

May - July Minyan Times

MORNINGS (times constant)

Sunday	8:30 am
Monday – Friday	7:00 am
*Except May 26:	6:50 am
*Except May 29; July 4:	8:30 am
*Except May 31; June 1:	9:00 am
Shabbat.....	9:00 am

EVENINGS (times constant)

Friday	7:15 pm
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EVENINGS (times vary)

Shabbat, May 20	7:55 pm
Sunday – Thursday, May 21-25	8:10 pm
Shabbat, May 27	8:00 pm
Sunday – Monday, May 28-29	8:15 pm
Tuesday - Thursday, May 30 – June 1 <i>see Shavuot schedule</i>	
Sunday – Thursday, June 4-8	8:20 pm
Shabbat, June 10	8:10 pm
Sunday – Thursday, June 11-15	8:25 pm
Shabbat, June 17	8:10 pm
Sunday – Thursday, June 18-22	8:25 pm
Shabbat, June 24	8:15 pm
Sunday – Thursday, June 25-29	8:30 pm
Shabbat, July 1	8:15 pm
Sunday – Thursday, July 2-6.....	8:25 pm
Shabbat, July 8.....	8:10 pm
Sunday – Monday, July 9-10	8:25 pm
Tuesday, July 11	8:10 pm
Wednesday – Thursday, July 12-13	8:25 pm
Shabbat, July 15	8:10 pm
Sunday – Thursday, July 16-20.....	8:20 pm
Shabbat, July 22.....	8:00 pm

Shavuot Schedule

Tuesday, May 30	Candle lighting.....	8:13 pm
	Mincha/Maariv.....	8:15 pm
	<i>Tikun Leil Shavuot –</i>	
	<i>All night Torah study begins</i>	<i>11:30 pm</i>
Wednesday, May 31 .	Shacharit	9:00 am
	Candle lighting.....	after 9:15 pm
	Mincha/Ma'ariv	8:20 pm
Thursday, June 1	Shacharit	9:00 am
	Yizkor.....	approximately 10:50 am
	Sisterhood shavuot Luncheon.....	12:00 noon
	Mincha/Ma'ariv	8:20 pm
	Yom Tov ends.....	9:15 pm

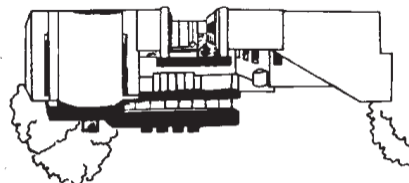
**YOU ARE INVITED TO DINNER
THE FIRST NIGHT OF SHAVUOT
Tuesday, MAY 30**

**JOIN US FOR SERVICES, DINNER AND STAY
FOR AT LEAST ONE TORAH STUDY SESSION,
AND THE DINNER IS ON US!**

**Reservations required by Friday, May 26!
RSVP to rabbisilber@stny.rr.com or 761-7098
Dinner Sponsored by Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber**

Happy Shavuot!
Please join us for the annual
Shavuot Luncheon on
Thursday, June 1!

BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE
39 Riverside Drive
Binghamton, NY 13905
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



E-Mail: bethdavid@stny.rr.com

Web Site: BethDavid.org

CHAI LINE

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"The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue"

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

May-June, Shavuot – 2017/5777

From the Rabbi

The holiday of *Shavuot* is described in the Torah as an agricultural holiday – bringing a meal offering to the Temple. It is also known as *Chag Hakatzir*, the holiday that celebrates the harvest, as well as *Chag Habikkurim*, when we bring the first fruit of the year to the Temple.

The rabbis, however, chose to emphasize an aspect that is not even mentioned in the Torah. Historically this day is the day on which we experienced revelation at Mount Sinai and received the gift of the Torah. The rabbis gave this holiday the additional name of **Zman Matan Torateinu**, the day on which our Torah was given to us. This is the description that we say during the *Amida* on the holiday, as well as the title recited in the Kiddush. As a matter of fact, The Torah reading on the first day of the holiday is the story of revelation as is found in the book of Exodus.

