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CHALINE

“The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue”

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Chanukah, December 2020-5780

Chanukah Greetings

The Beth David board of trustees and Rabbi Zev Silber wish all our members and friends a Chanukah *Sameach*.

Saba Wiesner,
President

High Holiday Kiddush Thanks

Even though the High Holidays seem far in the past, this is the first opportunity for the Congregation, Sisterhood, and I to publicly thank everyone who shopped, donated food, prepared, set up and cleaned up after any Holiday 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.

This year nearly everyone listed deserves double thanks because they volunteered to help more than once due to our dwindling numbers. Volunteers were:

Susan Hubal, Toby Kohn, Erin Maxfield, Dora Polachek, Valerie Preston, Gina Santiago, Ilana Segal, Marlene Serkin, Kathie Shelly, Judy Silber, Lori Tuberman, and Saba Wiesner.

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.

Sincerely,
Cathy Velenchik, Sisterhood Service VP

PS – Special thanks to Cathy for all she does. She shops, helps prepare the luncheons and kiddushim, cleans up and anything else that needs doing without a complaint. Todah Rabah.

Chanukah Customs and Practices

When: Chanukah begins on Sunday, December 22nd at night. The last candle is lit on Sunday night, December 29th and the holiday ends at nightfall on Monday, December 30th.

Work is permitted on Chanukah (except for Shabbat). Women have a custom not to work for the first 30 minutes after the candles are lit.

Food: Holiday meals are not required, but we do have a custom to celebrate with special meals. Some people eat dairy on Chanukah, there is a custom to partake of latkes and jelly donuts. Children have a custom to play dreidel and other games related to Chanukah.

Special prayers: We add *al hanissim* in Grace after meals and the *amidah*. If one forgets, it need not be repeated. We recite *hallel* and a special Torah reading each morning. On the Shabbat that coincides with Chanukah, which is also Rosh Chodesh, we read from 3 Torah scrolls and a special *Haftarah* for Chanukah. Sunday, December 29 is also Rosh Chodesh, and we will read from 2 Torah scrolls.

Candle lighting: We light one oil lamp or candle on the first night, adding an additional candle each night, until we light 8 candles on the last night. It is customary to first light a *Shamash*, a helper candle, from which we light the rest. Candles should be large enough, or use sufficient oil, for the lights to burn for at least 30 minutes.

Placement: Our custom is to place the *chanukiah* by a window that faces the street. If not placed by the window, it should be placed by the main house door, opposite the *mezuzah*.

When do we light: Candles should be lit after nightfall (5:17 PM), except for Friday night (see below), or as soon thereafter as possible, but no later than dawn. In emergency situations candles may be lit earlier on condition that there is enough oil or large candles to remain lit until at least 5:47 PM. Please consult the rabbi.

How do we light: We place the first candle on the right side of the *chanukiah* as we face it, and add each new candle to its left. We light the *Shamash*, recite the 2 *b'rachot* (3 on the first night) as found in the siddur, and kindle from left to right. The *Shamash* is placed in the *chanukiah* separated from the other candles. It is customary to recite *haneirot halalu* and sing *maoz tzur* following the lighting.

Shabbat and Chanukah: On Friday night, December 27th we light 6 candles (plus the *shamash*). Chanukah candles **must** be lit **before** Shabbat candles, before 4:20 PM. Enough oil or large candles must be used so that they remain lit until at least 5:50 PM. **On Saturday night, December 28th** we must light **after** Shabbat ends, no earlier than 5:21 PM. It is customary to recite *havdalah* at home before lighting the Chanukah candles.

Travelers: If you are on the road, you are still required to light Chanukah candles. Please consult the rabbi for details and how you can observe the mitzvah.

