

Mincha .....6:15 pm  
Purim Seudah .....6:30 pm

### March Minyan Times

Sunday.....8:30 am  
Monday – Friday.....7:00 am  
\*Except February 27; March 28.....6:50 am  
Shabbat.....9:00 am

#### EVENINGS (times constant until March 8)

Monday – Thursday .....7:00 pm

#### EVENINGS (times vary)

Shabbat Mincha ..... after Kiddush  
For Maariv- see below  
Until March 11

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  
Thursday – Sunday, March 9-12.....see Purim schedule  
Monday – Friday, March 13-17 .....6:55 pm  
Shabbat, March 18 .....6:45 pm  
Sunday – Thursday, March 19-23 .....7:00 pm  
Friday, March 24 .....7:05 pm  
Shabbat, March 25 .....6:50 pm  
Sunday – Friday, March 26-31.....7:10 pm  
Shabbat, April 1 .....7:00 pm  
Sunday – Friday, April 2-7 .....7:15 pm

### Purim Schedule

#### Ta'anit Ester

Thursday, March 9 ... Fast begins ..... 4:58 am  
Shacharit..... 7:00 am  
Mincha..... 5:35 pm  
Fast ends ..... 6:46 pm

#### Shabbat Zachor

Friday, March 10..... Shacharit..... 7:00 am  
Candle Lighting..... 5:46 pm  
Mincha..... 5:50 pm  
Shabbat, March 11 ... Shacharit..... 9:00 am  
Parshat Zachor..... 10:30 am  
Mincha..... after kiddush

#### Purim

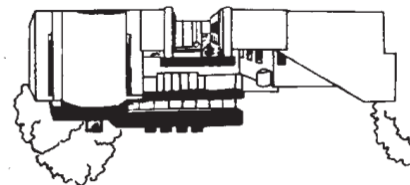
Saturday, March 11 ... Shabbat ends..... 6:48 pm  
Ma'ariv ..... 7:10 pm  
Megillah ..... 7:20 pm  
Sunday, March 12 .... Shacharit..... 8:30 am  
Megillah ..... 9:00 am  
Second reading ..... 2:15 pm  
Mincha..... 3:00 pm  
Purim Seudah .....following Mincha  
Ma'ariv ..... 7:45 pm



**HAPPY PURIM**

**Happy Purim**  
**Purim Seudah**  
**Sunday, March 12**  
**3:15 pm**

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# CHAVLINE

## INSIDE

From the President ..... 1  
Purim Customs ..... 3  
Beth David Family ..... 5  
Purim Schedule ..... 6  
Minyan Schedule ..... 6

## "The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Purim, 2017-5777

### From the Rabbi

The holiday of Purim, a religious holiday instituted by the rabbis, is based on the Megillah that we read on both the night and the morning of Purim. The Megillah is one of the books of the Bible, and would therefore be described as sacred literature.

When we examine the book, we find something so unusual that we may question that designation. Not once in the book do we find the name of God. There is no indication that God had any role in what happened. Rather, it seems like we are reading an article, lengthy that it is, that describes the political machinations in Haman's attempt to destroy the Jewish people and how, again through shrewd political maneuvering, highly influential Jews were able to reverse the evil decree and save the nation. Did God have anything to do with this?

By canonizing the Megillah and making it part of the *Tanach*, the Bible, the rabbis are telling us that God indeed acted in history to save His people, albeit behind the scenes. By commemorating the events with a religious holiday, the rabbis are emphasizing that these events were orchestrated by God in order to get the results that He desired.

I believe that this view of history is correct, and that we see the same thing in our own days regarding the State of Israel. The likelihood of the successful creation of the State in 1948 was dismal, at best. An unarmed and untrained population was successful in defending itself against the militarily superior forces of all the surrounding Arab states.

In every battle and war that was waged against Israel since its creation, the expectation of the world and its politicians has been that Israel would be seriously weakened, if not outright defeated. The prime example is, of course, the Six Day War, when Israel defeated the mighty armies of its enemies and succeeded in liberating and reuniting Jerusalem 50 years ago.

Having been in Israel and volunteering in the war effort, I believe without a doubt that the rabbis of our generation are absolutely correct in adding a religious and spiritual dimension to the holiday of Israel Independence Day and Jerusalem Day. God again acted behind the scenes to direct the outcome that He desired, and again saving the Jewish people from annihilation.

Perhaps the reason that God is absent from the text of the Megillah is that we need one book in the Torah that is able to teach us how to act politically and diplomatically, especially when God has not revealed

### From the President

It has been a while since I have written an article so let me bring you up to date on all the completed projects at the Shul. The mikvah is being used regularly and is a beautiful and relaxing place. The Beth El windows glow on the Shul's wall, a must see. The ladies room, a lovely elegant transformation for a modest amount of funds thanks to Marcy Yonaty.

