	7:10 pm
Friday, April 1 .....	7:15 pm
Shabbat, April 2 .....	7:00 pm
Sunday-Friday, April 3-8 .....	7:15 pm
Shabbat, April 9 .....	7:10 pm
Sunday - Thursday, April 10-14 .....	7:25 pm
Friday, April 15 .....	7:15 pm
Shabbat, April 16 .....	7:00 pm
Shabbat, April 17 .....	7:30 pm

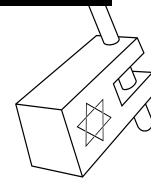
## Calendar of Events

March 9 .....	Sisterhood Meeting
March 12 .....	Shabbat Luncheon
March 17 .....	Fast of Esther
March 19 .....	Megillah Reading
March 20 .....	Purim Seudah
April 3 .....	Passover Workshop
April 9 .....	Shabbat Luncheon

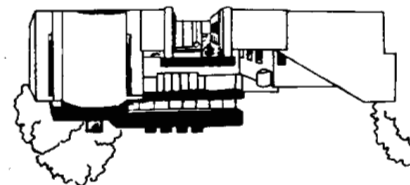
**Purim Seudah**  
**Sunday, March 20 - 2:00 pm**

**Pre-Pesach Workshop**  
**Sunday, April 3 - 7:30 pm**

**March 20, 2011**  
**Purim Seudah**  
**SAVE THE DATE**



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# CHAI LINE

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## "The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

VOLUME LII, ISSUE 3

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

March-Purim – 2011/5771

### From the Rabbi

In the Megillah we will read on Purim Haman approaches the King Achashveirosh to present his evil plan to exterminate the Jewish people. His first argument when presenting his dastardly strategy is reported to be the following statement: "Yeshno am echad mefuzar umeforad bein ha'amim" - there is one nation scattered and dispersed among the nations of your land (Ester 3:8). Haman argues that these people are weak and have no friends, so no one would miss them if they were exterminated.

The Talmud (Megillah 13) interprets the argument differently. Do not read the first word as "yeshno" - there is, rather read it as "yashnu" - they fell asleep. The rabbis suggest that the reason that Haman gave and that almost worked in Israel's annihilation is that they fell asleep from doing the mitzvot.

The Talmud does not explain what mitzvah the Jews were lax in observing. But some later commentators suggest that the mitzvot that they ignored were the interpersonal commands and that this led to a lack of unity among the people. That is what the verse in the megillah alludes to when it says that the Jews were dispersed and scattered. There was no unity among the Jews, and they acted with disregard towards their fellow Jews.

Mordechai and Esther recognized this shortcoming among the Jews. Therefore, before approaching the king with the request to annul Haman's decree Esther asked that all the Jews in the capital gather together to fast and pray for her success. When working in unison, fasting and praying together, they demonstrated to God that this accusation of lack of unity and caring for the other is being corrected.

Perhaps this was sufficient to remove Haman's threat. However, Mordechai and Esther wanted to create an environment that would assure that never again will the Jewish people be plagued with such divisions to allow the possibility of total annihilation. They created the mitzvot of *mishloach manot* (shalach monos - exchanging food gifts with our friends) and *matanot laevyonim* (gifts to the poor) specifically on Purim in order to demonstrate that we do care about the less fortunate and we are united with other Jews. By accepting these mitzvot for all future generations, the Jews of that time showed that they could work together in order to guarantee the existence of the Jewish people.

It is incumbent upon us, in our generation, to continue with these acts of unity and love, caring and compassion for our fellow Jews, which will assure our continued existence. Let us gather together at the reading of the megillah, feast together in the Purim Seudah, and participate together in sharing with our friends and also those less fortunate in our community and in Israel. In merit of performing these acts together, God will bless us and the entire Jewish people with peace and protection from those who vow to destroy us.

Chag Purim Sameach!

Rabbi Zev Silber

*Purim Issue*

### From the VP

My thanks to our synagogue's President, Saba Wiesner, for graciously offering me her usual space in the *ChaiLine* to inform you of a very special and exciting event.