DECEMBER-FEBRUARY MINYAN TIMES

MORNINGS (times constant)

Sunday	8:30am
Monday – Friday	7:00 am
<i>Except January 27; February 25, 2</i>	<i>6:50 am</i>
<i>Except December 25; January 1:</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>
Shabbat	9:00 am
Shabbat Mincha <i>after Kiddush when possible</i>	
<i>Maariv-by request only</i>	

EVENINGS (times constant)

Monday – Thursday	7:00 pm
<i>Except December 25; January 7:</i>	<i>4:20 pm</i>
<i>Except January 1:</i>	<i>4:25 pm</i>

EVENINGS (times vary) *Friday and Shabbat-by request only*

Sunday, December 15	4:20 pm
Sunday, December 22	4:20 pm
Wednesday, December 25	4:20 pm
Sunday, December 29	4:25 pm
Wednesday, January 1	4:25 pm
Sunday, January 5	4:30 pm
Tuesday, January 7	4:20 pm
Sunday, January 12	4:40 pm
Sunday, January 19	4:45 pm
Sunday, January 26	4:55 pm
Sunday, February 2	5:05 pm
Sunday, February 9	5:15 pm
Sunday, February 16	5:20 pm
Sunday, February 23	5:30 pm
Sunday, March 1	5:40 pm

Give Double Chai

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 or my home, along with your message, before the next deadline (2/23/20) will be most appreciated.

Happy Chanukah to all.

Marlene Serkin, *ChaiLine* co-ordinator

Thanks to our Sponsors

Rita and Larry Bleier in memory of Rita's mother, **Anita Cohen**, on her Yahrtzeit

Rita and Larry Bleier in memory of Larry's father, **Martin**, on his Yahrtzeit

Raffle Donors

Please patronize the following businesses who contributed the prizes for the raffle at the Sisterhood paid-up luncheon meeting:

Barnes & Noble Bed Bath & Beyond Leroy Package Store

Olum's Price Chopper Resciniti Cleaners

The Goldsmith Wal-mart Wegmans Weis Market

SISTERHOOD

We are happy to report that Sisterhood is off to a good start this year. Our meeting in **September** featured Judy Silber helping us to prepare for the High Holidays.

There was no meeting in **October** due to the holidays, but our **November** paid up membership luncheon catered by Saba Wiesner and crew was a real success.

By the time you read this we should have had our **December** meeting featuring Shelley Hubal the new Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

Our projects both new and old this year include:

- 1 Providing workers for the **Holiday Kiddushim**
- 2 Preparing **Welcome Bags** for Jewish Families moving into the area.
- 3 Collecting **Food for Chow** at each meeting.
- 4 Selling **Jigsaw Puzzles** as fund raisers.
- 5 Making **Mitzvah Card lists** available to those not able to attend meetings.

Hope to see you at our next meeting **Wednesday, January 8, at 1 pm** for a tour of the collection highlights at the **Broome Historical Society** upstairs in the Binghamton Library.

A Happy Chanukah to all and stay warm.

Cathy Velenchik, co-president

How to Contact Your Rabbi

Rabbi Silber's office hours will be: Tuesdays, 10:00 am -12:00 noon.

Please feel free to stop by at these times, even without an appointment. If you need to consult with the rabbi and these times are not convenient for you, please call Rabbi Silber and you can work out a mutually acceptable time.

Occasionally these hours need to change, and changes are listed in the weekly announcement sheet distributed each Shabbat at services.

If you need to contact the rabbi, there are several ways that this can be done:

- Call the shul office (722-1793) and leave a message

If it is not urgent, you can e-mail the rabbi at rabbisilber@stny.rr.com

In case of emergency, you can call or text the rabbi's cell phone: Rabbi Silber can be reached at 607-761-7098.

