

December-February Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)

Sunday.....	8:30 am
Monday – Friday.....	7:00 am
*Except December 30; February 27:.....	6:50 am
*Except February 20:.....	8:30 am
Shabbat.....	9:00 am

EVENINGS (times constant)

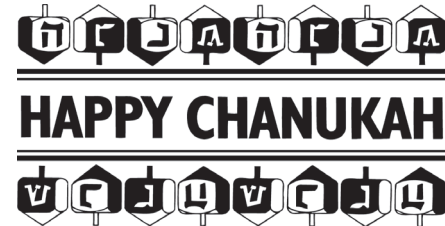
Monday – Thursday.....	7:00 pm
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EVENINGS (times vary)

Shabbat Mincha.....	after Kiddush
<i>For Maariv- see below</i>	

Friday, December 9, 16.....	4:15 pm
Shabbat, December 10, 17.....	5:35 pm
Sunday, December 11.....	4:15 pm
Sunday, December 18.....	4:20 pm
Friday, December 23.....	4:20 pm
Shabbat, December 24.....	5:40 pm
Sunday, December 25.....	4:25 pm
Friday, December 30.....	4:25 pm
Shabbat, December 31.....	5:45 pm
Sunday, January 1.....	4:30 pm
Friday, January 6.....	4:30 pm
Shabbat, January 7.....	5:55 pm
Sunday, January 8.....	4:20 pm
Friday, January 13.....	4:40 pm
Shabbat, January 14.....	6:00 pm

Sunday, January 15.....	4:40 pm
Friday, January 20.....	4:45 pm
Shabbat, January 21.....	6:10 pm
Sunday, January 22.....	4:50 pm
Friday, January 27.....	4:55 pm
Shabbat, January 28.....	6:20 pm
Sunday, January 29.....	5:00 pm
Friday, February 3.....	5:05 pm
Shabbat, February 4.....	6:25 pm
Sunday, February 5.....	5:10 pm
Friday, February 10.....	5:15 pm
Shabbat, February 11.....	6:35 pm
Sunday, February 12.....	5:20 pm
Friday, February 17.....	5:25 pm
Shabbat, February 18.....	6:45 pm
Sunday, February 19.....	5:25 pm
Friday, February 24.....	5:30 pm
Shabbat, February 25.....	6:55 pm
Sunday, February 26.....	5:35 pm
Friday, March 3.....	5:40 pm
Shabbat, March 4.....	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 5.....	5:45 pm



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CHAI LINE

INSIDE

Sisterhood.....	2
Thank You.....	3
Chanukah Customs.....	4
Beth David Family.....	5
Minyan Schedule.....	6

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Chanukah, 2016-5777

From the Rabbi

Chanukah celebrates the purification and the rededication of the Holy Temple after it was defiled by the Greeks. The rabbis also see within the word “Chanukah”, as spelled in Hebrew, a clue as to the date of this great miracle.

The first part of the word, “chanu” means “they camped” or, in reference to the battles that had been raging for some time that the Jewish people were victorious, were able to rest and relax, since the war was over. The end of the word, “kah” is composed of the two Hebrew letters, chaf and hey. We know that the Hebrew letters each has a numerical equivalent, and the numerical equivalent of these two letters is 25. The number 25 represents the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, the day that the war ended and the day that was designated to begin this 8 day holiday.

Chanu-kah, the war ended on the 25th day of the month of Kislev.

The events that led up to the Maccabean revolt made life difficult and threatening for the Jews. The Holy Temple was captured by the Syrian-Greeks, they filled it with idols and defiled all the holy vessels, they held the temple and its service hostage and did not allow the Jews to pray and serve in the Temple. Many laws and decrees were promulgated that prevented normal, regular Jewish practices. The study of Torah was forbidden, the practice of any Jewish law, and even the most inconsequential custom was made illegal at the threat of death. It was impossible to live as a Jew.

One thing that the Syrian-Greeks could not outlaw was the private and personal meditation. The recitation of certain words, no matter how silently, was what kept many Jews loyal to their faith and confident of the eventual victory that Judaism would have over the pagan practices of their adversaries.

For centuries and millennium, whenever a Jew found himself threatened, whether by the Greeks or the pogroms, by the crusades or the Nazis, there was one simple and yet profound verse in the Torah composed of 25 letters, that gave the Jew comfort and spiritual satisfaction. That verse is “*Shema Yisrael*”.

These 25 letters reaffirm our belief in the one God who we know will always protect His people. He will give victory to the weak from the hands of the mighty and will allow us to

From the President

Happy Chanukah to one and all!

Saba Wiesner
President

Give Double Chai to the ChaiLine

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 \$36.00 for sponsorship, \$180.00 for being a Special Sponsor, or \$18.00 for a thank you, arriving at the Shul office before the next deadline (February 19, 2017) will be most appreciated.

Happy Chanukah to all.

