

April - May Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)			
Sunday	8:30 am	Shabbat, May 10..... 7:40 pm	
Monday – Friday	6:40 am	Sunday - Thursday, May 11-15	8:00 pm
<i>*Except April 15, 16, 21, 22</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>	Shabbat, May 17.....	7:50 pm
<i>*Except April 17, 18, 30, May 1, 30</i>	<i>6:30 am</i>	Sunday - Thursday, May 18-22	8:05 pm
Shabbat.....	9:00 am	Shabbat, May 24.....	7:55 pm
		Sunday - Thursday, May 25-29	8:10 pm
		Shabbat, May 31.....	8:00 pm
EVENINGS (times constant)			
Friday (<i>beginning April 4</i>)	7:15 pm		
EVENINGS (times vary)			
Sunday-Thursday, March 23-27	7:05 pm		
Friday, March 28	7:10 pm		
Shabbat, March 29.....	6:55 pm		
Sunday-Thursday, March 30-April 3.....	7:10 pm		
Shabbat, April 5.....	7:05 pm		
Sunday-Thursday, April 6-10	7:20 pm		
Shabbat, April 12.....	6:55 pm		
Sunday-Tuesday, April 13-22.....	<i>see Pesach schedule</i>		
Wednesday-Thursday, April 23-24.....	7:40 pm		
Shabbat, April 26.....	7:25 pm		
Sunday-Thursday, April 27-May 1.....	7:45 pm		
Shabbat, May 3.....	7:35 pm		
Sunday-Thursday, May 4-8.....	7:50 pm		



Happy Passover!

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

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From the Rabbi

The Talmud states that thirty days before Pesach one must study the laws of the holiday. The rabbis have different interpretations of this law. Some, such as Rabbeinu Nisim, suggest that this law applies to teachers and rabbis who must give priority to questions asked of them regarding the holiday, above any other topic that they are asked or are studying. This obligation would apply to any holiday. Others suggest that this applies only to Pesach, since there are so many laws and they are so complex, which is so different than any other holiday.

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein suggests that this statement is a source for the requirement of preparation for any holiday and every mitzvah, and is not limited to rabbis and teachers. It is incumbent upon every single Jew. Every family member must participate in holiday preparation, especially for Pesach, if we are going to experience a meaningful and enjoyable experience. Some will do the shopping, others the cleaning. The most skilled at making delicious food will do the cooking.

We all want the holiday, and especially the *seder*, to be pleasurable to the pallet and also meaningful for the soul. So, we all should spend some time reviewing the story of Passover and the contents of the Haggadah. Preparing for the ceremonial aspects of the holiday is as important as preparing the house and the meal.

We at Beth David attempt to help you in all aspects of the preparation. Your rabbis are available to answer any questions you may have about koshering your kitchen, the acceptability of products, and to offer suggestions for material you can use to prepare for a spiritually uplifting *seder*. At this time of the year we will place these questions as our priority.

I encourage you to attend my Pre-Pesach workshop on April 2 where you can get much useful information and if you submit questions to me in advance I will be able to provide answers that will benefit everyone who attends.

Another aspect derived from the Talmudic teaching of studying about the holiday in advance is the traditional Rabbinic study session, the Shabbat Hagadol derasha, on Shabbat afternoon prior to Pesach, this year on Shabbat, April 12. I will expound on some Pesach topic while we all participate in the consumption of some *chametz* foods at the Seudah Shlishit between Mincha and Maariv. Men and Women traditionally attend this lecture and will all be welcomed.

I encourage you to make use of the knowledge and resources that our rabbis want to share with you, and together we will make this Pesach holiday most significant and pleasurable.

From my family to yours, I wish you all a *chag kasher v'sameach* – may you have a joyous and kosher Pesach holiday.

Rabbi Ami Adamit

From the President

Happy Passover to one and all.

