

Holiday Schedule

SELICHOT

Saturday, September 12.....12:00 midnight
Pre-Selichot program begins.....11:00 pm
Thursday, September 17 (after Ma'ariv).....7:30 pm

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 18.....Candle lighting: 6:51 pm
Mincha.....6:55 pm
Shabbat, September 19.....Shacharit: 8:15 am
Mincha.....6:40 pm, Candle lighting **after** 7:49 pm
Sunday, September 20.....Shacharit: 8:15 am, Shofar: 10:50 am,
Tashlich at Confluence Park: 6:00 pm, Mincha: 6:45 pm
Yom Tov ends.....7:47 pm

TZOM GEDALIAH

Monday, September 21.....Fast begins: 5:37 am
Shacharit: 6:30 am, Mincha: 6:35 pm, Fast ends: 7:45 pm

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 25.....Candle lighting: 6:38 pm, Mincha: 6:40 pm
Shabbat, September 26.....Shacharit: 9:00 am
Talmud Class: 5:10 pm, Mincha: 6:10 pm, *Shabbat Shuvah Lecture will follow Mincha*.....*Shabbat ends: 7:37 pm*

YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, September 27.....Mincha: 3:00 pm, Candle Lighting **before**
6:35 pm, Kol Nidrei: 6:35 pm
Monday, September 28.....Shacharit: 9:00 am,
Yizkor: 12:15 pm, Mincha: 4:50 pm, Shofar – fast ends: 7:33 pm

SUKKOT

Friday, October 2.....Candle lighting: 6:26 pm, Mincha: 6:30 pm,
Shabbat, October 3.....Shacharit: 9:00 am
Talmud Class: 5:15 pm, Mincha: 6:15 pm, Candle lighting **after** 7:24 pm
Sunday, October 4.....Shacharit: 9:00 am, Mincha: 6:20 pm
Yom Tov ends: 7:23 pm

HOSHANA RABBA

Thursday, October 8.....Mincha/Maariv: 6:20 pm
Friday, October 9.....Shacharit: 6:30 am

SHMINI ATZERET AND SIMCHAT TORAH

Friday, October 9.....Candle lighting: 6:14 pm, Mincha: 6:15 pm
Shabbat, October 10.....Shacharit: 9:00 am, Yizkor: 10:45 am,
Mincha: 6:05 pm, *Candle lighting after 7:13 pm*, Ma'ariv & Hakafot: 7:15 pm
Sunday, October 11.....Shacharit: 9:00 am, Hakafot: 9:45 am,
Mincha: 6:10 pm, Yom Tov ends: 7:11 pm

High Holiday Customs and Practices

The month of Elul: A month before Rosh Hashanah we begin preparing for the Day of Judgment. We blow the *shofar* each weekday morning, with the exception of Erev Rosh Hashanah, and add Psalm 27 into our prayers each morning and evening, in order to begin awakening within us feelings of repentance.

Selichot: Penitential prayers are recited each weekday morning until Yom Kippur. We begin reciting these prayers at a special midnight service on Saturday night, September 12.

Erev Rosh Hashanah: Keeping promises is a requirement in Judaism. In order to start the year with a clean slate, many have the custom to nullify vows they may have made, and have forgotten about or due to changed circumstances have been unable to fulfill, before a tribunal of three men. Some wait until Erev Yom Kippur to observe this custom. Men customarily go to the *Mikveh* and the Beth David Mikveh will be available during the day for this purpose.

Rosh Hashanah: The celebration of the New Year commemorates the creation of the world. Also known as *Yom Hazikaron* (the Day of Remembrance) and *Yom Hadin* (the Day of Judgment), we stand before God and pray that we be granted another year of life and good health. The main mitzvah of the day is the requirement to hear the sounding of the *shofar* on both days of Rosh Hashanah. Since the first day of Rosh Hashanah occurs on Shabbat this year, the *shofar* will be sounded only on the second day. It is customary to dip our challah in honey, eat apples dipped in honey at the evening meals, and eat a new fruit of the second night of Rosh Hashanah. Various other foods are eaten on Rosh Hashanah that symbolize our hopes for the coming year. *Tashlich* is recited this year on the second afternoon of Rosh Hashanah (since the first day occurs on Shabbat) by a pool of water that preferably has fish in it. These prayers are symbolic of the casting away of our mistakes.

Shabbat Shuvah: “The Shabbat of Repentance” is the name given to the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, taken from the opening phrase of the haftarah. It is customary for the rabbi to present a lecture on the topic of repentance, which is attended by men and women.

Tzom Gedaliah: This fast day observed the day after Rosh Hashanah was instituted in commemoration of the assassination of Gedaliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Israel during the days of Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylonia. As a result of Gedaliah’s death the final vestiges of Judean autonomy after the Babylonian conquest were destroyed, many thousands of Jews were slain, and

the remaining Jews were driven into final exile. The fast is observed from dawn until night.

