

September- November Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)*

Sunday	8:30 am
Monday-Friday	6:40 am
*Except September 3, 9-12, 23-25; October 4; November 4.....	6:30 am
*Except September 2.....	8:30 am
*Except September 5-6.....	8:15 am
*Except September 19-20, 26-27.....	9:00 am
Shabbat.....	9:00 am

EVENINGS (times constant)

Monday – Thursday (beginning October 14)	7:00 pm
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EVENINGS (times vary)

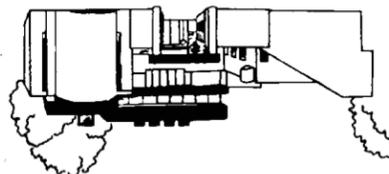
Sunday – Thursday, August 25-29.....	7:30 pm
Friday, August 30.....	7:15 pm
Shabbat, August 31.....	7:10 pm
Sunday – Tuesday, September 1-3.....	7:20 pm
Wednesday – Shabbat, Sept. 4 – 14.....	see Holiday Schedule
Sunday – Tuesday, September 15-17.....	6:55 pm
Wednesday - Shabbat, September 18 – 28.....	see Holiday Schedule
Sunday, Sept. 29 – Friday, Oct. 4.....	6:25 pm
Shabbat, October 5.....	6:10 pm
Sunday – Thursday, October 6-10.....	6:15 pm
Friday, October 11.....	6:10 pm
Shabbat, October 12.....	5:55 pm
Sunday, October 13.....	6:10 pm
Friday, October 18.....	6:00 pm

Shabbat, October 19.....	5:45 pm
Sunday, October 20.....	6:00 pm
Friday, October 25.....	5:50 pm
Shabbat, October 26.....	5:35 pm
Sunday, October 27.....	5:50 pm
Friday, November 1.....	5:40 pm
Shabbat, November 2.....	5:25 pm
Sunday, November 3.....	4:40 pm
Friday, November 8.....	4:35 pm
Shabbat, November 9.....	4:20 pm
Sunday, November 10.....	4:30 pm
Friday, November 15.....	4:25 pm
Shabbat, November 16.....	4:10 pm
Sunday, November 17.....	4:25 pm
Friday, November 22.....	4:20 pm
Shabbat, November 23.....	4:10 pm
Sunday, November 24.....	4:20 pm

Not on our e-mail list?

Send your address to: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com

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CHAI LINE

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

VOLUME LV, ISSUE 1

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Rosh Hashanah, 2013-5774

From the Rabbi

Another year has passed and we are standing before the New Year. Certainly we don't know what will happen in the coming year and I'm not sure if there is a person who would declare that he does know, because our rabbis say that since the destruction of the second Temple, "the prophesy was removed and was given to the foolish." If so, what do we have to do in order to make the coming year better than the last one? In the end, in the book of Devarim (Deuteronomy), when Moshe approached the end of his great speech to the children of Israel, he called them and said, "You have seen everything that Hashem did before your eyes... The great trials that your eyes beheld..." (Chapter 29, 1-3).

Every year, we actually experience wonder and miracles, but we are not aware of them. If we carefully look into what happened last year, we will be able to see "the gifts" that our Creator granted us. Therefore, we must thank Hashem for all the goodness He gave us. What about the coming new year? What do we have to do in order to prepare to enter the New Year? Everyone can choose the way which best suits him or her in order to enter the New Year with the right foot. The preparation for a new year is not simple and easy, but "it is not in Heaven." Everyone in his or her way can prepare somewhat; one with a lot of preparation, one with little preparation. We need to look back and find our mistakes and fix them in the best way we can. This is a challenge and test which bring honor and satisfaction. With this kind of decision, let's go into the New Year, a year of happiness and peace.

*Shanah Tova
Rabbi Aminadav Adamit*

From the President

A very Happy and Healthy New Year to our Beth David Congregation.

Saba Wiesner, Beth David President

Give DoubleChai to ChaiLine

Rosh Hashanah 2013 marks the beginning of the Jewish year 5774. It also marks the debut of Volume LV of the *ChaiLine*, the bulletin of Beth David Synagogue. Over the years our face has changed but our goal is the same, to keep you in touch with what is going on at Beth David, and our present and former member families.

