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CHALINE

“The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue”

VOLUME LXIV, ISSUE 3
Purim 5783/ Feb-March 2023

FROM THE RABBI

For several years we have been plagued in the United State with an increase in violence, racist hatred and mass murder. Anti-Semitism has been on the rise – in the form of threats and actual violence against synagogues and Jewish institutions. As well as attacks on individual Jews proliferating in communities, large and small.

We have received notification from the New York State Police Counter Terrorism Intelligence Unit that **“Over the past month, several known antisemitic, white supremacist, and neo-Nazi groups have encouraged their followers to participate in a “National Day of Hate” on 25 February 2023.**

The event is meant as a call to action for followers to conduct in-person propaganda efforts across the US, similar to efforts observed from these groups in the past. The antisemitic activity will likely include in-person demonstrations, flyering efforts, stickering efforts, banner drops, and vandalism. Several of these groups have also asked their followers to document their efforts and submit photo and video footage of their activity for use in future propaganda and recruitment videos.”

Although there are no specific threats or information regarding our area, we have taken precautions to make our security guards and the Binghamton Police department aware of this information.

Whoever thought that these things can happen in the United States of America? Who ever thought that our synagogue would require armed security guards during services and events?

We are all aware of these kinds of threats leveled against Jewish communities in other parts of the world. We remember when Haman and his cohorts, and there were many of them throughout the Persian empire, attempted to annihilate the Jewish people and were active in spreading anti-Semitic lies about the Jews there. We celebrate the holiday of Purim in order to recall that, with the intervention of God, the nation was saved from these threats and attempts.

Our salvation in those days did not occur only because of the effective political and diplomatic efforts of Mordechai and Esther in rallying the political leader of that time, King Achashverosh, to take decisive action against the haters to stop the violence. What ultimately led to the salvation of the Jewish people was that they turned to God in prayer and accepted, once again, to study and observe the Torah. These acts of *teshuvah* brought about the cessation of threats. These same acts on our part can and will, if we do so seriously, remove threats against us in our current time.

Let us gather in heartfelt prayer to thank God for the saving us against the threats of the past and beg for his mercy during our current predicament. Join us each Shabbat, and especially on this Purim holiday!

Chag Purim Sameach!

Rabbi Zev Silber

From The President

I have lots to share with you so I will begin with the happy events!

Purim is very soon and this year I am having a *seudah*.

We have not had a Purim *seudah* for many years due to Covid, it will be great once again to get together and celebrate! In order for me probably calculate the purchasing of items for the dinner I ask that you RSVP as soon as possible.

On Sunday, May 7th (please save the date), we will be having our annual Beth David Dinner. I am honored and thrilled to announce that Dora Polachek will be our honoree! I am looking forward and working on having a fabulous celebration. Formal invitations will be sent out in late March.

We are all, I'm sure, worried about the constant anti-Semitic threats that are happening all over our country. We are all concerned about our own community and our shul. I am constantly working with members and other concerned people to take all necessary precautions to keep our synagogue as safe as we can. Whenever we have services there is a policeman present at the door and a police car in front. There are panic buttons throughout the shul, marked by a red exclamation point. We are now working on having a gate and fence at the cement stairs outside the shul and also we are looking into installing a coded entrance to our front doors.

It is of utmost importance to make our synagogue environment as safe as possible.

In closing, I want to thank the men that come on Shabbos morning to help make a *minyana*, one of the most important services that we can have. Please continue to make this happen every week and thank you so very much!

Happy Purim to all!
Saba Wiesner

Matanot La'evyonim – Purim Charity

One of the *mitzvot* of Purim is to deliver gifts to the poor on Purim day. Rabbi Silber will again distribute gifts to local needy through the Jewish Family Service, and to Israeli poor through the Od Yosef Chai charitable organization.

Believe it or not, there are Jewish needy in our city and when they have received help at holiday time, they have expressed great thanks and satisfaction. Purim, being a holiday dedicated to "*simcha*" – joy, requires us to assure that all Jews can rejoice. The poor rejoice when they have the means to sustain their lives, leading to the importance placed on this mitzvah.

In order to participate in this mitzvah, donations may be sent to the shul or given to the rabbi by Tuesday, February 28. Donors are asked to mark their checks as "Purim charity" and specify whether they wish the money to be distributed locally or in Israel. Contributions received after February 28 will be sent to Israel. The deadline for contributions to be distributed in Israel is Purim morning, March 7 at 9:00 am.

Give Double Chai to the *ChaiLine*

To those who have helped get the *ChaiLine* to you by sponsoring an issue, thank you!

You can make a contribution for an upcoming issue: a donation of \$36.00 for sponsorship, \$180.00 for being a Special Sponsor, or \$18.00 for a thank you. ***Contributions must be received by the Shul office before the next deadline (3/19/2023).***

Sponsor for the Purim issue:

Leonard & Valerie Preston as a thank you for all the *Refuah Shelemah* wishes

Chag Purim Sameach!