The story of revelation is also found in the book of Deuteronomy. In that description the Torah reports (Chapter 5, verse 19) that the words of the Ten Statements were spoken by God to the entire assembly of the Israelites at the mountain and the voice they heard was a great sound “*v’lo Yasaf*”. The great translator of the Torah, Onklos, translates these words as meaning the sound never ended.

What does he mean that it never ended? Surely if we travel to Mount Sinai today we will not be able to hear God’s voice reciting the Ten Statements!

I believe that Onklos is trying to teach us that the Torah is everlasting. We can choose to say that God is no longer speaking to us, or we can choose to understand that the Sinai experience has become part of our lives. We can close our eyes and imagine in our minds that when we hear the story of revelation we are actually hearing God speaking to us, directing us, and teaching us, how to behave and how to act, through the words of the Torah.

The voice of the past continues to resonate in all future generations, to the present and to our children and grandchildren until the end of time. The holiday of *Shavuot* is reminding us that we are able to live a life where we can still hear God’s voice guiding us through the study and observance of the Torah. May we all merit to follow His guiding voice that will provide His blessings to us and to the entire Jewish people.

Chag Sameach!
Rabbi Zev Silber

**Combined
Mother's Day and Father's Day
BREAKFAST
10:33 AM, Sunday, June 25
Beth David Synagogue 39 Riverside Drive**

By The: Beth David Men's Group
Our buffet has lots of lox (or would you rather pay +\$30/lb). Great food, nice variety, friendly servers (it is self service), if you don't get enough to eat it is your own choice.

Make your reservation by June 21, or sooner. We buy the food on Thurs. We want to have enough food for everyone. Arrive early for minyan and join “The Minyanaires”. Send or bring \$10/ person.(includes all applicable taxes and gratuity. So call me 765-3304 and let me know.

Same Eligibility Requirements; Children, fathers, mothers, any one who is a parent, has parents or has been born, and is a resident of planet Earth, and/or has an appetite. If you do not fit any of these, Please call me and for the entry price of \$10,

I will declare you eligible.
Always serving: Good food, and Good schmooze.
What time and day is the breakfast?
10:33 AM, Sunday, June 25
Who will you call ?
Charlie, 765-3304

Going Digital

We are going digital. Starting with the next issue of the *ChaiLine* you will be receiving it on your computer. Please make sure we have your e-mail address. If you are a member, and do not use a computer, we will mail you your copy.

It is most important that we have your current e-mail address. It is also important that we know who those members are that do not use a computer. Please let the office know. Thank you.

Sisterhood

Beth David's Sisterhood annual Dessert and Donor evening took place Wednesday evening, May 10, at the home of Saba Wiesner. A goodly crowd was in attendance. The guest speaker was Dora Polachek who gave a fascinating talk about her travels in May 2015, which took her to the island state of Tasmania in the south of Australia.

Dora gave us a cook's tour of Australian history and how Jews found their way to Tasmania in the early 1800s. Hobart, the capital of this state, has the oldest existing synagogue that is still in use. England sent its convicted criminals to the penal colony of Tasmania. They eventually became successful merchants and business people. Thank you, Dora for providing such a different and interesting view of a faraway region still committed to keeping Jewish life with its stunning Egyptian Revival synagogue. Thank you, too, to Nancy Basmann for your photography. And thank you, Saba, for being such a gracious hostess and welcoming us to your lovely home.

The holiday of Shavuot will this year be celebrated from the evening of May 30 through June 1, the sixth and seventh day of the month of Sivan. The Torah was given by God to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai more than 3300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of God's gift. The giving of the Torah was a far-reaching spiritual event, one that touched the essence of the Jewish soul for all times. The word Shavuot means "weeks". It marks the completion of the seven week counting period [the omer] between Passover and Shavuot. And here at Beth David, in addition to the services, we mark it with a special dairy luncheon on the second day – a meal lovingly prepared by Marcy Yonaty. So please come and join us on this very happy occasion.

