

September- December Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Sunday                               | 8:30 am |
| Monday-Friday                        | 6:40 am |
| *Except September 22, 23; October 24 | 6:30 am |
| *Except November 27                  | 8:30 am |
| Shabbat                              | 9:00 am |

EVENINGS (times constant)

beginning October 6

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Monday – Thursday | 7:00 pm |
|-------------------|---------|

beginning November 8

Shabbat Mincha – after Kiddush; Ma’ariv listed below

EVENINGS (times vary)

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Friday, September 12                   | 7:00 pm              |
| Shabbat, September 13                  | 6:45 pm              |
| Sunday – Thursday, Sept. 14-18         | 6:55 pm              |
| Friday, September 19                   | 6:50 pm              |
| Sunday – Tuesday, Sept. 21-23          | 6:45 pm              |
| Wednesday – Shabbat, Sept. 24 – Oct. 4 | see Holiday Schedule |
| Sunday, October 5                      | 6:25 pm              |
| Wednesday - Shabbat, Oct. 8-18         | see Holiday Schedule |
| Sunday, October 19                     | 6:00 pm              |
| Friday, October 24                     | 5:50 pm              |
| Shabbat, October 25                    | 5:35 pm              |
| Sunday, October 26                     | 5:50 pm              |
| Friday, October 31                     | 5:40 pm              |

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Shabbat, November 1                  | 5:25 pm |
| Sunday, November 2                   | 4:40 pm |
| Friday, November 7                   | 4:35 pm |
| Shabbat, November 8                  | 5:50 pm |
| Sunday, November 9                   | 4:35 pm |
| Friday, November 14                  | 4:25 pm |
| Shabbat, November 15                 | 5:45 pm |
| Sunday, November 16                  | 4:25 pm |
| Friday, November 21                  | 4:20 pm |
| Shabbat, November 22                 | 5:40 pm |
| Sunday, November 23                  | 4:20 pm |
| Thursday, November 27                | 4:20 pm |
| Friday, November 28, December 5, 12  | 4:15 pm |
| Shabbat, November 22, December 6, 13 | 5:35 pm |
| Sunday, November 30                  | 4:20 pm |
| Sunday, December 7, 14               | 4:15 pm |

Not on our e-mail list?  
Send your address to: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com

Rosh Hashanah Issue

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

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From the Rabbi

Life is precarious and unpredictable. When things go well, we take its blessings for granted.

True, we take care to eat well and healthily, we exercise, we try to get enough rest and generally live a healthy life style. We dedicate ourselves to our job and profession, keeping up with the latest development in our chosen field, and work hard to keep our standard of living at the level that we desire.

Yet, things happen which upset the carefully designed balance that we have created. Suddenly, frequently without warning, things change. It seems that we have lost all opportunities to affect our lives. Around us swirl the winds of disaster that make us think that we have lost control. We may be right.

During the High Holiday Mussaf service we say: “On Rosh Hashanah their destiny is inscribed, and on Yom Kippur it is sealed, ... who shall live and who shall die; ... who shall be at peace and who shall be molested; ... who shall become poor and who shall become rich.” God determines on these days our individual future, so we pray that His decision be one that we desire. It seems like this choice is out of our hands and influence.

Or, is it? We close the prayer with the famous line, “But repentance, prayer and charity cancel the stern decree.” This teaching and understanding applies not only to the High Holiday period, that we can influence the decision that God will make. It even functions the rest of the year, when God gives us the unbelievable power to force Him to change what He has decreed.

Not to have a harmful decision made in the first place is the optimal situation, but we also have the power to reverse these decisions after they have already been made, any time in the year, if we approach God sincerely and ask Him for His help.

What is true in the life of the individual is also true in the collective lives of people, of society, and of nations. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we say in the Amida, “sentence is pronounced upon counties for war or peace, for famine or abundance.” Who imagined that this would be the year that almost 4,000 rockets would rain down on the cities and towns of Israel, that 3 of our precious young High School boys would be kidnapped and killed, and that the Israeli response would be war against the terrorists in Gaza. Yet, God so decreed last Rosh Hashanah.

I believe that perhaps his decree was even harsher. More civilian deaths and injuries and a greater number of military casualties should have been expected according to the natural order and progress of a war of such intensity. But our prayers, our unity, our charity and acts of chesed proved to be too great to allow the terrible tragedy to reach its planned level. We were, thankfully, able to influence God to annul the harshness of the evil decree.

This is the power that God has given us. If we take our ability to control our destiny seriously, we will again pledge to do the things that will arouse God’s compassion over us individually and nationally, and we will be blessed with a year of life, health, prosperity and peace.