Saba Wiesner, President

Give Double Chai to the ChaiLine

Have you ever thought of sponsoring the *ChaiLine* but never got around to it? Well you can remedy that now. The deadline for the Shavuot issue is May 18 (the day of the Anniversary dinner). Your check for \$36 for regular sponsorship, or \$180 for **Special Sponsorship**, along with a note telling me what you would like to say, arriving at my home prior to the deadline will ensure your inclusion in the next issue.

Thanks to all past, present and future sponsors.

I would like to wish you all a *Chag Kasher V'Sameach*.

Marlene Serkin

Thanks to Our Sponsors

In memory of **Mel**, who left us much too soon, from **Kathy, Les, Matt, Sarah, Anita, Lynn, Charlie Manasse and Families**

Marcy & Gaby Yonaty in memory of **Ethel Aaron Houser**

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

Nancy & Robert Joy

Marie Werner wishing everyone a happy Passover

Steve & Rika Katz & Family wishing the Beth David community a wonderful Passover

Don't Be Left Out...

Last minute ads are still being accepted for the special keepsake Golden Anniversary book that will accompany the 50 year Anniversary Dinner at Beth David Synagogue. Send your ad form (located in this ChaiLine) along with your check payable to Beth David Synagogue to: Meryl Sasnowitz, 26 Edgcomb Rd, Binghamton, NY 13905 **NO LATER THAN APRIL 25, 2014**. Or, you can email your copy to Meryl at msasnowitz@gmail.com.

Take a walk down memory lane with this special memento and tribute to our Synagogue highlighting our past 50 years with photos and quotes. The dinner will be held at the Synagogue on Sunday May 28th. Watch your mail for your invitation or call Marlene Serkin 729-3235 to be put on the mailing list.

Paula Rubin

••••• • *Pesach Customs and Practices* • •••••

When: Pesach begins on Monday, April 14th at night, and lasts through the day of Tuesday, April 22nd.

Prohibition of Chametz: It is not only forbidden to eat *chametz* on Pesach, it is also forbidden to have *chametz* in our possession or in our sight. Therefore, a thorough **cleaning** of all places where *chametz* may be found is required by the night of **Sunday**, April 13. What is required is to clean all places where *chametz* may be found, used or stored in our homes, basement, pantries, offices, cars, purses and book bags. Don't forget your talit bag! Spring cleaning of rooms and areas that never have *chametz* there is not necessary. *Chametz* products that we are not consuming or throwing away before Pesach should be stored in a closed or covered cabinet. Dishes and utensils used for *chametz* should also be stored separately in order to avoid the mistaken use of these during Pesach.

Kitchen Preparation: We only use Pesach dishes, utensils and cookware on Pesach. The kitchen counters and appliances must be made Kosher for Pesach before any food for Passover is prepared in or on them. The **kashering** process differs for each appliance or utensil, and some may not be koshered at all. Please consult a reliable source for the laws and method of kashering, and do not hesitate to ask the rabbi for assistance. Many of the major supervising agencies have kashering guides on their web sites. Kashering must be completed before you burn the *chametz*.

Shopping: Buy only products with a Kosher for Passover label from a reliable supervisory organization. The primary reliable agencies are the OU, the Star-K, the Chof-K, the OK, and KAJ. Many other supervisory agencies are also acceptable, but consult the rabbi before purchasing a product with a kashrut symbol that you do not know is acceptable. Many products can be used on Pesach without a special marking, and most of the kashrut agencies have lists of these on their websites. When in doubt, please ask the rabbi for assistance.

Mechirat Chametz - Selling of the Chametz: The *chametz* that we have not consumed or disposed of before Pesach may not remain in our possession during the holiday. In order to avoid undue hardship or a large economic loss, arrangements can be made to sell the *chametz* to a non-Jew for the duration of the holiday. As indicated above, all *chametz* remaining in your home must be stored in a closed or covered cabinet. Non-Passover utensils can be stored separately since we do not need to sell these. In order to execute a legally and halachically binding sale, you must complete the authorization form found in this *ChaiLine* and submit it by 10:00 am on Monday, April 14. It is preferable to do this in person, but forms submitted to the office or by mail are also acceptable.

