

March Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday | 8:30 am |
| Monday – Friday | 6:40 am |
| *Except March 24 | 6:30 am |
| Shabbat..... | 9:00 am |

EVENINGS (times constant)

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Friday | 7:15 pm |
|--------------|---------|

Beginning April 1

EVENINGS (times vary)

| | |
|---|---------|
| Sunday – Thursday, March 13-17 | 6:55 pm |
| Friday, March 18 | 7:00 pm |
| Shabbat, March 19 | 6:45 pm |
| Sunday – Tuesday, March 20-22 | 7:00 pm |
| Wednesday– Thursday, March 23-24... <i>see Purim schedule</i> | |
| Friday, March 25 | 7:05 pm |
| Shabbat, March 26 | 6:55 pm |
| Sunday – Thursday, March 27-31 | 7:10 pm |
| Shabbat, April 2 | 7:00 pm |
| Sunday – Thursday, April 3-7 | 7:15 pm |
| Shabbat, April 9 | 7:10 pm |
| Sunday – Thursday, April 10-14 | 7:25 pm |
| Shabbat, April 16 | 7:00 pm |
| Sunday – Thursday, April 17-21 | 7:35 pm |

Purim Schedule

Ta'anit Ester

| | |
|--|---------|
| Wednesday, March 23 <i>Fast begins</i> | 5:37 am |
| Shacharit | 6:40 am |
| Mincha | 6:50 pm |
| <i>Fast ends</i> | 8:02 pm |

Purim

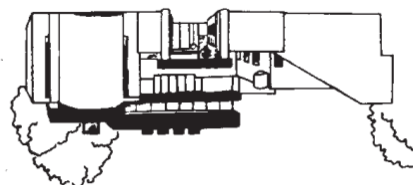
| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Wednesday, March 23 Ma'ariv | 7:50 pm |
| Megillah | 8:00 pm |
| Thursday, March 24 Shacharit | 6:30 am |
| Megillah | 7:00 am |
| Second reading | 5:30 pm |
| Mincha | 6:15 pm |
| Purim Seudah | 6:30 pm |

HAPPY PURIM



Happy Purim
Purim Seudah
Thursday, March 24
6:30 pm

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CHAI LINE

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Purim, 2016-5776

From the Rabbi

We are approaching the holiday of Purim. What is the reason for this holiday? It all started with the concept of Amalek. Haman the wicked was an Amalekite, and we know the rest of the story. Unfortunately, in every generation, we have a new Amalek. Any group of people, nation, or individual who wants to destroy the Jewish nation is considered Amalek as well. The first Amalek were those who tailed the Jewish people when they left Egypt and tried to destroy them. Therefore, the Torah states, "Hashem maintains a war against Amalek from generation to generation" (Exodus, 17:16).

In the book of Devarim, Hashem commands us to wipe out the memory of Amalek. In every generation, the strength and the life of Amalek actually comes from the weakness of the trust of the Jewish nation in Hashem. The existence of Amalek nowadays, (now we experience a new one-ISIS) shows that we still are not in a high level of true *Emunah* (belief) and trust in Hashem. We, the Jewish people, have to believe that our way is the right way. Unfortunately, some Jews don't have strong faith in our Torah way of life, and have been known to weaken our efforts. We should live with *Emunah* and act like Mordechai did when Haman wanted to destroy the Jewish nation.

Our rabbis tell us that in the time to come, all the biblical holidays will be cancelled, except Purim.

I would like to conclude with the prayer we say on Purim, "We thank you God for the miracles you did for our fathers. . . In the days of Mordechai and Esther in Shushan, when the wicked Haman rose up against them, sought to destroy, slay, and wipe out all the Jews. . . but you (God), with your mercy, nullified his counsel."....

Happy Purim.

Rabbi Aminadav Adamit

From the President

Since my last article for the *ChaiLine* we have had some changes in our office. Our dear Shirley Lash who has been the Shul secretary for 15 years decided in December to retire.

Everyone that knows Shirley just has to adore her; she has been a friend to all of us at Beth David and also a devoted employee. We wish her and her beautiful family good health and much happiness in her retirement. We are fortunate that Shirley and Krista, her daughter, will continue to help us in the kitchen for our monthly luncheons.

To fill Shirley's place I have hired Joan Canova, who by now is feeling quite comfortable with her new position. She continues

to tell me often that she loves her new job and the people that she is meeting all the time. Please come and meet Joan when you are at the Shul and welcome her to our Beth David Family.