Lashana Tova Taikateivu v’teichateimu!  
Rabbi Zev Silber

From the President

This year I believe, will be far more meaningful for many of us when we attend services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We are all overcome with how bleak the world situation is and our concern for Israel is greater than it has been in quite a while. The word insecurity comes to mind - the state of being open to danger or threat, lack of protection. So many of us turn to prayer especially on the High Holidays, hopefully trying to find a meaningful connection with God.

Just the act of going to Shul is comforting, being together, prayer, talking and knowing that our group is a caring people who look out for one another, it is a secure and comforting feeling. We all must be mindful of the significance of this bond and do whatever it takes to keep this a safe haven of sanity when the chaos around us is roaring. Please treasure what we have and remember the importance of our Shul.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and Peace in our future.  
Saba Wiesner  
President

Give DoubleChai to ChaiLine

Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of the year 5775 and Volume LVI (56) of the ChaiLine. Our face has changed and so has our name, but our goal has always been to bring you news of Beth David and its extended family.

Your sponsorship has helped us reach this goal without putting a drain on the synagogue budget. Your \$36 donation, arriving at the shul office before the deadline (Nov. 30) makes you a sponsor; a \$180 donation makes you a Special Sponsor; and a thank you note can be printed for \$18.00.

Again I want to thank all past and present sponsors and remind you that sponsors are always needed for our future issues. Contact me at 729-3235 or mserkin@stny.rr.com, or send in your information and check to the shul office before the deadline, to be included.

May you all be inscribed for a year of good health and peace.  
Marlene Serkin

Thanks to our Sponsors

- Steven & Rika Katz wishing all our friends at Beth David a sweet and happy year
- Marcy & Gaby Yonaty in memory of Ceil Newman
- Cathy Velenchik & Chaim Joy in memory of Cathy’s parents, Max & Helen Velenchik



## Thank You

For helping on the kitchen clean-up: Marcy Yonaty, Meryl Sasnowitz, Toby Kohn, Susan Wright, Marlene Serkin

For working on the Shavuot Luncheon: Marcy Yonaty, Cathy Velenchik, Lillian Zodikoff, Ruth Goldstein, Marlene Serkin, Lillian Sommer and Ruth Goldstein

Barbara Bank for proof reading the *ChaiLine*

## Contributions

### General Fund from:

Dan & Hadassah Gold thanking Charles & Susan Gilinsky for their continuous support

The Senior Friendship Club of the JCC in appreciation of Judy Silber

### Memorial Fund from:

Leonard & Valerie Preston in memory of Doris Zolty

Michael Ashman & Kathryn Burnham in memory of Ronee Brimberg-Clark

## 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:

Lillian Sommer on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandsons

Rabbi Ami & Sarah Lynn on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Eitan

Elisa Alweis on her upcoming year of study in Israel

Avi & Shayna Silber wishing them a fine school year, and hoping they return soon

Lillian Zodikoff on receiving the Yasher Koach award

### Refuah Shelema to:

Zacharia Sommer

Michael Wright

Michael Kohn

### In Memory Of:

Gitel Slonim, mother of R. Aaron Slonim

A young cousin of R. Ami Adamit, who was a paratrooper & died in Operation Protective Edge

Leonard Preston's sister-in-law

## Cemetery Visitation

**Sunday, September 21, 10:00 am - 11:00 am**

In keeping with tradition, Rabbi Silber will be at the Beth David Cemetery, located on Conklin Road, on Sunday, September 21, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am, to assist people in reciting memorial prayers.

If this time is not convenient for you, please contact the Rabbi to make alternative arrangements.

## Lulav & Etrog Sets

This Sukkot get your own Lulav and etrog set and get in on the enjoyment.

**Please place your order with shul no later than  
Sunday, September 28**

**We will only have sets for those people who order in advance.**

## Sisterhood

A new year, a new season for Sisterhood. I hope I will have gotten the opportunity to greet many of you at our opening meeting that will have featured Merri Pell-Preus discussing her summer reading list. Merri is passionate about books and I am sure it will have been a fascinating meeting. {This article is written before said meeting}. There will be no October meeting because of the Holidays but keep the date of November 12 in mind for our Paid Up Membership dinner.

I would like to thank Marlene Serkin for all her efforts in bringing about the rummage sale. Without her we surely could not have one.

