

September- December Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)

| | |
|--|---------|
| Sunday..... | 8:30 am |
| *Except October 2..... | 8:00 am |
| Monday – Friday..... | 7:00 am |
| *Except Sept 26-30; Oct. 5-7, 10, 19-21; Nov. 1, 2; Dec. 1..... | 6:50 am |
| *Except October 3,4..... | 8:15 am |
| *Except October 12, 17, 18, 24, 25..... | 9:00 am |
| *Except November 24..... | 8:30 am |
| Shabbat..... | 9:00 am |

EVENINGS (times constant)

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Monday – Thursday..... | 7:00 pm |
| <i>Beginning October 26</i> | |
| <i>Except November 24: 4:20 pm</i> | |
| Shabbat Mincha..... | <i>after Kiddush</i> |
| <i>For Maariv- see below</i> | |
| <i>Beginning November 12</i> | |

EVENINGS (times vary)

| | |
|--|---------|
| Sunday – Thursday, September 25-29..... | 6:35 pm |
| Friday, September 30..... | 6:30 pm |
| Shabbat, October 1..... | 6:15 pm |
| Sunday - Wednesday, October 2-12 see Holiday Schedule | |
| Thursday, October 13..... | 6:10 pm |
| Friday, October 14..... | 6:05 pm |
| Shabbat, October 15..... | 5:50 pm |

Sunday – Tuesday, October 16-25 see Holiday Schedule

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Friday, October 28..... | 5:45 pm |
| Shabbat, October 29..... | 5:30 pm |
| Sunday, October 30..... | 5:45 pm |
| Friday, November 4..... | 5:35 pm |
| Shabbat, November 5..... | 5:20 pm |
| Sunday, November 6..... | 4:35 pm |
| Friday, November 11..... | 4:30 pm |
| Shabbat, November 12..... | 5:50 pm |
| Sunday, November 13..... | 4:30 pm |
| Friday, November 18..... | 4:25 pm |
| Shabbat, November 19..... | 5:45 pm |
| Sunday, November 20..... | 4:25 pm |
| Thursday, November 24..... | 4:20 pm |
| Friday, November 25..... | 4:20 pm |
| Shabbat, November 26..... | 5:40 pm |
| Sunday, November 27..... | 4:20 pm |
| Friday, December 2, 9, 16..... | 4:15 pm |
| Shabbat, December 3, 10, 17..... | 5:35 pm |
| Sunday, December 4, 11..... | 4:15 pm |
| Sunday, December 18..... | 4:20 pm |

Not on our e-mail list?

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Web Site: BethDavid.org

CHAVLINE

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

VOLUME LVIII, ISSUE 1

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Rosh Hashanah, 2016-5777

From the Rabbi

Many sermons have been delivered at some point during the High Holiday season that contrast how Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are celebrated with how the secular New Year is celebrated. The point is usually made that we view the High Holidays with seriousness and retrospection, a time for self-examination, while most people mark New Years Day with drinking, revelry, and partying.

Looking at these days superficially, there is a great divide between them. However, we also seem to have some of these same activities during our Holiday. We begin each meal with Kiddush, drink a *l'chaim*, invite many guests to a sumptuous and fancy holiday meal and treat these days, though somber, as holidays. I guess the major difference is which activity takes priority. We view the serious prayers and the religious experience of hearing the shofar being sounded as the most important parts of the holiday. The meal, with all its joy, is viewed as secondary; while the secular New Years is primarily about the partying.

There is yet another activity that they both have in common, although again their priority level is also reversed; New Year's resolutions. On January 1, many commit themselves to changing certain behaviors or adopting new practices, with the hope of improving their lives. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we also promise to make changes after going through a process call *teshuva*. We recognize that we have slipped in our observance of mitzvot, regret that deficiency, and resolve to do better in the year ahead.

Often, just like New Years resolutions, when we look in the mirror the next year we usually just see the same person, and cannot detect any appreciable change. So, why bother? Why ask for forgiveness of our sins when we know that we will probably be back next year with the same list of mistakes.

Rabbi Shmuel Tal, the head of the Yeshiva Torat Chaim in Yad Binyamin in central Israel, explains with a parable.

Every spring (and for most of us right before Pesach) we dedicate a few days to the ritual of spring-cleaning. We do this even though we know that within a short time the dust will again pile up, the house will be restored to its usual mess and our massive effort will be unnoticed. So, why bother? There are two reasons.

1. If we don't do it at least once a year, then the dust and mess will collect and get so thick and ground in that it makes it exponentially more difficult to clean.
2. Those few days that the house is sparkling clean makes the celebration of Pesach extra special, leaving an indelible impression (of what could be) to last the whole year.

