

April - May Minyan Times

Sunday.....8:30 am
 Monday – Friday.....7:00 am
 *Except March 28; April 13, 14, 26, 27; May 26: 6:50 am
 *Except April 11, 12, 17, 18; May 31:..... 9:00 am
 Shabbat.....9:00 am

EVENINGS (times constant)

Friday 7:15 pm
 Beginning April 7

EVENINGS (times vary)

Sunday – Friday, March 26-31..... 7:10 pm
 Shabbat, April 1 7:00 pm
 Sunday – Friday, April 2-7..... 7:15 pm
 Shabbat, April 8 6:45 pm
 Sunday – Tuesday, April 9-18.....see Holiday schedule
 Wednesday – Thursday, April 19-20..... 7:35 pm
 Shabbat, April 22 7:25 pm
 Sunday – Thursday, April 23-27 7:40 pm
 Shabbat, April 29 7:30 pm
 Sunday – Thursday, April 30 – May 4 7:45 pm
 Shabbat, May 6 7:40 pm
 Sunday – Thursday, May 7-11 7:55 pm
 Shabbat, May 13 7:45 pm
 Sunday – Thursday, May 14-18 8:00 pm
 Shabbat, May 20 7:55 pm
 Sunday – Thursday, May 21-25 8:10 pm
 Shabbat, May 27 8:00 pm
 Sunday – Tuesday, May 28-30..... 8:15 pm
 Wednesday, May 31 8:20 pm



Happy Passover!



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CHAI LINE

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

VOLUME LVIII, ISSUE 4

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

April/May - Pesach, 2017-5777

From the President

Passover is fast approaching and I would like to share a few thoughts with the congregation.

There are more people than you think in this community that are much less fortunate than most of us, so please remember to donate so that those people will also be able to enjoy the Holiday.

You can send donations to Jewish Family Services or to Beth David Synagogue.

Our Shul is having a small fundraiser for inscribing the gold leaves on the Tree of Life. You have received flyers but I have not received many responses. For \$150.00 we will have a leaf inscribed with a birthday, anniversary or any special occasion or remembering a loved one.

Please help to make this a successful fundraiser - it will be most appreciated!

Making Shabbos Services a priority each week would be an excellent commitment of our congregation. If you start coming regularly you most likely will continue to come; it adds beauty to life and inspires us to go inward and contemplate. Spirituality will only add to your life and being part of the Shul will add to the life of the Shul.

Have a beautiful Passover!
 Saba Wiesner

Give Double Chai

Purim is past and we all want to thank Saba Wiesner for putting on a wonderful Purim Seudah. Saba is a great cook and her special touches on whatever she undertakes always are enjoyed by all.

Pesach will soon be upon us and we are all asked to dig a little deeper and make donations so that people less fortunate than we can celebrate the holiday in a proper manner. The members of Beth David have always been very generous and you can be sure that the recipients of these donations appreciate it very much.

One of the goals of the *ChaiLine* is to be self-sufficient and not have to take money from the shul budget to bring this bulletin to you. We have been covering expenses, thanks to you, our sponsors. Let's keep it up.

Sponsorship of the *ChaiLine* is \$36.00 per issue, **special sponsorship is \$180.00**, and a thank you note is \$18.00. By sending your check (made out to Beth David Synagogue with *ChaiLine* written on the memo line), and a note telling us what you would like to say to the shul before the next deadline (5/14/17), you will be included in the Shavuot issue.

A happy and kosher Pesach from my house to yours.
 Marlene Serkin

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 3. 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 3 will be distributed in Israel.

Pesach Customs and Practices

When: Pesach begins on Monday, April 10th at night, and lasts through the day of Tuesday, April 18th.

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 9. 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 kashered 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 websites. 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 web sites. 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 Friday, April 7. It is preferable to do this in person, but forms submitted to the office by e-mail, fax 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 9. 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. This search is required even if we will not be home for Pesach. Please consult the rabbi as to the cleaning requirements if you will not be home for Pesach and for the search procedure required.

Ta'anit Bechorim - Fast of the First Born: The fast of the First Born is held on Erev Pesach, Monday, April 10, 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 10 after 10:51 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 in 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 4:16 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 1:05 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 have sold before Pesach will be returned to your possession at approximately 9:30 pm on Tuesday, April 18. 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 the distribution list.

Beth David Family

Susan and Gerry Hubal sunned on the east coast of Florida while Marti Klionsky enjoyed the warm skies of Florida's west coast. On their drive south, the Hubals stopped in NC to visit their children Rob and Elaine. Marti's multi-day drive south included stops of interest along the way. The sunny skies they returned north with gave those of us in town a temporary boost.

Claire Ladenheim spent several wonderful weeks in California with her children Xianna and Michael Shiffman. She enjoyed being indulged and visited by several generations of her West Coast progeny.

Toby and Harold Kohn's Israel journey led them to many sights highlighting our nation's history. While there they visited with former Binghamtonians the Adamits and the Wilsons.

Tehilla Schachter, daughter of Michael Schachter and Ester Silber of Katzrin, Golan Heights, celebrated her Bat Mitzvah with a *siyum* commemorating her completion of the entire six orders of the Mishnah. *Shepping nachas* through their three weeks in Israel were Grandparents Judy and Rabbi Zev Silber.

Mazal Tov to the Kellman family on the birth of a baby boy during our record breaking snowstorm Stella. We wish Rivka, Benny, and big sister Eleanor much *bracha* as their family grows.

Gil Young Choi, BU graduate and son of Susan Choi, can be seen performing with the group Galumph. It's a blend of acrobatics with touches of comedy and visual effects. The group has performed in venues around the world.

Refuah shelema to Dora Feuer, Jeanette De Leon, Carol Klionsky, and Marvin Kutz.

May Pesach bring spiritual meaning as you, along with your friends and family, remember our leaving the bonds of slavery and entering the land promised us by The Almighty.

Meryl Sasnowitz

Save the Date

Pre-Pesach workshop

Wed., March 29 at 7:30 pm, Beth David

InterSisterhood Meeting

Wed., April 5 at 7:00 pm, Temple Israel

Sisterhood

Save the Date! InterSisterhood will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 7 pm, at the beautiful newly rebuilt Temple Israel Social Hall. The theme for the evening is Passover. Attendees can bring an item relating to Passover Judaica, family stories about the holiday or recipes. Everyone in the community is invited and is asked to bring a non-perishable food item or personal care item for CHOW. The cost is \$5 per person payable at the door. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by Thursday, March 30, to Beth David Synagogue, 723-1793 or Temple Israel, 723-7461, if you wish to attend. For more information call Roz Antoun at 203-1126.

Claire Ladenheim
Sisterhood President

Hamantashen Bake

Many thanks to Lori Tuberman and her crew who once again baked more than 300 hamantashen which were greatly enjoyed by everyone attending the Megillah readings and the Purim seudah. Lori's helpers this year in alphabetical order were Marilyn Bell, Maxine Kaplan, Ilana Segal, Lillian Sommer, Cathy Velenchik, and Marie Werner.

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

Charney & Pinchus Oppenheim on the marriage of their grandson Chaim to Miriam Moskowitz

Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their grandson, Sholom Levertov

Sima & Neil Auerbach on the birth of their granddaughter, Edythe Jean

Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Tehilla Schachter, in Israel

Howard Buschman on celebrating his 90th Birthday

Ilene Goldman on the engagement of her granddaughter, Deena to Orin Vaknin

Refuah Shelemah to:

Meryl Sasnowitz Lillian Zodikoff Miriam Alweis
Sy Simon Carole Klionsky Ruth Buschman