On March 24th we will be celebrating Purim and will be having our Seudah following the Megillah reading. Please make your reservations early so that we are able to prepare for the correct amount of people coming. I am looking forward to having a lovely dinner.

It is time to save the date for our annual Beth David Dinner which will be held on May 22. This year's dinner will be a little different, we will not be honoring a special person but instead we will be having a going away party for Rabbi Ami Adamit and his lovely wife Sarah Lynn. They will be moving to Israel to be with their children and we will sincerely miss them.

Rabbi Adamit has been instrumental in all phases of Jewish life in our community. He has taught our children at Hillel Academy & at Temple Israel, he has been one of our Rabbis at Beth David since 2005, he has been affiliated with Binghamton University Jewish life and NCSY coordinator and so many other aspects of Judaism in our community.

Thinking about them leaving is painful but we must rejoice in the fact that they are making aliyah. So please save the date (May 22); it will be a great party.

We are refreshing some of the areas in the synagogue with new paint, come see and be part of our beautiful Shul especially at Shabbat Services.

Have a great Purim!!

Saba Wiesner, President

Give Double Chai

Getting the *ChaiLine* to you six times a year requires extra effort by a few people. We gladly exert this extra effort so that you, our fellow congregants and friends, can keep up with what is going on at Beth David Synagogue and what members of the Beth David family are up to. Remember, once you have been a member of Beth David, you are always considered a member of the Beth David family.

To those who have helped get the *ChaiLine* to you by sponsoring an issue, both past and present, thank you. If you would like to join their ranks, a donation of \$36 for sponsorship, \$180 for being a **Special Sponsor**, or \$18 for a thank you, arriving at the Shul office before the next deadline (April 3, 2016) will be most appreciated.

A *freilich* Purim to all. *Marlene Serkin, ChaiLine coordinator*

Thanks to the Sponsors

Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy in memory of Cathy's grandparents, **Bela & Terez Weintraub**

Marie Werner, wishing everyone a happy Purim

Purim Customs and Practices

When: Purim begins on Wednesday, March 23, at night, and lasts through the day of Thursday, March 24. The fast of Esther is observed on Wednesday, March 23.

Work is permitted on Purim. However, we usually spend most of the day in fulfillment of the various *mitzvot* of Purim, as will be enumerated below.

The Four Parshiot: There are special Torah readings of the *maftir* during four *Shabbatot* from the Shabbat before Rosh Chodesh Adar until the Shabbat of Rosh Chodesh Nisan. The *Shabbat* before Purim we read **Parshat Zachor – remember** – and this serves as an affirmation to remember the evil that occurred to the Jewish people in the past and a commitment to never forget, and never again allow genocidal murder to take place. According to most authorities, hearing this portion of the Torah read is one of the 613 *mitzvot*. You are encouraged to be in *shul* on Shabbat morning, March 19, to fulfill this obligation.

Ta’anit Ester – the Fast of Esther: We fast on the day before Purim in commemoration of the fasting that the Jews observed on the day of the battle. The name of the fast is associated with Queen Esther, as she had declared three days of a national fast before approaching the king to request the annulment of Haman’s decree. The fast is observed on Wednesday, March 23. This fast is observed from morning to night, beginning at 5:37 am and ending at 8:02 pm. It is customary not to eat until after the reading of the Megillah. If you have special circumstances that may make it difficult to fast, or you need to eat before the reading of the *Megillah*, please consult with the rabbi.

Reading the Megillah: It is a mitzvah to hear the *Megillah*, the scroll of Esther, read both at night and during the day of Purim. At Beth David, we will be reading the *Megillah* on Wednesday night, March 23 at 8:00 pm and Thursday morning, March 24 at 7:00 am, following Shacharit. If you cannot make the early morning reading, you are invited to join for an additional reading at the shul at 5:30 pm, prior to the festive meal.

It is customary to contribute to synagogue maintenance before hearing the *Megillah*, in commemoration of the *machatzit hashkekel*, the three half shekels that were given each year in Adar for the maintenance of the holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Matanot La’evyonim – gifts to the poor: It is a mitzvah to give at least two gifts to each of two poor people on this day as Purim charity. The rabbis will be collecting and distributing Purim charity to local Jewish poor through Jewish Family Service and to the poor in Israel through the *Od Yosef Chai* organization. Contributions for this purpose should be made to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund and please note how you wish your contribution to be divided, between local or Israel needs. Contributions for local needs must be made by March 17, while gifts for Israeli poor may be made until the morning *Megillah* reading.