From the President

Shanah Tovah! I want to start by wishing the congregation a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

For the members that will want to use the mikvah before the Holidays, I am happy to tell you that it will be completed. This has been an enormous job and we want to sincerely thank Susan Wright, Lori Tuberman and Lisa Feigenbaum for so much of their time to complete this job. Many thanks to all the people who made this project possible by their very generous contributions. The contributions came not only from our community, but also from former members of the community that live elsewhere, including Israel, and still felt a need to help us. A special thank you to the Jewish Federation for their generous contribution. In November, there will be a formal opening of the mikvah with a party and we will have Rifky Slonim speaking. Invitations will be forthcoming.

For our members that need a little extra help in getting upstairs to the sanctuary, the new hand railing is installed and will be ready for you to use. The beautiful windows from Beth El Synagogue will adorn our walls for the Holidays; thank you to Meryl & Harold Sasnowitz for taking care of the cost for their restoration.

I hope that the New Year will have lots of exciting programs, luncheons and dinners for our members to enjoy. There is also an issue that we must all consider and worry about. A few weeks ago on a Shabbos we did not have a minyan. This was the first time in the history of our shul. It is my responsibility to do everything that I can do to keep our building beautiful and our finances in order; there is also a responsibility for our male members to make Beth David a house of worship, without that commitment it is just a building.

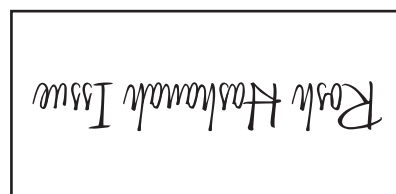
In the New Year, please remember the importance of our shul to each and every one of us.

The same is true for doing *teshuva* during the High Holiday season. Even if a person ends up sinning again, the annual (sincere) *teshuva* not only helps prevent a person from spiraling deeper into an abyss of sin which makes it more difficult to climb out of, but also gives a person that euphoric feeling of spiritual cleanliness which throughout the year acts as a beacon of potential for cleanliness from sin and closeness to God.

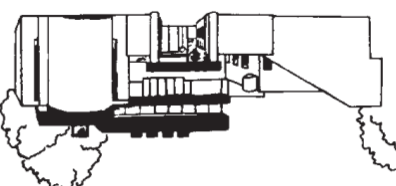
Our Rosh Hashanah resolutions do have a positive effect. Our challenge is to make that effect more noticeable to ourselves and to God. May we merit this year to resolve and accomplish real change, and in that merit we and our loved ones will be blessed with a year of life, good health, prosperity, nachas and peace.

Lashana Tova Taikateivu v'teichateimu!

Rabbi Zev Silber



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Leonard & Valerie Preston in honor of Harold Kohn's birthday
Marlene Serkin in honor of Harold Kohn's birthday
Ms. Jeanne Kravitz & Mr. Mark Goldman in honor of Harold Kohn's birthday & the Kohn anniversary
Ruth Goldstein in appreciation for a friend who exited a car accident safely
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Czekala in appreciation of Rabbi Silber's class
Laura Greger for installing the new handrails
Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz for preparing the windows from Temple Beth El in memory of their parents
The Eva & Milton Braslow Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Greenspan in honor of the birth of Susan & Michael Wright's granddaughter
Mr. Charles Pollack
Dan & Hadassah Gold
Tzali and Abigail Lazarus
Zev and Doba Rudberg in honor of their daughter

Shul Beautiful to:

Harold & Toby Kohn on their 50th anniversary from Gabi & Marcy Yonaty
Claire Ladenheim on granddaughter Dina Rendsburg's marriage to Donny Kanner from Kathie Shelly
Michael & Susan Wright on the birth of their granddaughter from Kathie Shelly
The Gold Family on making aliyah from Kathie Shelly
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their granddaughter from Kathie Shelly
Dr. Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Andrew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Kathie Shelly
Rabbi Ami & Sarah Lynn Adamit on the birth of a grandson from Kathie Shelly
Dr. Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Andrew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Lillian Zodikoff

Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund

Dora Polachek Rita Shawn
David Kammerman Viktor Shevchenko

Give Double Chai

We love our sponsors. We ask for your support and you give it wholeheartedly with your Double *Chai* contribution for sponsorship and/or a *Chai* contribution for a thank you. Todah rabah and *yasher koach* to you all.

Because of you the *ChaiLine* is self-supporting and does not take money out of the shul coffers.

To keep us in this position, sponsors are needed for future issues. Your \$36 donation for a sponsorship, or \$180 donation to be a **special sponsor**, sent to the shul office before the next deadline, 12/11/16, along with your personal message, is all that is required. If you wish to say thank you to everyone, just send \$18 along with your message to the shul or directly to me at mserkin@stny.rr.com.