Hag Sameach!!

*Claire Ladenheim
Sisterhood President*

Give Double Chai to the ChaiLine

Pesach is over, spring is here. It is wonderful to see the green grass and the colorful flowers, and feel the warm sun again.

On behalf of Beth David, I want to thank those of you who have heeded the plea and become sponsors of our *ChaiLine*. You are what keep us going.

You can be a sponsor for a minimum donation of \$36.00, sent to the shul before the next deadline (6/25/17). Some reasons to sponsor include births, bar/bat mitzvahs, birthdays, and anniversaries, commemorating a yahrtzeit, a new job, or any other cause you wish to celebrate or commemorate.

A thank you message can be printed for a donation of \$18.00.

Our \$180.00 Special Sponsors get special recognition for their generous contribution.

We hope to hear from you soon and number you among our contributors.
Marlene Serkin

Mitzvah Fund

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

Mazel Tov to:

Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber on the Bat Mitzvah of their grand-daughter in Israel

Neil & Sima Auerbach on the birth of their granddaughter
Marlene Serkin on the birth of her great granddaughter, Lila Sarit
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on the birth of their grandson,
Shalom Levertov

Claire Ladenheim on the birth of her 14th great grandchild
Pinchas & Charney Oppenheim on the marriage of their
grandson, Chaim to Miriam

Howard Buschman on his special birthday

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

Mendel Chein on winning the Bronze Medal in the Chiden
HaMitzvos in Brooklyn, NY

Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz on their new home in Clifton, NJ

Nancy Basmann on winning a prestigious photography award

Andy Sarkany on being honored by his synagogue

Refuah Shelemah to:

Golda Raytenberg	Carole Klionsky	Lillian Zodikoff
Len Preston	Meryl Sasnowitz	Miriam Alweis
Susan Savitch	Sandy Foreman	

Condolences to:

Marcia Hofstein in memory of her mother

Arline Kutz & Family in memory of husband, father,
grandfather, Marvin

Robert & Maria Kutz in memory of brother, Marvin

Marcia Shuman in memory of husband, George

Andy Shuman & Family in memory of father, grandfather, George

Nancy Basmann in memory of her mother

Virginia Eisenberg in memory of her husband, David

Thank You

First I want to say thank you for all the good wishes sent to me for a speedy recovery following my surgery and I also want to say thank you for the Purim Shalach Monot I received.

Lillian Zodikoff

Thank you for the thoughtful and generous donations made in memory of Marvin Kutz.

Arline, Renee, Carolyn, and Steven

Thanks to our Sponsors

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

Marcy & Gaby Yonaty in memory of **Toni Began**

Beth David Family

With a bit of a stretch (and some imagination), the *gematria* (the numerical value of the Hebrew letters) of Clifton, NJ is 100. As it happens, this is my 100th Beth David Family column. So it seems a fitting time for Harold and me to leave the comfort of Beth David and the Binghamton Community and settle in NJ, a place this Brooklyn girl never imagined she'd live! Although we'll greatly miss Beth David, our home for over 40 years, we'll be close to our children and grandchildren. It's something we look forward to.

Welcome back to Sheldon Edison from his Florida winter sojourn. When he and Marcy and Gaby Yonaty return from Florida, the shul seems full again. All our snowbirds are missed during those cold Binghamton months.

Michael Yair, the son of Andrea and Greg Riskin, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah at the family's Fairlawn, NJ Synagogue. Grandparents Aniko and Andy Sarkany of New Haven *shepped* much *nachat* at the simcha.