The High Holidays are a very spiritual time for us, a time of introspection and self-evaluation. Let us try to use this time to go the extra mile – do another mitzvah each day, call someone you haven't spoken to in a long time, give a little more tzedakah, say tehillim for the soldiers in Israel, give someone a hug and pray – pray a lot for peace in Israel and for the safety of its people and those who fight for its existence.

Sam and I wish everyone a *Shana Tova*. May we all be inscribed for a good year and peace for Israel.

Claire Ladenheim,  
Sisterhood President

## Shabbat Luncheons to Continue Second Shabbat of Each Month

We are indeed proud of our monthly Kiddush luncheons, held the second Shabbat of each month, which are free and open to the entire community. This program has been very successful. We have excellent attendance at services and at lunch and we have had the opportunity of hearing varied presentations by wonderful and competent speakers, members of our shul, experts in the community and guests.

This program has created an aura of excitement within the Beth David community and the Jewish community-at-large. Attendees attest to the friendly welcome they receive, the fine food and the quality of the educational and social experience that this program affords.

However, we rely on sponsorships and contributions to cover the costs of the lunch and we are at the point where we may not be able to have a lunch every month this year. We appeal to your generous spirit to sponsor a luncheon, or partially sponsor one, or contribute any amount large or small to the special **Shabbat Luncheon Fund** as these can only be held if there is no obligation to the shul budget. Please help us keep this wonderful Shabbat program going at our shul. To arrange a sponsorship or to suggest a guest speaker, please contact Saba Wiesner, president, or one of the rabbis.

The first Shabbat Luncheon of the new year will be held on Shabbat, September 13 and will be held each month thereafter (except for October and April), through June 13, 2015. **Please support this program, join us and bring family and friends!**

*Not on our e-mail list? Send your address to: [rabbisilber@stny.rr.com](mailto:rabbisilber@stny.rr.com)*

Happy Rosh Hashanah!

## Beth David Family

In a recent *Jerusalem Post* essay, Daniel Gordis used the number of emails we all received in August with the subject “Hope you’re having a good summer” as a springboard to contrast Israeli and Diaspora Jews. The former has not seen summer in the usual sense, and its people have united in strength of purpose; the latter has enjoyed summer, which Gordis doesn’t begrudge, and its people are in constant conflict over what Zionism means to each of them. As the *Yamim Noraim*, Days of Awe, approach, let us focus on praying for our brethren in Israel, regardless of what they wear on their heads or which plot of land they call their home, and let’s ask that they be allowed to live in peace. As our days turned warm, Yocheved and David Wiesel of Teaneck welcomed a boy, Yehuda Aaron, into their family. Grandparents Roz and Harry Wiesel are thrilled with the new branch on their family tree. Three great-grandparents had the *z’cus* (merit) of attending the *brit*. May the baby grow to Bar Mitzvah and *Chuppah* and to 120 in good health and good deeds.

Former Binghamtonians passed through our town this summer. Hal and Debbie Rudin of Passaic came to visit their parents Marion and Norman Rudin as did the Rudin’s daughter Jackie and Mark Berkowitz of Monsey. Avi and Beth Morell of Monsey toured the Triple Cities with their children. Stopping at the former Morell home gave them pause as they found the Vermont Ave dwelling had been demolished after flood damage. Jonathan and Yocheved Grier, now of Baltimore, spent a Shabbat in town with their children. Toby Grier surprised us all as she walked into shul. It was a delight to see her and to hear Jonathan’s guest *drosh* (talk). Grandparents Paula and Charles Rubins’ hearts were warmed by the month-long visit of their grandsons Andrew and Ethan, sons of Lisha and Adam Levin of Richmond. Rochel Chein’s sister Devorah Leah spent a week away from her Boston home at the Chein’s west side house. Shayna and Avi Silber enjoyed a whole summer here with their father, Eli, and their grandparents Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber. Harold and I were also fortunate to enjoy visiting family. Leslie and Michael Tuchman and children of Manhattan spent a week in the “country,” as did Abigail and Tzali Lazarus of Passaic and their family. What a joy it was to see these folks at minyan, both Shabbat and weekday.

Passersby filled us in on the happenings of our extended family. Lillian Sommer traveled to Kohav Hashahar to *kvell* as her grandsons Aaron and Moshe, sons of Rachel and Avi Nadel, were called to the Torah to celebrate their Bar Mitzvahs. On her heels were SarahLynn and Rabbi Ami Adamit, who witnessed their grandson Eitan’s reading from the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah at the *kotel*. He’s the son of Adina and Mike Benhamu of Teaneck. Seth, son of Andra and Craig Goldman of West Orange, lay tefillin for the first time at the *kotel* in August. His brother Michael, a member of the IDF, was there, along with his sister Deena. While in Israel, Craig and Seth spent time with Melissa Pletter Weglein and Ari Sacher.