I would like to thank Michael Wright for building wooden shelving for our storage room. I would be happy to put these wooden bookcases into my den, they are that beautifully constructed.

We are looking at many more upgrades in the Shul and in time we will tackle each one. Looking to the very near future I will be doing the Purim Seudah on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The Megillah reading is at 2:15 and the seudah at 3:15. Please sign up early so I can prepare accordingly. Call the Shul 722-1793 or Lillian Zodikoff at 798-9082 to make your reservation.

Saturday Luncheons on the second Saturday each month have been very successful. If you have not yet experienced this excellent buffet lunch and always an interesting speaker, you must come. We had just under 50 people at our last luncheon. It is such a fun Shabbat morning. Please join us.

Financially speaking, I am happy to say that we have not taken funds out of our reserve in many months. I am sure that makes all of our congregants happy. Because of our many members and nonmembers who send in contributions in both small and large amounts, it just keeps us in good working order. Thank you so much for your continuing support.

Wishing everyone a Very Happy Purim!

Saba Wiesner  
Beth David President

his plan to us. Chapter 4 of the Megillah is an example of this.

As I write this message a few days before Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Trump will hold their first meeting, I certainly do not profess to have prophetic knowledge of its outcome. Chapter 4 may be useful, and this may be the topic of my sermon on Shabbat, March 11, the morning before we read the Purim Megillah.

*Chag Purim Sameach!*

Rabbi Zev Silber

## Contributions General Fund from:

Thomas and Linda Theise

Harold and Meryl Sasnowitz

Elaine Green

Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy

James Mason and Carol Engel-Mason

Susan Feuerstein

Rhonda Levine and Arieh Ullmann in appreciation of  
Benny Kellman's enthusiasm and admiration of his long  
walk to Shul on Shabbat

Samuel Horowitz in honor of the birth of his great grandchildren,  
2 sets of twins: two girls, a boy and a girl and a single girl

Sue and Mark Walker thanking Rabbi David Serkin for his  
incredible generosity to the JCC Gala

Sheldon and Ahren Edison in appreciation of the Silber's and  
Hubal's warm hospitality

## Shul Beautiful to:

Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Andrew, becoming  
a Bar Mitzvah from Claire Ladenheim

Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz on their granddaughter, Yonina  
Raizel, becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Claire Ladenheim

David Kammerman wishing him well, and letting him know,  
"You are in my thoughts and prayers." from Claire Ladenheim

Hersh Rozen in memory of his sister, Rosalind Rosenbaum,  
from Arlene & Marvin Kutz

Holly Levine & Family in memory of her father, Carl Levine  
from Arlene & Marvin Kutz

Meryl Sasnowitz wishing her Refuah Shelemah from Sy &  
Judy Simon

Meryl Sasnowitz wishing her Refuah Shelemah from Marilyn Bell

Marlene Serkin in honor of her first GREAT granddaughter  
from Marilyn Bell

Alan Piaker wishing him Refuah Shelemah from Marilyn Bell

## Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund

Lillian Zodikoff

Ruth Goldstein

Harold and Meryl Sasnowitz

Sue and Charles Gilinsky

Marie Werner

Shelly Goldman Black

Kathie Shelly & Edward Cameron, in honor of Craig Goldman

SAVE THE DATE  
*Intersisterhood*  
Wed., April 5 at 7 pm - Temple Israel  
*"Why is this night different?"*  
Bring your favorite Passover Judaica items,  
stories or recipes to share  
*(More information to follow)*

## SHABBAT LUNCHEON SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

Due to the way the holidays fall this year,  
the March Luncheon will be held on the  
4<sup>th</sup> Shabbat of the month, March 25.

There will be no luncheon in April.

The luncheons in May and June will be held on the  
regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Shabbat of the month – May 13 & June 10.

We look forward to seeing you at the luncheons  
and for your support through sponsorships  
and contributions to the *Luncheon Fund!*

**Pre-Pesach Workshop**  
**Wednesday, March 29, 2017 – 7:30 pm**

*A special thank you to Saba Wiesner  
for all she has done, is doing, and  
her future doings, for Beth David.*

## Mikvah Renovations

Eliav Bock & Dina Danon

The Jewish Federation

Elaine Green

## Ladies Room Renovations

Claire Ladenheim

Rita Shawn

Ruth Goldstein

Anonymous

Robert & Barbara Ruchames

Marlene Serkin

Cathie Velenchik & Chaim Joy

## New Refrigerator

Cathie Velenchik & Chaim Joy

## Beth David Family

Good news abounds in this Pre-Purim issue. I'll start with several engagements. With great joy, Rose and Jerry Strauss of Teaneck announced the engagement of their son Chaim to Tirtza Spiegel. Chaim Mandel of Jerusalem became engaged to Miriam Moskowitz. He's the son of Elaine and Shai Mandel and grandson of Charney and Pinchas Oppenheim of Jerusalem. Ilene Goldman is kvelling over the engagement of her granddaughter Deena, daughter of Andra and Craig Goldman of West Orange, to Orin Vaknin of Long Island. I note that each of these families is celebrating the upcoming marriage of the first in their respective generations. And then there's Ayal Adomit, the family baby, who became engaged to Ayala Rachel Herring of San Diego. He's the son of Sarah Lynn and Ami Adomit.