Claire Ladenheim's family tree sprouted several new branches this spring. Three great-grandchildren joined the family. Dorothy Meira, was born to Rebecca and David Rendsburg. The joyous grandmother is Susan Rendsburg Grosberg. Gracie Bella, daughter of Naomi and Noah Davis entered next. Her grandparents are Xianna and Michael Shiffman. Eden Isabelle, daughter of Jenn and Gideon Shiffman, granddaughter of Xianna and Michael Shiffman arrived a few weeks later.

Mel Rozen, of FL, announced the arrival of his 22nd great-grandchild, a boy, to parents Zahava and Tzvi Greenburg, of New York. May each of the babies grow to Bat/Bar Mitzvah, to *chuppah*, and to 120 in good health!

Bubby Safta Marlene Serkin and Uncle David Serkin spent a March afternoon in NYC with Marlene's grandson Yosef, his wife, Yonit, and their children Amichai Yaakov, Tal Gavriel, and baby Lila Sarit. The family from Modiin was in the states because Yonit was invited to participate on a panel at the AIPAC Washington conference.

Grandparents Charney and Pinchas Oppenheim, of Jerusalem *shepped* much *nachat* at the wedding of their grandson Chaim Mandel to Miriam Moskowitz. He's the son of Elaine and Shai Mandel. The *katan*'s Aunt Heather Douek of St. Louis and Uncle Michael Oppenheim of Vermont attended the Israeli simcha.

Another grateful Safta, Ilene Goldman, notes that her grandson Michael, of Israel, son of Andra and Craig Goldman, of West Orange, became engaged to Avigayil Wiener. The *katan* and *kallah*, both from NJ, met last year when they worked at an NCSY camp in Israel.

With much pride we congratulate several of our members for their noteworthy accomplishments. *Yasher Koach* to Mendel, son of Rochel and Zalman Chein, who won a bronze trophy for his knowledge and study of the Torah's *mitzvot* in the final round of the annual Chabad-Lubavitch *chidon* (contest). 3,000 children worldwide participated in this competition. *Kol Hakavod* to Nancy Basmann, who won a *Grand Imaging Award* in the General Portrait Category at the 2017 Northeast District Competition of Professional Photographers of America. There were 490 images submitted to the Northeast District. We at Beth David are fortunate to have Nancy, a professional photographer, graciously capture our shul events by camera.

Acharon Acharon Haviv (or Last but not least), Mazel Tov to Natalie D. Shaw, a renowned National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) clinical investigator and pediatric endocrinologist, who won two prestigious awards. She received the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) 2017 Young Physician Scientist Award, and the 2017 Endocrine Society Early Investigator Award. She isolated a gene related to arhinia and muscular dystrophy. Natalie, the daughter of Annette and Barry Shaw, was presented with the latter award at a National Endocrine Society Conference. There were two other conference award recipients, one of whom happened to be Aaron Cypess, also a former Beth David youngster and a former Hillel Academy student. Aaron, an endocrinologist in Bethesda, is the son of Sandy and Ray Cypess, now of DC. There's that small world of Binghamton coming together once again bringing us all much *nachat*.

Refuah shelemah to Jeanette DeLeon, Dora Feuer, Annette Shaw, Marion Rudin, and Carole Klionsky.

With sorrow I note the passing of Marvin Kutz, a gentle man, one of a rare breed who was born and raised in Binghamton. Our condolences are sent to Arline Kutz and the Kutz children: Renee, Carolyn, and Steven, and to Marvin's brother Bob and sister-in-law Maria, and his siblings Diane and Harvey. We also mourn the loss of David Eisenberg, another home town guy. Marvin and David shared many childhood moments as they grew up at the United Hebrew Brothers, the predecessor of Beth David. Condolences are sent to David's wife, Virginia, and his siblings Francis and Benjamin. May the families find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Shavuot is upon us, a time we relive the spirit of our ancestors as they received the Torah Moshe brought down at Mount Sinai. May each of us feel that spark of Torah as it glows inside us. May Our Homeland be blessed with peace.

Meryl Sasnowitz