Beth David Synagogue has been invited by the Orthodox Union to participate in their "Emerging Communities" Fair that will be held in New York City on March 27th. At this fair we, together with other small and mid-sized communities from across the nation, will be presenting - via multimedia, still photography, brochures and face-to-face encounters -- a great deal of information about our Jewish and overall community, along with job availabilities and housing costs in the area, to a number of Jewish families looking to leave the metropolitan area. Invitation to this Fair is very difficult to come by and effective representation and marketing of our community to prospective young families and/or retirees may lead to the beginning of an influx of new people to our area, benefiting not only our synagogue, but the entire Jewish and general community, as well.

I have been quite fortunate to work with an outstanding committee of hard-working and insightful people, as well as Jewish agency leaders and a number of talented volunteers, to bring our presentation to fruition. Local Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Federation, the JCC, Hillel Academy and our own synagogue, have agreed to assist us with offers of incentives to help draw people to our community.

The vital part of this effort, though, will come *after* the OU Fair. And that's where you come in. At the Fair we will be assembling a list of the names and contact information of the families we meet. Follow-up contact with these families, including invitations to spend a Shabbat with us, tours of the area and answering their inquiries, will be crucial. We will need your help to accomplish this most important task. We're counting on all of our Beth David family members to step up and help us convey what we already know - the Greater Binghamton Jewish and overall community is a wonderful place to call home!

Aaron Alweis  
Vice-President

### Special Sponsors

In memory of our dear parents **Rose and Arthur Manasse**, by **Lynn, Charlie, Kathy and Mel Manasse**

### Thanks to the Sponsors

**Claire and Samuel Ladenheim** in honor of their newest Greatgrandchild, {#8} **Caleb Leo**, son of **Naomi and Noah Davis**

**Claire Ladenheim** with special thanks for **Sam's** quick recovery from surgery

**Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy** in memory of Cathy's grandfathers **Bela Weintraub and Joseph Velenchik**

# Sisterhood

If you did not attend Sisterhood's last meeting on a cold winter night, February 9, you missed a lot of warmth. Meryl Sasnowitz and Susan Wright put together an evening of steamy lattes, muffins and biscotti, accompanied by a mini version of the InterSisterhood program of songs and lots of laughter.

Our InterSisterhood program on December 7 was surely an evening to remember. Dora Polachek was our very able coordinator. There was a very good turnout from Temple Concord, Temple Israel and Beth David. The program of songs, based on a game, "Encore," was devised and emceed by Meryl with help from Sima Auerbach. There was a lot of fun, laughter and enthusiasm.

Our next meeting takes place on March 9. Michele Williams, a PT at Lourdes, will be presenting a proven program from Tufts University. It is based on research by Dr. Miriam Nelson that can lead to significant changes in energy level, attitude, bone strength, mobility, endurance and balance. Come and learn what this is all about. Who Knows? It could be a life changing epiphany for us.

Have you seen the exhibit of Purim objects in the display case in the social hall? These were lent by various Sisterhood members. We would now like to showcase Passover items; anything of interest, old, new, or something with a story behind it. Everything displayed is under lock and key. Please contact Meryl Sasnowitz or me if you have something you would like to exhibit.

I'd like to express my thanks and inestimable appreciation to our Program chairperson, Meryl Sasnowitz, and her committee of Susan Wright and Judy Simon. They have worked very hard and have done an outstanding job of bringing interesting programs for our monthly Sisterhood meetings. No mean feat! Kudos to all.

See you in March and Happy Purim to everyone!

Claire Ladenheim, Sisterhood President

## InterSisterhood

The photos in the December 30 issue of The Reporter showed what a great turnout we had for the December InterSisterhood "Sing and Celebrate." Cold weather didn't stop about 30 members of Beth David, Temple Concord and Temple Israel from enjoying a Chanukah evening, and singing together in an action-packed and fun-filled variation of the board game "Encore." The evening was conceived and emceed by Meryl Sasnowitz who did a fantastic job.