Our sincerest thanks to all those who have made double *Chai* and **Special Sponsor** contributions to support our bulletin over the past year. Sponsors are needed for all future issues of the *ChaiLine*. Your \$36.00 donation, arriving at the shul office before the next deadline (11/10/13), will make you a sponsor. Your \$180.00 donation makes you a **Special Sponsor**. Call me at 729-3235 to reserve your space.

To all our readers, a happy, healthy and sweet year.

Marlene Serkin, ChaiLine coordinator

Thanks to our Sponsors

Rika & Steve Katz wishing all our friends at Beth David a sweet and happy year
Cathy Velenchik & Chaim Joy in memory of Cathy's parents **Max & Helen Velenchik**

Contributions

General Fund:

In honor of the marriage of Rhonda Levine & Arieh Ullmann
Shirley & Sherwin Snyder
Marlene Serkin
Beatrice Gondelman
Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber
Phyllis Camara
Bert & Hertha Horwitz
Norma & Charles Newpol
Michael & Saba Wiesner
Rabbi Ami & SarahLynn Adamit & Family

In honor of the marriage of Daniel Kohn & Anna Elashvili by Michael & Saba Wiesner
In honor of the marriage of Daniel Kohn & Anna Elashvili by Harold & Toby Kohn

Shul Beautiful to:

Harold & Toby Kohn in honor of the marriage of their son Daniel to Anna Elashvili from Gaby & Marcy Yonaty
Rhonda Levine & Arieh Ullmann in honor of their marriage from Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber

Sisterhood General Fund from:

Arieh Ullmann and Rhonda Levine to thank Sisterhood members for all their efforts in taking care of the Kiddush for Arieh's *Auf Ruf*

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Alweis Family on Michael's graduation from YU
Alweis Family on Malka's graduation from Stern
Lillian Sommer on her grandson's becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Alex Miller on his high school graduation
Jackie Karp on her high school graduation
Harold & Toby Kohn on Dan & Anna's marriage
Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine on their marriage

Refuah Shelemah to:

Charles Manasse
Aaron Alweis
Michael Wright

Condolences to:

Ilene Cadkin in memory of her husband Larry

High Holidays 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 service on Saturday night, August 31. *We are changing the time of the service to 10:00 pm in order to allow more people to attend.*

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 3 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.

Eruv Tavshilin – The Mixing of Cooked Foods: The Biblical prohibition against labor on the Holidays and Festivals specifically does not include the preparation or cooking of food. However, food may only be prepared for that day’s use. When a *Yom Tov* falls on a Friday our Rabbis ruled that we are allowed to prepare food on the holiday for use on the Sabbath only if the preparation begins before the holiday. This is known as *Eruv Tavshilin*, or the “mixing of cooked foods”, and is performed this year on Erev Rosh Hashanah, Erev Sukkot, and Hoshana Rabba (Erev Shemini Atzeret).

With a *challah* or roll and any other cooked food in hand (such as fish or a hard boiled egg), we recite a blessing and declaration as is found in the siddur. This must be performed before Yom Tov candles are lit.

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. 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 on the first afternoon of Rosh Hashanah 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 (this year it is observed on Sunday as it is deferred because the day after Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat) 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 2 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 4 species, the *etrog*, *lulav* (palm branch), *hadassim* (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 4 species may be ordered through the synagogue office.

Eruv Tavshilin – The Mixing of Cooked Foods: This must be performed this year on Erev Sukkot, and Hoshana Rabba (Erev Shemini Atzeret). *See above after “Erev Rosh Hashanah” for details and instructions.*

Hoshana Rabba: The seventh day of *Sukkot* is marked by walking around the synagogue 7 times holding the 4 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 4 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.