Mishloach Manot – food gifts to friends: Commonly known as *shalach manot*, we give at least two portions of ready-to-eat foods to at least one other person. The mitzvah of sharing Purim joy through food is commendable, but more of our holiday funds should be allocated for gifts to the poor.

Seudat Purim – the Purim feast: It is a mitzvah to participate in a festive meal on Purim day (not at night). Beth David will conduct its annual Purim Seudah on Thursday, March 24, at 6:30 pm. See announcement in this issue!

Special prayers: On *Ta’anit Esther* we add special prayers and Torah readings at both the morning and afternoon services, as is customary for fast days. On Purim we add *al hanissim* in Grace after meals and the *amidah*. If one forgets, it need not be repeated. There is a special Torah reading in the morning, before the *Megillah* reading. The day after Purim is known as **Shushan Purim** and is the day that Purim is celebrated in Jerusalem. We do not say *tachanun* in honor of this day.

Beth David Family

Grab a cup of hot cocoa, curl yourself into a cozy chair, put on your reading glasses, and ready yourself for a long read.

Rabbi Ami Adamit’s special birthday was celebrated by his extended family and friends at a family sponsored monthly Beth David luncheon. The highlight, other than the scrumptious NJ cake and delicious sides, was hearing Rabbi Adamit speak of his experiences in the IDF. Bernie Segal shared a cake with the JCC’s Yiddish group for his special birthday. He and Ilana plan for a springtime family recognition.

Toby and Harold Kohn’s trip to Israel for a family wedding introduced them to new communities, Modi-in and Ashdod. Hadassah, Dan and Tziona Gold’s Israeli adventure led them to a stop at the Dead Sea where Tziona dipped in the salty water. Enjoyable family time was spent by Rabbi Adamit on his Israeli journey. Ruth and Howard Buschman’s Israel trip brought them special joy as they *kvelled* at the wedding of their grandson Donny, son of Susie Erez, to Edn Rodobsky.

Susan and Michael Wright explored Austin, Texas in a combined business/pleasure trip before they flew to Boynton Beach with Kerry Wright to visit Susan’s mother Trudy Greenspan. Susan and Gerry Hubal relaxed on Florida’s east coast for several weeks. Claire Ladenheim’s winter retreat brought her to sunny southern California. Her children Xianna and Michael Shifman’s home was the base from which she connected with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Marilyn Bell shepped much nachas as her grandsons Nosson and Reuven, sons of Jen and David Bell of Passaic, were called to the Torah as B’nei Mitzvot. The family was especially thankful to reach this milestone in good health as they recovered from their recent car accident. Avi Silber’s Bar Mitzvah in Staten Island brought much joy to his dad Eli Silber and to his grandparents Judy and Rabbi Zev Silber who can’t stop *kveling*. Harold and I were delighted to celebrate the Bat Mitzvah of our granddaughter Maayan Bracha, daughter of Rochie and Marc Sommer, in Passaic. May each of the celebrants continue to grow in Torah and mitzvot.

A first great-grandchild, Matanya Yehuda, was welcomed into the family of Claire Goldstein. He’s the son of Mira and Etan Kestenbaum and is the first grandchild for Adina and David Samson of Efrat. Levi and Hadasa Slonim welcomed the latest edition to their family, a son, Shneur Zalman. Grandparents Aaron and Rivky Slonim are sharing in the joy of their newest grandchild. A son, Reuben was born to Amy and David Bank of CA. Grandparents Barbara and Les Bank bonded with the baby the first few weeks after his birth. First time grandparents Elaine and Jerry Cohen are overjoyed with the birth of a granddaughter, Ella Amy, to Laura and Ami Efrati. Zalman and Rochel Chein son’s brit was celebrated by the community at the Vestal Chabad house. Avraham Yitzchok was joyously welcomed home by Mendel, Berke, Mushky, and Shterna.

Mel and Barbara Rosen of south Florida note one of those “small world” occurrences. They discovered Barbara’s son Stuart’s Maine neighbor is the great niece of long time member Millye Schwartz, OBM. They group enjoyed reminiscing about early Binghamton days.

Refuah Shelema to Leon Feldhamer, Dora Feuer, Jeanette DeLeon, Stuart Serkin, and Marie Werner.