As coordinator of the event, I'd like to thank Vicki Niman and Dorie Osisek of Temple Concord for their role in getting the event off the ground. For all their help, I also thank Sima Auerbach, Marilyn Bell, Phyllis Heller, Marti Klionsky, Claire Ladenheim, Shirley Lash, Paula Rubin, Meryl Sasnowitz, Marlene Serkin, Judy Silber, Marie Werner, Lillian Zodikoff, and Mike Decker (who took the group picture for The Reporter).

Dora Polachek

### Correction

The From the Rabbi article in the last issue of the *ChaiLine* was authored by Rabbi Adamit, not Rabbi Silber.

## Give Double Chai

Thanks go to the sponsors of our ChaiLine. Your sponsorships are responsible for making the ChaiLine self sustaining and not putting a strain on the synagogue budget. Without you, we could not do this. Keep up the good work.

A donation of \$180.00 makes you a **Special Sponsor**, for \$36.00 you are a regular sponsor, and you can put in a thank you note for \$18.00.

Send your donation and message to the synagogue office before the next deadline (April 3, 2011) and you will be included in that issue.

Thank you for all contributions, past and present.

Marlene Serkin

## Mitzvah Fund

Toby Kohn, 754-4297 or [tgkohn@stny.rr.com](mailto:tgkohn@stny.rr.com)

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing

### Mazel Tov to:

Rabbi Ami & Sarah Lynn Adamit on their new granddaughter, Orly Marilyn Bell -- thank you for being my friend  
Larry & Rita Bleier on new grandson  
Bob & Ruth Groh on their move to New England  
Sam & Claire Ladenheim on their new grandson, Caleb  
Merri Pell-Preus on her son's engagement  
Tom & Suzanne Triebwasser on their move to Maryland  
Arieh Ullmann on Jeremy receiving his PhD  
Harry & Roz Wiesel on your new grandson, Yaakov Chaim Lilly Wolf -- thank you for demonstrating how to make knishes  
Gaby & Marcy Yonaty -- in gratitude for Sari-Ann's recovery

### Refuah Shelemah to:

Toby Kohn Sam Ladenheim Marlene Serkin

## Contributions

### General Fund from:

Judy & Irwin Simon thanking Meryl & Harold Sasnowitz for all their caring and support

### Shabbat Luncheon Fund:

Barbara Wolfson in appreciation for the monthly Shabbat Luncheons and Speakers

### Shul Beautiful to:

Rabbi & Sarah Lynn Adamit -- Mazel Tov on your new granddaughter, Orly, -- from Ann Brilliant  
Bob & Ruth Groh, -- Mazel Tov on your move -- from Ann Brilliant

## ..... Thanks .....

A huge *yasher koach* to Bob Kutz for purchasing and installing the new plexiglass cover on the *bima* table.

## Beth David Family

Spring is in the air; just note the warming temperatures, the melting snow, the squishy mud, and the hammentashen in the oven. Travelers tried to escape the winter chill by heading south, but early season Florida weather didn't bode well. Kathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy happened to venture to Florida the same December week Harold and I did. Chaim is the roller coaster king who took Universal's new World of Harry Potter by storm. We lost count of how many spinning, twirling attractions he rode. Headed for calmer vacations were Marcia and Steve Sutter and Svetlana and Mark Budman who cruised the Caribbean waters several weeks apart.

Babies are our hope and our joy, and we love to welcome them. Adina and Moshe Hahn of Passaic had a girl, Ilana Yael. She's the granddaughter of Cathy and Steve Schuss of Teaneck, and the great-granddaughter of Naomi and Shalom Staiman of Jerusalem. Bethany and Josh Strulowitz of San Francisco brought a boy, Akiva Shmuel, into their family. Grandparents Rita and Larry Bleier are elated. Naomi and Noah Davis welcomed their son, Caleb Leo, during one of NYC's snow storms. The weather didn't deter grandparents Xianna and Michael Shiffman of LA or great-grandparents Claire and Sam Ladenheim from attending the brit. This is the Ladenheims' first east coast great-grandchild. Naomi and Eli Katz of Boca Raton had a boy, Yaakov Chaim. He is grandparents Roz and Harry Wiesel's first grandson. What a *bracha* to have three great-grandparents at the Florida brit. May each of the babies reach bar/bat mitzvah, chuppah, and to 120 in good health!