For more information, call me at 729-3235 and I will explain it further. A happy, healthy, and sweet New Year to all our readers.

Marlene Serkin

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Zev & Doba Rudberg on the birth of their daughter, Eliana Tikvah
Susan Grosberg on the marriage of her daughter Dina Rendsburg to Donny Kanner
Claire Ladenheim on the marriage of her granddaughter Dina Rendsburg to Donny Kanner
Michael & Susan Wright on the birth of their new granddaughter Harold Kohn on his special birthday
Harold & Toby Kohn on their 50th Anniversary
The Gold Family on their aliyah
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their new granddaughter Achi & Abbie Adamit on the birth of their son

Refuah Shelemah to:

Sandy Boysick Dr. David Kammerman Leonard Preston

Condolences to:

Rabbi Barry Baron on the loss of his father

Sisterhood

Welcome to another season of Sisterhood doings. Hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are ready to take part in Sisterhood programs, for which the Program Committee has put in much time. On September 14, Chaya Mushka Slonim spoke to us about the spirituality of the High Holidays. It was a very meaningful talk attended by a goodly crowd [by Sisterhood standards].

There is no October meeting because of the High Holidays. Our next event will be the Paid-up Membership dinner to be held November 9. This is the night when raffle prizes are awarded. Marlene Serkin takes and makes a great deal of time and effort to secure them. It's fun and a win-win evening for all. Be sure to plan on attending.

Valerie Preston is replacing Hadassah Gold as the Kitchen Coordinator. Remember, any time you will be using the shul kitchen please schedule your time with Valerie (798-1705). On behalf of the Sisterhood, I would like to wish Judy Simon a hearty Mazal Tov on being presented with a Yasher Koach award.

I want to wish everyone a *Shana Tova* – a healthy, happy and sweet New Year for all and peace in Israel.

Claire Ladenheim
Sisterhood President

Thank You

We wish to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has sent well wishes and donations in honor of the birth of our daughter, Eliana Tikvah. With thanks and appreciation, Zev and Doba Rudberg

Thanks to Our Sponsors

Cathy Velenchik & Chaim Joy in memory of Cathy's parents,

Max & Helen Velenchik

Steve & Rivka Katz wishing all our friends at Beth David a sweet and happy year

Claire Ladenheim in honor of the marriage of granddaughter

Dina Rendsburg to Donny Kanner

Special Sponsor Rita Shawn wishing a happy and healthy year to all

Beth David Family

Marlene Serkin's "special" birthday was marked by her Sisterhood friends at the June meeting. It was also celebrated by her sons David, Paul (in from Israel), and Stuart and Mollie, of CT.

Kol Hakavod to Toby Kohn who took the lead in ensuring each summer Shabbat had a Kiddush after davening. Others stepped in with offers of help, and that made for pleasant chats after shul. Many thanks go to Rhonda Levine, Marlene Serkin, Cathy Velenchik, and Judy Silber for always being there.

AKiddush sponsored by friends wished *tzatschem l'shalom* to Hadassah, Dan, and Tziona Gold as they moved to their new home in Tzvat. For their 50th Anniversary, Toby and Harold Kohn treated us to an ice cream cake Kiddush. A few weeks later, they shared delicious Kiddush treats to mark Harold's "special" birthday. The extended Kohn family added ruach to services that day. Marion and Norman Rudin celebrated their 65th Anniversary surrounded by family at the home of their children Jackie and Mark Berkowitz, of Pomona.

Akiva Weiss sponsored a Kiddush in praise of his survival of an attack on his IDF unit in the Golan fifteen years ago. The Kiddush also served as a memorial to those who perished in the attack.

During his summer Binghamton visit, my brother Chuck Pollack sponsored a Kiddush to honor Harold and me, and to honor our *Beth David Family*. Judy and Rabbi Zev Silber sated us with tasty snacks, some gluten free, at a Kiddush they held to wish their grandchildren Shanna and Avi, children of Eli Silber, a good school year after their Binghamton summer experience. Saba and Michael Weisner sponsored a Kiddush in memory of her mother Doris Zolty.

One of the highlights of Rivky and Aaron Slonim's summer trip to Israel was a BU alumni reunion of former students who made aliyah. Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy toured *Our Homeland*, she for the very first time. We look forward to hearing her insights and reflections of their Israeli adventure.

Susan and Jerry Hubal had a busy summer. In addition to spending some time in Florida visiting an ailing relative, they helped celebrate family simchas in Virginia and in California. Rhonda Levine and Arieh Ullmann attended the Pittsburg Bat Mitzvah of Ori Cohen, the daughter of Ilyssa Manspeiser and Brian Cohen. On a drive through Maryland heading to Virginia for a family simcha, Harold and I spent a day with Suzanne and Tom Triebwasser and their baby, Shalom. They send regards to all at shul.