With sadness I note the death of our member Herman Wolf. We offer our condolences to his dear wife, Lilly, to his daughters Helen and Miriam (and Aaron Alweis), and to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

With Purim on the horizon, the shul is bustling with activity. Lori Tuberman and her team, including her daughter Sammy, are bringing the fragrance of fresh baked hamantaschen to our noses; and enticing aromas waft through the air as Saba Wiesner and her crew prepare for the Purim seudah. This special meal at Beth David allows us to fulfill one of the mitzvot of Purim together with friends. And, I note Rabbi Silber’s ground work that enables him to chant Megillah Esther multiple times to ensure each of us fulfills the mitzvah of hearing it.

Wishing you a *freilach* Purim!

Meryl Sasowitz

Sisterhood

As I write this I am coming to the end of a wonderful 5 week reunion with my California family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But this fantasy world must end and I will be returning to the real world of Binghamton by the middle of March.

Unfortunately, I will miss the Torah and Tea program with Rivka Kellman. I hope everyone enjoyed it.

Coming up, in April, will be the annual InterSisterhood program coordinated by Dora Polachek and Roz Antoun of Beth David and Temple Concord, respectively. This year it will be held at Temple Concord. It promises to be interesting and fun, as always.

I look forward to seeing you all. In the meantime, happy Purim to everyone and thanks to Lori Tuberman and her crew for baking the hamantaschen.

Claire Ladenheim, Sisterhood President

Matanot La’evyonim – Purim Charity

One of the *mitzvot* of Purim is to deliver gifts to the poor on Purim day. Your rabbis will again distribute gifts to local needy through the Jewish Family Service, and to Israeli poor through the Od Yosef Chai charitable organization.

Believe it or not, there are Jewish needy in our city and when they have received help at holiday time, they have expressed great thanks and satisfaction. Purim, being a holiday dedicated to “*simcha*” - joy, requires us to assure that all Jews can rejoice. The poor rejoice when they have the means to sustain their lives, leading to the importance placed on this mitzvah.

In order to participate in this mitzvah, donations may be sent to the shul or given to one of the rabbis by March 17. Donors are asked to mark their checks as “Purim charity” and specify whether they wish the money to be distributed locally or in Israel. Contributions received after March 17 will be sent to Israel. Those contributions may be made up to the *megillah* reading on Purim morning.

Join us at the Beth David Purim Seudah

Thursday, March 24 at 6:30 pm

Reservations requested

Lillian Zodikoff – 798-9082

Shul office – 722-1793

Mitzvah Fund

Toby Kohn, 754-4297 or tgkohn@stny.rr.com

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Sy Klionsky on his birthday

Dr. Rhonda Levine in honor of her receiving Colgate University’s Jerry Balmuth Award for Transformational Teaching & Student Engagement

Meryl & Harold Sasnowitz on their granddaughter, Mayan, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Rabbi Zev & Mrs. Judy Silber in honor of their grandson, Avi, becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Eliezer Silber in honor of his son, Avi, becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their grandson, Shneur Zalman

Rabbi Levi & Hadasa Slonim on the birth of their son, Shneur Zalman

Refuah Shelema to:

Jeanette DeLeon Dora Feuer Laura Greger

Stuart Serkin Susan Gilinsky Leonard Preston

Rabbi Rachel Esserman Marcy Swartz Marie Werner

In Memory Of:

Rabbi Ami Adamit’s nephew who died in a tragic accident in Jerusalem. Herman Wolf.

Contributions

General Fund from:

The Alweis Family

The Horwitz/Mindick Family

Pinchos Yurowitz

Robert & Barbara Ruchames in memory of Thelma Cohen

Stephen & Marcia Sutter

Gerald & Susan Hubal

Marlene Serkin in thankfulness for Stuart Serkin’s quick recovery

Maria & Bob Kutz in memory of Herman Wolf

Shul Beautiful to:

Miriam Alweis and family in memory of beloved father & grandfather, Herman Wolf from Judy & Irwin Simon.

Ruth & Howard Buschman in honor of the birth of their first great grandson from Marcy & Gabi Yonaty.

Dora Feuer wishing her a speedy recovery from Marcy & Gabi Yonaty.

Dora Feuer wishing her a speedy recovery from Claire Ladenheim.

Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund:

Marie Werner Rita Shawn Ruth Goldstein

Nancy Basmann Cathy Velenchik & Chaim Joy

Thank You

The members and friends of Beth David Synagogue wish to give a huge thank you to Lori Tuberman for organizing the baking of Hamantaschin to make our Purim celebration even more joyful.

In addition to Lori, our thanks go to Maxine Kaplan, Judy Silber, Fern Sternberg and Samantha Tuberman.

Many thanks for the kind donations to Beth David in memory of my father, Herman Wolf.

~Miriam Alweis