Eliezer Morell celebrated his fall Bar Mitzvah amongst family and friends in Monsey. Mazal Tov to the entire Morell family, including parents Avi and Beth and grandparents Marion and Shmuel. Nomi and Boaz Shnoor and their children Gilad, Yuval, and Matan traveled home to Israel to celebrate the marriage of Nomi's sister Estee Bacon to Yotam Kaufman. Devorah and Asher Vale of Toronto announced the wedding of their daughter Batya. Of course to all of us in town it seems she's only seven years old! Ruth and Howard Buschman shared their latest family *simcha* with the shul at a special Kiddush luncheon. Their granddaughter Tal Aliza, daughter of Suzie Erez of Haifa, became engaged to Mordechai Avraham Hod. The *kallah*, the *katan*, Suzie, and her two sons Yonaton and Doni, were all in Binghamton for the celebration.

Grandparents Arline and Marvin Kutz and great aunt and uncle Maria and Bob Kutz *kvelled* as they watched Jillian, daughter of Renee Tiech of the nearby Syracuse area, compete in a gymnastics competition at our local arena. *Yasher Koach* to Tanya Wright, daughter of Barbara and Les Bank, who was recently awarded her Ph. D in Education at the University of Michigan. Mazal Tov also to Tanya's husband Will and her daughters Lily and Ella. We've had to bid farewell to two beloved couples from our *kehilla*. Ruth and Bob Groh moved to Providence, RI to be near their children Sharon and Howie Mintz. Suzanne and Tom Triebwasser moved to Maryland for a job promotion. Although the Grohs' tenure in Binghamton was a much longer one than that of

the Triebwassers, they will be equally missed. Get in touch with me if you'd like contact information for either of the couples. *Refuah shelema* to Barbara Bank, Samuel Ladenheim, and Toby Kohn.

I look forward to seeing you at Beth David's Purim *seudah*. It's a *freilich* gathering for laughter, schmoozing, and good eats prepared by Saba Wiesner and her very able crew.

Meryl Sasnowitz

## Message from the Grohs

We want to send sincere thanks to all our friends at Beth David and the community at large who sent greetings and messages of good wishes to us upon our move to Providence, RI. (Ruth to the Fall River Jewish Home) and Bob to my new residence at 41 Elmway, Providence, RI 02906) with our daughter Sharon and son-in-law Howie Mintz.

Bob and Ruth Groh

## Keep in Touch

As many of you know, Ruth and Bob Groh have left the Binghamton area and are now settled in New England. Following are the addresses and phone numbers for both so that you can keep in touch.

Ruth Groh Fall River Jewish Home 6A 538 Robeson St. Fall River, MA 02720 1-508-673-1264 (no answering machine)	Robert Groh 41 Elmway St. Providence, RI 02906 1-401-751-1251 (answering machine) email: <a href="mailto:robertgrohw2ifa@gmail.com">robertgrohw2ifa@gmail.com</a>
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## Rummage Sale Report

Thanks again to all of you who donated merchandise and/or volunteered your time to help out at the rummage sale held Sunday, Monday and Tuesday November 21, 22, and 23, 2010. Thanks especially to Bob Kutz who donated quite a bit of new merchandise for the sale.

Set up was done on Saturday night, after Shabbat. Our volunteers were so efficient that we finished in a little over an hour.

A million thanks to the following for helping set up, clean up and working at the sale, we couldn't do it without you:

Judy Silber	Valerie Preston	Marilyn Bell
Claire Ladenheim	Ilana Segal	Marie Werner
Toby Kohn	Lillian Zodikoff	Susan & Michael Wright
Rita Shawn	Marcia & Steven Sutter	Nomi & Boaz Shnoor & Family
Sandy Boysick		

Thank you,

Marlene Serkin, Rummage Sale Chairwoman

### We no longer accept the following:

- 1) Electronics or small appliances that do not work
- 2) Incomplete games, puzzles or broken toys
- 3) Torn or dirty clothing and linens
- 4) Items that are rusted or broken

If the item is really trash, please dispose of it.