After Dora and Sol Polachek cruised the British Isles, Dora conferenced in Bruges while Sol headed home. Elaine and Jerry Cohen enjoyed a Baltic cruise in fine weather. Harold and I hiked through five National Parks in Utah, a different vacation for us, one we'll surely try again. Toby and Harold Kohn enjoyed the sights and sounds of Charleston and Savannah. Fortunately they timed their travel well, and arrived after the torrential rain storm. Miriam and Aaron Alweis' road trip took them to Florida to help celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Aaron's parents, Mary and Ed Alweis. The Alweises enjoyed many scenic stops along the way.

Mazal Tov to Marissa and Jeremy Wright of Brooklyn on the birth of a daughter, Ariella Rose. Grandparents Susan and Michael Wright and Aunt Kerry Wright happily greeted their little granddaughter. Abbie and Achi Adamit brought a son, Eliav Malachi, into their family. Grandparents SarahLynn and Ami Adamit flew in from their Israeli home to welcome their newest grandchild. Mazal Tov to Doba and Zev Rudberg on the birth of their daughter, Emily Sylvia (Eliana

Tikvah). She took her time getting here, and she's worth every minute! Shmuli and Nechama Slonim, of Houston, welcomed Moussia into their family. Grandparents Rivky and Aaron Slonim are thrilled with the latest addition to their family tree. May all the babies grow to Bar/Bat Mitzvah and to Chuppah in good health.

Ilana and Bernie Segal joyously participated in the B'nai Mitzvah of their grandson Jordan and granddaughter Sophie, the children of Karen and Jeffrey Friedenberg, of NJ. Paula and Charles Rubin kvelled at the Richmond, VA Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Andrew, son of Lisha and Adam Levin. Maria and Bob Kutz journeyed to share the simcha. *Yasher koach* to Grandpa Charles Rubin, who read the Torah for the first time at the Bar Mitzvah. May the celebrants continue to grow in Torah. Mazal Tov to the Segal and the Rubin families.

Max Feldhamer, the son of Suzanne and Leon Feldhamer, of Beit Shemish, became engaged to Danielle Ochayon, of Canada. It seems that just yesterday Max was a lanky pre-teen coming to shul at Beth David. Claire Ladenheim *shepped* much *nachat* at the wedding of her granddaughter Dina, daughter of Susan Rendsburg Grosberg, to Donny Kanner. Claire was enveloped in love by four generations of her family. Esther, the daughter of Suzanne and Leon Feldhamer, of Beit Shemish, married Uri Eljarat. The two met while serving in the IDF. May each of the couples build a *bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael*.

Graduates missed in the last issue are:

Leora Feder, from Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School in Teaneck, Yael Feder from Bruria High School for Girls in Elizabeth, and Michal Feder (8th grade) from the Jewish Education Center of Elizabeth. All three are the daughters of Sarah and Bruce Feder, of Teaneck, and the granddaughters of Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber. Also missed was Tehilla Bracha Ita Tuchman from Bais Yaakov of the Lower East Side. She's the daughter of Leslie and Michael Tuchman, and the granddaughter of Harold and me.

Nancy Basmann was named a Gold Medalist during Professional Photographers of America's 2016 International Photographic Competition. In January, her work will be on display at San Antonio's HBG Convention Center. Praises to Nancy and to two of our members recently recognized at our Federation's Super Sunday kick-off. Judy Simon was presented a *Yasher Koach* Award from Beth David for her ongoing support of our community members residing in assisted living or nursing home facilities. Sima Auerbach was presented with a *Yasher Koach* Award from Hadassah, a cause she's devoted most of her life to. Bringing home many memories, and loads of dirty laundry, from their sleep-away camps were: Mendel Chein, Zalman Slonim, Mendel Slonim, Elisa Alweis, Cara Miller, and Shanna Silber.

Refuah shelema to Jeannette DeLeon, Sandy Boysick, Marion Morell, Leonard Preston and David Kammerman.

With great sadness I note the passing of Yitzchok Tzuriel Coleman, son of Gary and the late Tzipporah Coleman, brother of Orit Mazal, Rivka, and Yosef. May the family find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Please contact me with your family news so I can share it in this column. Also, let me know if you'd like to sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush. It's a great way to mark special occasions and to bring extra joy to the shul's Shabbat atmosphere. Call me at 797-5458 or email msasnowitz@gmail.org *K'iva v'chatima tova*, May each of you be written and sealed for a good year.

Meryl Sasnowitz