Marlene Serkin is thrilled with the birth of her first great-granddaughter, Lila Sarit. Until now, boys have dominated her great-grandchild field. The baby is the daughter of Yonit and Yosef Serkin of Modiin, the granddaughter of Paul Serkin and the great-niece of David Serkin. Sima and Neil Auerbach welcomed a girl, Edythe Jean, into their family. She's the daughter of Nicki and Josh Auerbach. Chani and Levi Levertov of Scottsdale added a boy to their family tree. Mazal Tov to grandparents Rivky and Aaron Slonim, uncle Zalman, and aunt and uncle Hadasa and Levi Slonim.

Marni, daughter of Rose and Jerry Strauss, began her career at the NYU University Medical Center as a senior nurse on a pediatric oncology team, her dream job. As Marni is starting her career, mine has wound down. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, I retired as a NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant. Whoever thought I'd retire twice in my life?

Another milestone maker is Sy Klionsky. Temple Israel on Binghamton's Exchange Street was the venue for his 1946 Bar Mitzvah. Florida's Temple Beth Israel was the place for his recent Bar Mitzvah's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration. Sy was joined by family and friends as he was called to the Torah at both simchas. Naomi Staiman was feted by her extended family for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren arrived at her Jerusalem home to celebrate. Howard Buschman celebrated his "special" birthday with friends and family.

Rhonda Levine and Arieh Ullmann enjoyed their Zurich winter get away. They delighted in gathering with family to celebrate a cousin's birthday. Cathy Velenchik and Chaim Joy experienced some fun-filled moments during their trip to Orlando. Disney had them running in circles. Susan and Michael Wright and Kerry Wright spent three weeks relaxing at the home of Trudy Greenspan, Susan's mother, in Boynton Beach. While there

they dined with Roz and Harry Wiesel and Charney and Pinchas Oppenheim (who were on break from their Jerusalem home). Marilyn Bell helped her niece with babysitting duties in San Jose. She's truly a Great Aunt! While in New Haven for a family simcha, Harold and I reminisced with Aniko and Andy Sarkany at their Connecticut home. Lillian Sommer spent time in Israel with her children Rachel and Avi Nadel and their children, and Saba and Michael Wiesner found Florida's sunny skies a refreshing change from their northern home.

Our BU campus is a hub for community events as well as for student gatherings. Many of us have attended Chabad's annual Mega Challah Bake at the Student Union and classes at the Chabad House. Eitan Katz, a world renowned singer and entertainer, gave a January *Motezei Shabbat (Saturday night)* performance on campus. Community members sang and danced side by side with students at this OU-JLIC and Hillel on Campus co-sponsored event. Eitan Katz happens to be the brother of our member Tali Weiss.

Some of us seized the opportunity to participate in a Beit Midrash Program presented by Avital Weissman, *Yoetzet Halacha* and *Tanach* teacher, from Long Island. At this BU campus event we explored the topic, *Devorah the Prophetess: Example or Exception?* Avital is the daughter of Judy and Rabbi Zev Silber. This event was co-sponsored by Beth David and OU-JLIC. And those of us who attended were able to make it home in time for the Super Bowl kick-off! Keep BU and its affiliated Jewish organizations in mind, as they have a great deal to offer in the way of learning and socializing. We're fortunate to have such resources in our community along with our JCC and Federation. With gratitude to Hashem we welcome Judy and Sy Simon back to their Vestal home. They spent the last three months in Manhattan where Sy underwent medical treatment.

I note the passing of Chuck Ross, a gentle man, who printed our *ChaiLine* and other shul material for years. His kind heart and moral compass are missed.

As Purim approaches, we know Rabbi Silber is studying *Megillah* Esther, Saba Wiesner and her wonderful crew are preparing a tasteful seudah for all to enjoy, the Tubermans are baking hamantashen, and costumes are in the making. May this all add up to a *freilachen* (happy) Purim for you and your families.

Meryl Sasnowitz

## Sisterhood

I want to wish everyone a warm and *fraylich* Purim!!

Claire Ladenheim  
Sisterhood President