Marlene Serkin and David Serkin experienced a few days of delight that began when they spent time with Stuart and Molly Serkin in Fairfield, CT. They attended a Journal Luncheon at Ahavath Achim Shul where Stuart was honored as one of the *gabbaim*. From there they drove to Brooklyn to see Tova Serkin and Yair Yehuda (Marlene’s grandchildren and David’s niece and nephew) and their children, Noam and Gil, who were visiting from Israel. In the midst of all this *nachas* they learned that Molly’s daughter Talia Schwarzmer of Israel became engaged to Peretz Eisenberg. Claire Goldstein’s granddaughter Mira, daughter of Adina and David Samson of Efrat, became engaged to Etan Kestenbaum of Ranana.

Grandparents Ruth and Ed Sacher of Cote St. Luc, Canada *kvelled* at the Israel wedding of their grandson Nechemiah to Eden Freed. He’s the son of Hadara and Leon Zemel of New Rochelle.

Northern Minnesota was the chosen destination for Merri Pell-Preus and Tony Preus’ getaway, while Dora and Sol Polachek chose a Balkan cruise, and Cathy Velenchek and Chaim Joy opted for a Cleveland, Niagara Falls, and Toronto road trip.

Kol Hakavod to Alex, son of Eileen and Dan Miller, brother of Brian and Cara, who was appointed second chair trumpeter at Ithaca College!

CHAILINE -- Beth David Synagogue Binghamton, NY

## How to Contact Your Rabbi

**Rabbi Silber’s office hours will be: Tuesdays, 10:00 am - noon and Thursdays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm.**

Please feel free to stop by at these times, even without an appointment. If you need to consult with the rabbi and these times are not convenient for you, please call Rabbi Silber and you can work out a mutually acceptable time.

Occasionally these hours need to change, and changes are listed in the weekly announcement sheet distributed each Shabbat at services.

If you need to contact one of the rabbis, there are several ways that this can be done:

- Call the shul office (722-1793) and leave a message with Shirley, who will contact them.

- Call the shul office (722-1793) and leave a confidential message on the voice mail. Press #2 for Rabbi Silber’s mail box or #3 for Rabbi Adamit’s mail box. The rabbis check their voice mail frequently.

- If it is not urgent, you can e-mail the rabbis at [rabbisilber@stny.rr.com](mailto:rabbisilber@stny.rr.com) or [rabiadamit@stny.rr.com](mailto:rabiadamit@stny.rr.com)

- In case of emergency, you can call the rabbis’ cell phone: Rabbi Silber can be reached at 761-7098 and Rabbi Adamit can be reached at 237-3690.

## Rummage (Recycle) 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, August 17, 18 & 19, 2014. Set up was done Sunday morning starting at 8:30 am with our efficient volunteers finishing in time to let the customers in by 10:30 am.

Remember, Rummage Sales are Sisterhood’s biggest fund raiser and we count on the proceeds to help us meet our quota to the Shul.

Unfortunately the Riverside Drive reconstruction was probably the culprit that kept our customers away. We had about half the number of customers that we usually have.

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

|                  |                           |                |               |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Valerie Preston  | Marie Werner              | Rita Shawn     | Marilyn Bell  |
| Sandy Boysick    | Claire Ladenheim          | Marti Klionsky | Judy Silber   |
| Cathy Velenchik  | Meryl Sasnowitz           | Marcy Yonaty   | Rhonda Levine |
| Leslie Sasnowitz | Tuchman and her daughters | Toby Kohn      |               |

Thanks to Nancy Nagel and Inna Meacham, customers who always come and help us set up.

Marlene Serkin,  
Rummage Sale Chairwoman

## October Sisterhood Meeting

October is a month of holiday observances; therefore there will not be a regular Sisterhood meeting. Please use this time to reflect on how you can make the year ahead especially meaningful and rewarding for yourself and your loved ones.

Shana tova,  
Paula Rubin, Beth David Sisterhood

Refuah Shelema to Michael Kohn and Michael Wright.

Welcome back to Steven and Marcia Sutter. They will be in this area until after Yom Kippur.

We mourn the loss of Rebbetzin Gitel Leah Slonim of Israel, the mother of Aaron Slonim. May Rivky and Aaron and the extended Slonim family find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem. *K’tiva c’chatima tova*. May you be written and sealed for a good year.

Meryl Sasnowitz