SISTERHOOD

Dear members and friends of Beth David Sisterhood,

I hope you are well and attended our very successful **December** Chanukah party underwritten by the Eisenberg Foundation and co-sponsored by Beth David Men's club. Attendees enjoyed conversation, potato latkes, playing dreidel, and wonderful musical entertainment provided by Jonny Pachter at the piano.

In **January** you may have heard Dr. Miryam Brand speak about the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the people who copied and hid them, and their views about predestination vs self-determinism.

In **February** you had a chance to express yourself at a business and planning meeting during which Cathy Velenchik officially became president, and Treasurer Kerry Wright and Program Chair Susan Wright announced they will be leaving Binghamton in a few months.

Gina Santiago agreed to chair the Program Committee which still needs additional members. **A replacement for Treasurer is still being sought.**

Stacey Silber agreed to be our new Historian and will also be joining the fundraising committee. **She has a booth at a flea market and will donate to Sisterhood proceeds from the sale of any items given to her, if that is your intention. For details contact her at staceysilber613@gmail.com.**

Toby Kohn reminded everyone that mitzva **cards** which cost \$3 are an easy way to let someone know you are thinking about them whether the occasion is happy or sad. She can be reached at tova.kohn844@gmail.com.

Please let us know if you are aware of any **new families** who might consider joining Beth David. We would like to send them a welcome basket.

Our next meeting is the pre- Pesach workshop with Rabbi Silber on March 15 at 7 pm in Beth David. See the flyer for details.

We thank Lori Tuberman, Susan Hubal, Ilana Segal, Judy Silber, and Cathy Velenchik, for baking the hamantaschen which will be enjoyed at the Purim Seudah. (See Flyer)

Chag Sameach everyone! Happy Purim.

Cathy Velenchik,

President, Beth David Sisterhood

Mitzvah Fund

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

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazal tov to:

Deborah Mindick & David Sliom on their engagement & upcoming marriage.

Steve Feuer's 80th birthday.

Refuah Sheleima to:

Gerry Hubal on his hip replacement.

Rabbi Aaron Slonim on his knee replacement.

Condolences to:

The Klionsky Family on the passing of Sy Klionsky

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: AT THE PRESENT TIME, BETH DAVID ONLY HAS MINYAN ON SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY MORNINGS, AND ON SPECIAL DAYS, AS NOTED BELOW. FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS, THERE WILL BE MINYANIM AT NIGHT, AS WELL. A MINYAN AT OTHER TIMES MAY POSSIBLY BE ARRANGED, UPON REQUEST. PLEASE CONTACT THE RABBI.

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| <p>Friday, February 24 <i>candle lighting</i> 5:29 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, February 25 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 6:31 pm</p> <p>Friday, March 3 <i>candle lighting</i> 5:37 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, March 4 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 6:39 pm</p> <p>Monday, March 6 Maariv 6:30 pm Megillah reading 6:40 pm</p> <p>Tuesday, March 7 Shacharit 7:00 am Megillah 7:15 am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Second reading of Megillah</i> 4:30 pm</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Mincha 5:15 pm</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Seudah 5:30 pm</p> | <p>Friday, March 10 <i>candle lighting</i> 5:46 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, March 11 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 6:47 pm</p> <p>Friday, March 17 <i>candle lighting</i> 6:54 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, March 18 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 7:55 pm</p> <p>Friday, March 24 <i>candle lighting</i> 7:02 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, March 25 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 8:03 pm</p> <p>Friday, March 31 <i>candle lighting</i> 7:09 pm</p> <p>Shabbat, April 1 Shacharit 9:30 am <i>Shabbat ends</i> 8:11 pm</p> |
|---|--|

Beth David Family

Weather is an oft-discussed topic, so I'll continue the trend by noting this winter is remarkable. Here in NJ we've had sunny days with a record of zero inches of fallen snow. Our poor plants and birds don't know what they're supposed to do, sleep or bloom.

Harold and I ventured to Florida for two weeks where we were greeted by record high temperatures. Although 87 degrees is a bit over top, the weather is still enjoyed by most vacationing Northerners – us included! We visited with some former Binghamton folks. Charney and Pinchas Oppenheim, of Jerusalem, joined Susan and Michael Wright and us at the home of Roz and Harry Wiesel. A couple of weeks later, Robert and Susan Rendsburg Grosberg joined the group to reminisce.

A son, Meir Shlomo, was welcomed into the family of Hadasa and Levi Slonim. A *freilechen simcha* was enjoyed by the entire community at the Vestal Chabad *brit*. Mazal Tov to the whole Slonim *mishpacha*, especially to grandparents Rivky and Aaron Slonim. May the baby grow to Bar Mitzvah and *chupah* and to 120 in good health!

SarahLynne and Ami Adamit arrived in Teaneck, New Jersey from their home in Israel to visit with Abby and Achi Adamit and their family. While in America, they took a side trip to San Diego to visit with Rachel and Ayal Adamit at their new home. Toby and Harold Kohn cherished their Brooklyn visits to spend time with Ana and Daniel Kohn and, of course, Isaac.

Harold and I kvelled at the Bar Mitzvah of our grandson Avi, son of Abigail and Tzali Lazarus of Clifton. It gave us much *nachas* to hear Avi *lein* the entire Torah and haftorah. His skill was highly recognized, and he now *leins* every Shabbat *mincha*.