Contributions

General Fund from:

Robert & Nancy Basmann in honor of Rhonda Levine's & Arieh Ullmann's new grandchild
Sheldon Edison thanking Gerry & Susan Hubal for their warm hospitality
Louis & Maxine Rosenberg in honor of Toby & Harold Kohn and in memory of Lillian Zodikoff
Toby Grier Charles Manasse Dr. Thomas Theise
Daniel & Sharon Nussbaum Stephen & Marcia Sutter Susan & Michael Wright
Marcy & Gabi Yonaty Benjamin & Sandra Zodikoff

Shul Beautiful to:

Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Ethan Isaac Levin, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Gabi & Marcy Yonaty
Harold & Toby Kohn on the birth of their grandson, Isaac Samuel Kohn from Gabi & Marcy Yonaty
Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber on their granddaughter in Israel becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Gabi & Marcy Yonaty
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on receiving the AM Pierson Award from Hillel Academy from Gabi & Marcy Yonaty
Aaron & Miriam Alweis on the birth of their granddaughter, Emma Lily Alweis from Kathie Shelly
Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu on his grandson in Israel becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Kathie Shelly
Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on receiving the Hillel Academy AM Pierson Award from Kathie Shelly
Harold & Toby Kohn on the birth of their grandson, Isaac Samuel Kohn from Kathie Shelly
Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber on their granddaughter in Israel becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Kathie Shelly
Charlie Manasse on receiving the Federation Spirit of the Community Award from Kathie Shelly
Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Ethan Isaac Levin, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Kathie Shelly
Neil & Sima Auerbach on receiving the Federation Yasher Koach Award from Kathie Shelly
Neil & Sima Auerbach on receiving the Hillel Academy Sommer Award from Kathie Shelly
Rita Bleier on receiving the Federation Spirit of the Community Award from Kathie Shelly
Bernard & Ilana Segal on their granddaughter becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Kathie Shelly
Dora Polachek on receiving the Federation Spirit of the Community Award from Kathie Shelly

Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon Fund

Chaim Joy & Cathy Velenchik Michael & Saba Wiesner
Rita Shawn Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus
Ilya Stein Marie Werner
Robert & Nancy Basmann
Ruth Goldstein in appreciation of her good news and in memory of Celia, Nathan & Jack Goldstein

THANKS TO

Moshe Shmaryahu for the beautiful *tefillot*

Aaron Alweis for arranging all the honors, his excellent work as *gabbai*, expertly finding replacements for planned honors, and changing the ark curtains and Torah covers

Leonard Preston for handling the seating arrangements for the Yom Tovim

Cathy Velenchik for the Yizkor announcements

Marilyn Bell & Julie Piaker for the office work, preparing all the Yom Tov documents, always willing to do anything we need, beyond the call of duty

The women of Sisterhood for supplying, enhancing, and/or presenting the holiday and Shabbat *kiddushim*, break-the-fast, and Yom Tov candles

Marlene Serkin for all the shopping for the Yom Tov *kiddushim*, preparing the candles, putting out the break-the-fast and the many behind the scenes jobs she takes care of

Cathy Velenchik for shopping and arranging for people to serve and clean up for the holiday *kiddushim*

Lori and Brian Tuberman for the flowers in the sanctuary on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in honor of Maxine & Marvin Kaplan, Brian's parents and Lori's mother, Joyce Harary, and in memory of their fathers Lawrence Tuberman and Jack Harary

Rabbi Zev Silber for excellence in Shofar blowing

Arieh Ullmann for keeping the Beth David website (BethDavid.org) up to date with minyan times, the *ChaiLine*, and anything else that is necessary

Sheldon and Ahren Edison for donating the herring for the *kiddushim* in memory of Sheldon's parents and wife (Ahren's grandparents and mother) and in honor of our *gabbai*, Aaron Alweis

Paula and Charles Rubin for donating the kichel in memory of their beloved son, Stephen

The Chevra Kadisha for sponsoring the Shimini Atzeret Kiddush

Gabi Yonaty, Charlie Manasse, Bob Kutz, Arieh Ullmann for putting the *schach* covering on the Sukkah

The Shabbat luncheon sponsors and speakers throughout the year

Judy Silber for all the time and effort she puts into the monthly Shabbat luncheons

Dora Polachek for arranging for the interesting speakers for the Shabbat luncheons