Bedikat Chametz – Search for Chametz: We check the house and search for any *chametz* that we may not have found during our cleaning after nightfall on Sunday, April 13. It is customary to place 10 pieces of *chametz* around the house prior to the search to make sure that our search is complete. Any *chametz* that we find

during our search should be stored or disposed of, except for that which we plan to burn the next morning. Before beginning the search we recite a blessing, and following the search we recite a statement of nullification for any *chametz* that we may not have found. The blessing and nullification can be found in a siddur or Haggadah.

Ta'anit Bechorim- Fast of the First Born: The fast of the First Born is held on Erev Pesach, Monday, April 14, to commemorate their deliverance from death during the tenth plague in Egypt. It is customary for the first-born to participate in a meal served in celebration of a *mitzvah*, such as a *Brit Mila* (circumcision) or *siyum* (the completion of a tractate of the Talmud). Those who attend one of these events celebrate with the partaking of refreshments and are then exempt from this fast. A *siyum* will be held at Beth David following *Shacharit* services.

Bi'ur Chametz - Burning the Chametz: It is prohibited to eat *chametz* on Erev Pesach, Monday, April 14, after 10:50 am. All *chametz* must be removed from our possession and the *chametz* found the night before during the search must be burned by 11:56 am. A statement of nullification of any *chametz* not found or disposed of is recited at the time of burning. The statement can be found in a siddur or Haggadah.

Matzah and food on Erev Pesach: It is forbidden to eat matzah during the entire day of Erev Pesach is order that we may hunger for the taste of matzah at the Seder. Under some conditions, foods containing matzah meal may be eaten, as well as egg matzah, which we generally do not eat on Pesach. Please consult the rabbi for specifics. After 4:00 pm we may only eat small quantities of fruits, vegetables, meat, eggs or fish.

Seder Preparation: The special foods for the Seder plate for both *Sedarim* should be prepared during the day of Erev Pesach. The *Kiddush* at the Seder may not be recited until after nightfall on either night. The *afikoman* should be eaten before 1:04 am. Some people have the custom of beginning *sefirat ha'omer* – the counting of the Omer – at the second Seder instead of counting during the evening service.

After Pesach: *Chametz* that was owned by a Jew during Pesach may not be consumed, even after Pesach. The *chametz* that you arranged to be sold before Pesach will be returned to your possession at approximately 9:35 pm on Tuesday, April 22. Price Chopper is Jewish owned and arranged for its *chametz* to be sold to a non-Jew through the Albany Vaad Hakashrut. Weis Markets is Jewish owned and the *chametz* in all the local stores was sold by me, while the stores in other areas have been arranged with other rabbis. The *chametz* at the local JCC, Hillel Academy and our synagogue was sold by me.

This information is accurate as of time of publication. If there are any changes which will affect the ability to purchase or consume *chametz* from or at any of these businesses, I will inform the congregation by e-mail. *If you do not receive e-mail updates from the synagogue, please send a request to rabbisilber@stny.rr.com to be added to our distribution list.*

Beth David Family

It takes a *kehilla* (village) to make a Purim, and we're fortunate a *freilach* Purim was brought to us by our "village." Rabbi Zev Silber did a yeoman's job of reading the Megillah multiple times. He pronounced those difficult names with ease and paced himself to allow us all to fulfill the mitzvah of hearing the Megillah's words. Lori Tuberman and her daughters Melanie and Sammy baked the crispiest, most flavorful hammentashen for us to enjoy after Megillah reading and for our seudah's dessert. Saba Wiesner and Charlie Mannasse's meal brought us gastronomic delight. Yasher Koach to all these folks, and to all the unnamed crew members who worked on the hammentashen and seudah projects. Your time and effort greatly enhanced Purim for us all!