Sisterhood

It is hard to believe that summer is over and that a new season and new programming is with us. The High Holidays, albeit very early, are actually here! Sisterhood’s season kicks off September 11 with a program very much geared to this holiday mood. The program is “A Window Into The Beit HaMikdash – The Holy Temple – in Jerusalem.” Harold Kohn constructed a model of the Holy Temple and will display it and take us on a guided tour at the meeting. Judy Silber will be doing a commentary and sharing her insights and information about the Temple. It should be very interesting and informative.

Our first rummage sale of this season took place in mid August. The amount of traffic was disappointing, but for those who came and bought, it was a huge success. Some of our customers have been shopping with us for well over 20 years and they love to come. So many have told us that we always have the best merchandise and they wouldn’t think of missing it. Of course our rummage sales are always a success because of the care and attention paid to it by the chairperson, Marlene Serkin. Her name is synonymous with rummage, though she’s added recycling to the mix. *Yasher Koach*, Marlene!

October is our Paid-up Membership dinner with exciting programs to come after that. So come on out and join us. Show your support for all the hard workers who volunteer to make Sisterhood such a viable part of the shul.

Sam and I would like to wish everyone a very Healthy and Happy New Year and we pray for peace in Israel!

L’Shana Tova!

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, October 12 and will be held each month thereafter (except for April), through June 14, 2014. *Please support this program, join us and bring family and friends!*

Beit HaMikdash – The Holy Temple Beth David Sisterhood Opening Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2013 – 7:30 pm

Harold Kohn will explain and display his model of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem while Judy Silber discusses its background and history.

All women are welcome to attend.

Beth David Family

Summer travelers regularly stop at Beth David to *daven* as they wind their way to far off destinations. Some stay in town for Shabbat prior to visiting their children in sleep-away camps. A July Shabbat brought us the Bergers of Clifton, NJ, relatives of a former Hillel Academy teacher to our *kehilla*. They reminded us of a mitzvah their uncle, Yitzhak Hadari, performed in March of 1967. While walking home from shul one Shabbat with Rabbi Merzel, he heard cries for help from someone in the river. He scaled a 5-foot concrete wall to rescue a drowning nine-year-old boy from the waters of the Susquehanna. This former IDF soldier was touted as a hero.

Road trips were enjoyed by some of our members. Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber drove to visit their son Eli in Memphis with their grandchildren in tow. Several weeks later, they toured the Adirondacks. Susan and Gerry Hubal traveled to the Berkshires to visit family and to bring grandchildren to Binghamton for a special treat. Marcia and Steve Sutter drove to Austin, TX, to summer with their children and grandchildren. Rabbi Ami and Sarah Lynn Adamit meandered through Georgia, Louisiana, and Florida. Harold and I explored Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North Dakota. We’re well on our way to visiting all 50 states! Miriam and Aaron Alweis made Cleveland the first stop on their journey. After visiting Tziporah and Gary Coleman, they headed southward to Nashville for a conference and enjoyed a stop at Monticello, VA on the way home.

Rivky and Aaron Slonin experienced a magical 30th anniversary journey to Israel thanks to the kindness of their children. While there, they were able to reminisce with the Oppenheims, the Wilsons, Claire Goldstein and Naomi Staiman. Eileen, Dan, and Alex Miller spent a month in Europe with a group through the AMA, American Music Abroad Program. They toured the birthplaces of famous composers and gave performances in various venues. Dora and Sol Polachek cruised the Danube from Budapest to Bucharest. While leaving shul after Friday night services in Budapest, they spotted Marion and Shmuel Morell, who were touring with a group from their community.

Lindsay Shaw, daughter of Annette and Barry Shaw, became engaged to Ari Schmitzer. What’s fascinating is that Ari is a Romanesque Jew from Janina, Greece, the same village Annette’s family hails from. Mazal Tov to the Shaw family.