Barbara Bank and/or David Serkin for proofing each issue of the *ChaiLine*

Arieh Ullmann for polishing the silver crowns that adorn our *sifrei* Torah

Julie Piaker for taking on the responsibility of producing the *ChaiLine* on the computer

Saba Wiesner for doing a great job as President of the Beth David board, for supplying and serving the refreshments at the board meetings, and for all her time and efforts in overseeing the new kitchen

An anonymous donor for paying for a security guard for Beth David on Shabbat during the month of November

Rabbi David Serkin for keeping the Facebook page timely and informative, for editing and producing the Beth David calendar, for his monthly calendars, flyers for events and numerous other flyers

TODAH

RABAH

Mitzvah Fund

Tova Kohn, 754-4297 or tova.kohn844@gmail.com

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazal Tov to:

Toni Grekin in appreciation.

Arline Kutz on her grandson becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Harold & Toby Kohn in honor of the birth of grandson, Isaac Samuel Kohn.

Aaron & Miriam Alweis in honor of the birth of granddaughter, Emma Lily.

Jasmin Rosales in honor of her 10th Birthday.

Saba Wiesner in honor of the beautiful Sisterhood Luncheon she prepared as well as everything else she does for the Shul.

Neil & Sima Auerbach on receiving the Sommer Award from Hillel Academy.

Neil & Sima Auebach on receiving the Yasher Koach Award from Federation.

Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber on their granddaughter in Israel becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu on his grandson in Israel becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Charles & Paula Rubin on their grandson, Ethan Levin, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Bernard & Ilana Segal on their granddaughter becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Charlie Manasse on receiving the Spirit of the Community Award from Federation.

Dora Polachek on receiving the Spirit of the Community Award from Federation.

Rabbi Aaron & Rivky Slonim on receiving the Sommer Award from Hillel Academy.

Rita Bleier on receiving the Spirit of the Community Award from Federation.

David Serkin for all he does for the Shul.

Daniel & Anna Kohn on the birth of their son, Isaac Samuel.

Refuah Shelemah to:

Mark Raytenberg

Scott Rathbone

Susan Gilinsky

Condolences to:

Dr. Max Eisenberg & Family in memory of Abby.

Beth David Family

It has been a busy couple of months for our community and our Beth David family.

Arieh Ullmann and Rhonda Levine have been travelling quite a bit, having made a trip to Switzerland and, most recently, a trip to Australia—for the unveiling of Jeremy Ullmann z”l, who passed away earlier this year. Rhonda’s son, Jeremy, and his wife gave birth to a new daughter in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Rhonda had foot surgery earlier in the fall and has been recovering.

Gabi and Marcy Yonaty travelled to Israel and then to Europe to visit the gravesite of Marcy’s brother, who was killed in the World War II—the Battle of Normandy.

Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber have just returned from a nearly month-long trip to Israel, for the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter.

Miriam and Aaron Alweis also welcomed a new addition to the family, a granddaughter born to Michael and Malka Alweis in Teaneck, NJ. They were recently visited by one of their sons, Daniel, and their grandson, Yonatan from Israel. Daughter Elisa travelled from NYC to join her parents, brother, and nephew for Thanksgiving.

Paula and Charles Rubin went to Richmond for a family *simcha*, the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Ethan Levin. Bob and Maria Kutz joined them for the occasion.

In November, Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu travelled to Israel to attend the Bar Mitzvah of his eldest grandson.

Bernie and Ilana Segal recently attended the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter.

Marilyn Bell and Marlene Serkin attended the Bar Mitzvah of Jason Black, son of Shelly Goldman & Johnny Black, and the grandson of the late Ilene Goldman. The bar mitzvah was celebrated in Albany.

Rivky Slonim made a quick visit to Columbia, South America to see Yehuda and his family, and take part in the dedication of a new mikvah.

Last but not least, we wish our maintenance man, Scott Rathbone, a very speedy recovery and hope to see him back at work soon.

If you have any information for the B D Family column, please let me know.

Thank you,

Gina Santiago