Some babies made their appearances since our last issue. Mazal Tov to first time grandparents Miriam and Aaron Alweis and to first time great-grandparents Lilly and Herman Wolf on the birth of Mia Bella to Malka and Michael Alweis of Teaneck. Mazal Tov also to Aunt Elisa and Aunt and Uncle Rivka and Danny. Rochel and Zalman Chein became an aunt and an uncle for the first time from one of Rochel's siblings. Mussy and Mendy Posner of Crown Heights had a girl, Menucha, on Purim day. May the girls grow to Bat Mitzvah, to Chuppah, and to 120 in good health.

Happy "special" Birthday to Janet Wilson, our regular Jerusalem correspondent. During their recent two-week journey to Israel, Toby and Harold Kohn spent time with Janet and Ken, the Oppenheims and Naomi Staiman. Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy managed a brief Orlando get-away to visit a friend. Kudos to those of us who weathered Binghamton's winter. We supported minyan, helped with Kiddush, edited and collated the *ChaiLine*, balanced the books, attended meetings, and brought *ruach* (spirit) to our services. *Kol Hakavod* to us!

Let me know if any of your family members will be grads this spring. Our "Beth David Family" likes to share in the good news. You can contact me with any news at msasnowitz@gmail.com or 797-5458.

Refuah Shelema to Miriam Alweis.

We now turn the page of our calendar and look towards Pesach, a time to remember our redemption from slavery in Egypt. Our coming out of bondage led us to a wealth of opportunities. As we remember our Exodus, let us also remember to reach for some of our many spiritual possibilities. Have a meaningful Pesach.

Meryl Sasnowitz

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Marlene Serkin on the birth of her great grandson Tal Gavriel, son of Yosef & Yonit

Aaron & Miriam Alweis on the birth of their granddaughter, Mia Bella, daughter of Michael & Malka

Herman & Lilly Wolf on the birth of their great granddaughter, Mia Bella

Elisa Alweis on the birth of her niece, Mia Bella

Ron & Leslie Grant on the birth of their granddaughter

Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their granddaughter, Chana, daughter of Yehuda & Chaya

Refuah Shelema to:

Claire and Sam Ladenheim

Condolences to:

Lynn and Charlie Manasse on the loss of their brother, Mel

Contributions

General Fund from:

Bert & Herta Horowitz wishing Dora & Solomon Polachek Mazel Tov on becoming grandparents

Barbara & Les Bank in honor of Sy Klionsky's birthday

Marsha & Neisen Luks in honor of the B'nai Mitzvot of Steve & Dora Feuer's twin granddaughters

Dan & Hadassah Gold thanking Rabbi Levi & Hadasa Slonim

Robert & Maria Kutz in memory of Mel Manasse, brother of Lynn & Charles Manasse

Robert & Maria Kutz wishing a *Refuah Shelema* to Floyd Jacobowitz

Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund from:

Miriam and Aaron Alweis in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Mia Bella, daughter of Michael & Malka

Shul Beautiful to:

Lillian Zodikoff in honor of the 50th anniversary of Ellen & Jerry Schachter

Maot Chitim – Passover Charity

We all know how expensive it is to purchase all our Pesach foods and needs. We cannot forget that we have an obligation to help those less economically able to do their own purchases and enjoy the Seder and the holiday. This special charity to provide for Jewish poor the ability to purchase Pesach provisions is called *Maot Chitim*.

Beth David and Jewish Family Service are working together to provide for the needs of local poor and the poor in Israel. In order to assure that the money is available to enable the poor to shop before Pesach, we ask that you send your check no later than April 7. Checks may be made payable to Beth David Synagogue Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or to Jewish Family Service, noting that it is for Passover Charity and if you wish to designate your gift to local or Israeli poor. Checks may be mailed to the office of either organization. Contributions received after April 7 will be distributed in Israel.