Marlene Serkin

Thanks to our Sponsors

Steve & Rika Katz in honor of the *Bnei Mitzvah* of their granddaughters, **Tikva and Chedva Reifman**, in Israel

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

rededicate ourselves to Jewish life and move forward with a new beginning. These 25 letters signify the end of the battle and the beginning of renewal.

We have the opportunity each and every day to rededicate ourselves to Jewish life and move forward to making the world a better place, for us and all people. All we need to do is get together as a community each morning and night and recite together the *Shema*, as we make sure that our shul always has a minyan.

I wish you a Chanukah *Sameach!*

Rabbi Zev Silber

High Holiday Kiddushim

With Chanukah just around the corner, it is hard to remember back to the High Holidays, but this is my first opportunity to publicly thank all those who helped make our holiday *kiddushim* so enjoyable. The Congregation, Sisterhood, and I want to thank all those who shopped, donated food, prepared, set up and cleaned up after any kiddush.

As always, our biggest thanks go to Marlene Serkin for doing most of the shopping and menu planning. Our appreciation also goes to Sheldon Edison and Ahren Edison, who donated the herring in memory of their wife and mother respectively, and Dr. Charles and Paula Rubin who donated the kichel in memory of their beloved son, Stephen.

Particular thanks go to the following volunteers:

Elisa Alweis	Susan Hubal	Toby Kohn
Rhonda Levine	Valerie Preston	Gina Santiago
Meryl Sasnowitz	Marlene Serkin	Kathie Shelly
Judy Silber	Lillian Sommer	Saba Wiesner
Marcy Yonaty		

Apologies to anyone whose name may have been left off the list. Many thanks also to those not officially scheduled to help (including spouses) who pitched in and helped whenever needed.

Cathy Velenchik
Sisterhood Service VP

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Lillian Sommer on the birth of her latest grandchild
Zev & Doba Rudberg on the birth of their daughter
Michael & Susan Wright on the birth of their granddaughter
Susan Grosberg on the marriage of her daughter, Dina Rendsburg
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their granddaughter
Lynn Manasse wishing her good health
Aaron & Miriam Alweis on the birth of their latest grandson
Alan & Julie Piaker on receiving the A.M. Pierson Award from Hillel Academy
Claire Ladenheim on the birth of her newest great-granddaughter

Thank You to:

Lillian Sommer, Cathy Velenchik, Lillian Zodikoff, Ruth Goldstein,
Judy Silber, Marie Werner & Marlene Serkin to thank them for
helping to prepare and serve the Shavuot Luncheon
Susan Wright, Lori Tuberman, & Lisa Feigenbaum thanking them
for their efforts in the renovation of the mikvah
Rivkah Slonin for her inspiring talk on the mitzvah of mikvah

Refuah Shelemah to:

Rachel Bell Sima Auerbach Marion Morell
Dora Polachek Michael Wright

Condolences to:

Barbara Schapiro on the loss of her dear husband, Irvin
Robert & Lori Schapiro on the loss of his dear father, Irvin
Rabbi Barry Baron on the loss of his dear father

Contributions

General Fund from:

Bob & Maria Kutz	Brian & Lori Tuberman
Stephen & Marcia Sutter	Leonard & Valerie Preston
Dr. Steven & Rebecca Katz	Matthew & Phyllis Ansell Paushter
Elaine & Terry Bollinger	Gavriel & Marcy Yonaty
Aaron & Miriam Alweis	Jacob & Rose Olum Foundation
Cyrus Golsaz MD	Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber
Drs. Sol & Dora Polachek	Jeanne Kravitz

Karen & Arthur Noss thanking Beth David for awarding their son the religious financial scholarship and for the hospitality offered by the congregants

Shul Beautiful from:

Ruth Goldstein in honor of the good news her niece received
Claire Ladenheim to be used for the Ladies room renovations
Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz to Dan, Hadassah & Tziona Gold
wishing them mazel tov on making aliyah to Tzvat, Israel
Kathie Shelly to Dan, Hadassah & Tziona Gold wishing them
Mazel tov on making aliyah to Tzvat, Israel
Gaby & Marcy Yonaty wishing Harold & Toby Kohn mazel tov
on their 50th wedding anniversary
Kathie Shelly to wish Claire Ladenheim mazel tov on the
marriage of her granddaughter, Dina Rendsburg
Kathie Shelly to Michael & Susan Wright wishing them mazel tov
on the birth of a new granddaughter
Kathie Shelly to Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim wishing them
mazel tov on the birth of their latest granddaughter, born
to Shmuli and Nechama
Kathie Shelly to Charles & Paula Rubin wishing them mazel tov
on their grandson, Andrew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Kathie Shelly to Rabbi Ami & Sarah Lynn Adami wishing them
mazel tov on their new grandson Eliav, born to Achi & Abbie
Kathie Shelly to Sandy Boysick to wish her a *refuah shelemah*
Robert & Danielle Skrabalak made a significant contribution to
the Shul Beautiful Fund in memory of their dear friend,
Libby Bergman
Lillian Zodikoff to Charles & Paula Rubin wishing them
mazel tov on their grandson, Andrew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Marcy & Gaby Yonaty sending condolences to Hersh Rozen on
the loss of his dear sister, Rozzie

Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund

Ruth Goldstein	Kathie Shelly
Josh & Debra Kammerman	Nancy Basmann
Merri Pell-Preus	Rosalyn Antoun

Drs. Sol & Dora Polachek in appreciation of the kindness of
Barbara & Les Bank

Myra & Irving Memis in appreciation for the wonderful repast
and the talk by Tony Preus

Sisterhood General Fund from:

Chaim Joy & Cathy Velenchik toward the new refrigerator in the
Beth David kitchen

Beth David Family

It's always a joy to note the arrival of babies into our extended Beth David Family. Gilead and Batsheva Adami welcomed a baby girl, Ayelet, into their home. Grandparents Sarah Lynne and Ami Adami delighted in adding another branch to their family tree.

Great-grandmother Claire Ladenheim kvelled over the birth of Ella, (Eliana Yakira) to Rachel and Josh Abrams. She's the granddaughter of Susan Rendsburg Grosberg. Rivkah and Danny Alweis welcomed a son, Neriya Menachem into their family. Grandparents Miriam and Aaron Alweis' car now makes the Binghamton to NYC route on auto-pilot. Mazel Tov to the extended Adami, Ladenheim, and Alweis families. May the babies each be blessed with good health to Bar/Bat Mitzvah, to *chuppah*, and to 120!

Seen passing through town were Ruth and Ed Sacher, of Montreal, on their way to their Florida winter home, and Raphael Groner, of Jerusalem, who stopped in town for the night. Marlene Serkin took special joy in a visit from her Israeli granddaughter, Tova, husband Yair and her two children, Noam and Gil. Of course Uncle David Serkin got in on the fun. Moshe Shmaryahu loved having two of his daughters visit his Binghamton home. After a month of touring South America, Yona and Shoval Ben Shushan, of Israel, spent a week here. Noa and Shemer Raviv sojourned here for a month with their three children. As this was their childhood home for five years, Yona and Noa delighted in their Binghamton visit. Their presence was a wonderful addition to our shul services.

Marti Klionsky flew to London for a family simcha. The Bat Mitzvah gave her the opportunity to catch up with friends and relatives. Harold and I had the z'chus of marking the Bat Mitzvah of our granddaughter Yonina Raizel, daughter of Abigail and Tzali Lazarus, of Clifton, NJ, during our trip to Eretz Yisroel. Not only did we spend time with the Lazarus family of six, we visited with three of our grandchildren who are studying in Israel for the year.

Michael Mintz, son of Sharon Groh-Mintz and Howie Mintz of Providence, RI, married Lea Abraham in a seaside spot in Israel. Grandpa Bob Groh is *shepping* much *nachat*.

Dora and Steve Feuer spent time in San Antonio, TX at the new home of their children Amy, and Amir Poran, and their daughters. Since their daughter Rina qualified for the U.S. karate team to the Maccabiah Games, the Porans plan to head to Israel next summer for the event.

Refuah shelema to Dora Polachek.

Please let me know of your family news so that I can share it with the Beth David Family.

May the dancing lights of the Chanukah menorah fill your hearts with joy.

Meryl Sasnowitz
msasnowitz@gmail.com

From the Sisterhood

Our annual Paid-up Dinner was held on November 16 and a delicious meal was prepared by Adina Harkavy and enjoyed by everyone. Adina is also Sisterhood's newest member. Marlene Serkin handed out raffle prizes and I thank her for her efforts in securing these.

You should receive this issue of the ChaiLine before our next Sisterhood meeting on December 14. At that meeting I will lead a talk on The Jews of Harlem. This was prompted by an article I read in a Metropolitan newspaper about a JCC opening in Harlem, the first in one hundred years. This was sparked by a revival of Jews coming back to live in Harlem. I found the topic fascinating.

How many of us knew that there once was a tremendous Jewish community in Harlem? I hope you all will find the talk interesting.

I would like to wish everyone and their families a very Happy Chanukah and may the flames of the menorah candles glow and shed light and peace all over the world.

Claire Ladenheim
Sisterhood President

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who made donations to Beth David in honor of our grandson, Andrew Levin, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
Paula & Charles Rubin (AKA Nana & Pa)

Ladies Room Renovations

I am so happy to let you know that the remodeling of our Ladies Room is now completed and, if I say so myself, is quite lovely! I hope you all will agree when you see it.

I did not want to fund-raise for this project but renovation makes it necessary. I must tell you, however, that several people have come to my aid. One couple in particular (my "fairy angels") made it possible for me to go forward with my hope for a really lovely Ladies Restroom. Without their generous donation it could not have happened. I am so beholden to them, and thank them forever!

Others voluntarily came forth with wonderful donations "to the cause". I am deeply grateful for these volunteer donations also. But, despite all of this wonderful help, funding is still necessary.

So, I am asking you, if you can, please help defray the costs of this project.

Thank you and God Bless.

Marcy Yonaty
Shul Beautiful Chairwoman