First time grandparents Tony and Meredith Pell-Preus are delighted with the birth of their granddaughter, Maya Elizabeth, daughter of Anna and Alexander Preus, of Washington. Another set of first time grandparents, Annette and Barry Shaw, are *kvelling* over their family addition, Dori Julianna, to Natalie and Johnathan Burbea, of Boston. Those baby girls are bringing much *nachas* to their families! Adina and Moshe Hahn’s newest arrival was named Shalom Zvi, for his late great grandfather, Shalom Staiman. He’s the grandson of Cathy and Steve Schuss, of Teaneck, and great grandson of Naomi Staiman, of Israel. Betzalel and Abigail Sasnowitz Lazarus, Clifton neighbors of the Hahns, had the merit of attending the brit. May the babies reach bar/bat mitzvah, chuppah, and 120 in good health!

Kudos to Avi Morell, a partner in Pryor Cashman, who was named by Chambers USA 2013 as one of the top attorneys in the U.S. in the field of Immigration Law. *Kol HaKavod* to Beth and Avi Morell. Yasher Koach to Alex Miller, who was presented with the Teen Service Award at the JCC Annual Meeting. He’s the son of Eileen and Dan, and the brother of Brian and Cara.

Anna Elashvili married Daniel Kohn, son of Toby and Harold Kohn, in her hometown of Baltimore. A number of Binghamtonians caravanned south to share the *simcha*. Mazal Tov to Anna and Dan and to Toby, Harold, and Michael Kohn. Rhonda Levine and Arieh Ullmann married just one week later at Beth David. How lovely it was to see distant friends and family gather in joy. Mazal Tov to Rhonda and Arieh, and to their children, Rhoda and Jeremy and Jeremy and Andrew. May the couples each build a *bayit ne’eman b’Yisroel*.

Refuah Sheleimah to Aaron Alweis and Michael Wright.

As a crew of volunteers set up for the Rummage Sale on August 11th, sounds of *shofar* blasts were heard from the Shalom Staiman Sanctuary. At each morning minyan during the month of Elul, sounds of the *shofar* herald the upcoming days of awe. We focus on the steps we’ve taken during the past year, and we contemplate where our feet will take us for the new year. May introspection lead each of us toward a path of spiritual growth.

K’tiva v’chatima tova. May you be written and inscribed for a good year.

Meryl Sasnowitz

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 or rabbiadamit@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 11, 12 & 13. 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.

Special thanks to our shul secretary, Shirley Lash, and her grandson, Jacob Shoemaker, who came in Saturday night, after Shabbat, and emptied the rummage storage room.

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	Meryl Sasnowitz
Rita Shawn	Sandy Boysick	Claire Ladenheim
Susan Wright	Michael Wright	David Serkin
Ruth Buschman	Cathy Velenchik	Lil Sommer
Marcy Yonaty	Marilyn Bell	

And to the entire Tuchman Family, Leslie, Michael, Chezky, Esti, Menucha, Tehilla, and Toby, children and grandchildren of Meryl and Harold Sasnowitz, who were visiting in Binghamton and came in to help.

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

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.

Please put sets of linens in a plastics bag and mark the size (twin, full, queen, king)

Cemetery Visitation

Sunday, September 8, 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 8, 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 8

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

Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot

Shabbat, September 21 Shacharit9:00 am
 Talmud Class 5:35 pm
 Mincha 6:35 pm
 Shabbat ends 7:45 pm

Chol Hamoed

Sunday, September 22 Shacharit8:30 am
 Mincha 6:40 pm
Mon.-Tue., Sept. 23-24 Shacharit6:30 am
 Ma'ariv 6:40 pm

Hoshana Rabba

Wednesday, September 25 Shacharit6:30 am

Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah

Wednesday, September 25 *Candle Lighting* 6:38 pm
 Mincha 6:40 pm
Thursday, September 26 Shacharit9:00 am
 Yizkor 10:45 am
 Mincha 6:40 pm
 Candle lighting after 7:37 pm
 Ma'ariv and Hakafot..... 7:35 pm
Friday, September 27 Shacharit9:00 am
 Hakafot9:45 am
 Candle lighting before 6:35 pm
 Mincha 6:35 pm

Shabbat Bereishit

Shabbat, September 28 Shacharit 9:00 am
 Talmud Class 5:20 pm
 Mincha 6:20 pm
 Shabbat ends 7:33 pm

Happy
Rosh
Hashanah