Erev Yom Kippur: We prepare for atonement by performing the custom of *Kaparot* with the money given to the poor. It is customary to increase our gifts to charity and for men to immerse in the Mikveh. The Beth David Mikveh will be open for this purpose. A festive meal is completed before the beginning of Kol Nidrei. Candles lasting the entire holiday are lit for deceased parents.

Yom Kippur: A day of prayer and introspection, we refrain from bodily pleasure and devote ourselves to spirituality. We restrict ourselves from eating and drinking, washing, applying oils or lotions to the skin, marital relations, and wearing leather shoes. In case of medical needs, please consult the rabbi. Yizkor is recited during the morning service. All Shabbat prohibitions apply on Yom Kippur.

Sukkot: Also known as *z’man simchateinu*, the holiday of joy, we celebrate the successful conclusion of Yom Kippur with two special mitzvot. We erect and dwell in a *Sukkah* for the entire 7 days, and the mitzvah is observed primarily by eating all regular meals in the structure. We gather the special four species, the *etrog*, *lulav* (palm branch), *hadasim* (myrtle), and *aravot* (willow), wave them during *Hallel* and march around the synagogue each day during *Hoshanot* services, except for Shabbat. If you need advice on *Sukkah* construction, please consult the rabbis. The four species may be ordered through the synagogue office.

Hoshana Rabba: The seventh day of *Sukkot* is marked by walking around the synagogue seven times holding the four species and special prayers for water are recited after which we beat the *aravot*. This day is considered the day when the final judgment for the year is sealed; therefore synagogue attendance is strongly encouraged. Due to its solemn nature, some have the custom of studying Torah the night before.

Shmini Atzeret: A special holiday added after Sukkot, there are no special ritual symbols on this day. *Tefillat Geshem* – the prayer for rain – is a solemn addition to the *Musaf* service. Most continue to eat all meals in the *sukkah*. We no longer wave the four species. Yizkor is recited during the morning service.

Simchat Torah: On this day we conclude the yearly cycle of Torah reading, and we rejoice and dance with the Torah scrolls. A uniquely festive and joyous event, the *hakafot* (dancing with the Torah) are performed both in the evening and morning. Children and adults alike enjoy the festivities and celebration.

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 lunches each month next 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 12. There will not be a Luncheon in October, since the scheduled week is on Shmini Atzeret and we would have to eat in the Sukkah, which is not large enough for a sit-down meal for the entire congregation. We will have Luncheons each month thereafter, November through June if we have the funds. *Please support this program, join us and bring family and friends!*

How to Contact Your Rabbi

Rabbi Silber's office hours will be: Tuesdays, 9:00-11:00 am and Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00pm.

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 or rabiadamit@stny.rr.com.
- In case of emergency on a school day, you can call Hillel Academy (722-9274) and leave a message for either or both Rabbi Silber and/or Rabbi Adamit.
- In case of emergency at other times, you can call the rabbis' cell phone: Rabbi Silber can be reached at 761-7098 and Rabbi Adamit can be reached at 237-3690.

Tzedekah Boxes

Beth David Tzedekah boxes are available for one and all. Please call Meryl Sasnowitz (797-5458) and she will see that you receive one. When your box is ready to be emptied, you can call Meryl or bring it into the shul office. A receipt will be issued for the amount in the box.

Holiday Child Care

Our children are our future – they are also our responsibility. When you bring your child to Shul, don't leave them downstairs unattended. Their safety should be your primary concern. Children left unattended can get into trouble or, even worse, can get hurt. Our shul is unlocked and anyone can come or go on Shabbat or Yom Tov.

This holiday season – Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – we will continue to offer child care. Children should be registered in advance and payment **must** accompany registration. The fee is \$5.00 per child, per day.

If you would like to help out with children by reading or telling a story appropriate for the holidays, please call me.

Remember – children should **never** be allowed to run unsupervised in the shul. Make this a happy holiday for all.

Shana Tova,
Paula Rubin, 797-0181

Cemetery Visitation

Sunday, September 13, 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 13 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
Monday, September 21*

PLEASE NOTE

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

HOW TO STAY SAFE

Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20 % of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay at home because 17 percent of all accidents occur in the home. (that's 37 % already)

Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14 percent of all accidents occur to pedestrians. (now that's 51%)

Avoid traveling by air, trains or buses, 16 percent of accidents involve these forms of transportation. (that's 67%)

Of the remaining 33 percent, 32 percent of all deaths occur in hospitals. Above all else avoid hospitals.

You will be pleased to learn that only 0.01 % of all deaths occur in a synagogue, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders.

Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is in Synagogue.

Torah Study is even safer. The number of deaths during Torah Study is too small to register.

For safety's sake, go to Shul as often as possible, and attend Torah Study. It could save your life!