Refuah Shelema to Gerry Hubal and Aaron Slonim

With sadness, I note the passing of Seymour (SY) Klionsky, an active shul and community member. Sy was a rare commodity, a Binghamton born and raised person. I am also saddened to inform you of the death of our dear member, Alice Bonis, another Binghamton born and raised member.

May the families find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Please remember to inform me of your family happenings. Reach me at msasnowit@gmail.com or (607) 760-5207.

Wishing each of you a *freilechen* Purim!

Purim Customs and Practices

When: Purim begins on Monday, March 6 at night, and lasts through the day of Tuesday, March 7. The fast of Esther is observed on Monday, March 6.

Work is permitted on Purim. However, we usually spend most of the day in fulfillment of the various *mitzvot* of Purim, as will be enumerated below.

The Four Parshiot: There are special Torah readings as the *maftir* during four *shabbatot* from the Shabbat before Rosh Chodesh Adar until the Shabbat before Rosh Chodesh Nisan. The *Shabbat* before Purim we read **Parshat Zachor – remember** – and this serves of an affirmation to remember the evil that occurred to the Jewish people in the past and a commitment to never forget, and never again allow genocidal murder to take place. According to most authorities, hearing this portion of the Torah read is one of the 613 *mitzvot*. You are encouraged to be in shul on Shabbat morning, March 4 to fulfill this obligation.

Ta'anit Ester – the fast of Esther: We fast on the day before Purim in commemoration of the fasting that the Jews observed on the day of the battle. The name of the fast is associated with Queen Esther, as she had declared three days of a national fast before approaching the king to request the annulment of Haman's decree. The fast is observed on Monday, March 6. This fast is observed from morning to night, beginning at 5:09 am and ending at 6:41 pm. It is customary not to eat until after the reading of the Megillah. If you have special circumstances which may make it difficult to fast, or you need to eat before the reading of the Megillah, please consult with the rabbi.

Reading the Megillah: It is a mitzvah to hear the *Megillah*, the scroll of Esther, read both at night and during the day of Purim. At Beth David we will be reading the Megillah on Monday night, March 6 at 6:40 pm and Tuesday morning, March 7 at 7:15 am, following Shacharit. If you cannot make the early morning reading, you are invited to join for an additional reading at the shul at 4:30 pm, prior to the festive meal.

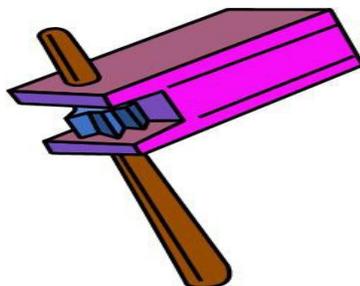
It is customary to contribute to synagogue maintenance before hearing the *Megillah*, in commemoration of the *machtzit hashekel*, the three half shekels that were given each year in Adar for the maintenance of the holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Matanot La'evyonim – Gifts to the poor: It is a mitzvah to give at least two gifts to each of two poor people on this day as Purim charity. Rabbi Silber will be collecting and distributing Purim charity to local Jewish poor through the Jewish Family Service and to the poor in Israel through the *Od Yosef Chai* organization. Contributions for this purpose should be made to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and please note how you wish your contribution to be divided, between local or Israel needs. Contributions for local needs must be made by **Tuesday, February 28**, and gifts for Israeli poor must be made by Purim morning, **March 7** at 9:00 am. *If you cannot get your checks to the office by these dates, please contact Rabbi Silber by email or text message with your pledge and he will advance the money for you.*

Mishloach Manot – food gifts to friends: Commonly known as *shalach manos*, we give at least 2 portions of ready-to-eat foods to at least one other person. The mitzvah of sharing Purim joy through food is commendable, but more of our holiday funds should be allocated for gifts to the poor.

Seudat Purim – the Purim feast: It is a mitzvah to participate in a festive meal on Purim day (not at night). The meal should preferably include meat and a little more wine than you usually drink. Beth David will conduct its annual Purim Seudah on Tuesday, March 7 at 5:30 pm. *See announcement in this issue!*

Special prayers: On *ta'anit Esther* we add special prayers and Torah reading at both the morning and afternoon services, as is customary for fast days. On Purim we add *al hanissim* in Grace after meals and the *amida*. If one forgets, it need not be repeated. There is a special Torah reading in the morning, before the *megillah* reading. The day after Purim is known as **Shushan Purim** and is the day that Purim is celebrated in Jerusalem. We do not say *tachanun* in honor of day.



Contributions

General Fund from:

Susan Feuerstein
Richard & Lori Lewis
Jacob & Rose Olum Foundation
James & Carol Mason
Drs. Sol & Dora Polachek
Rabbi Zev Silber

Kiddush Luncheon:

Drs. Sol & Dora Polachek
Dr. Richard and Janet Stram (in honor of
Marilyn Bell)

Mikvah:

Jewish Federation

Shul security:

David & Virginia Eisenberg Fund

Wishing Gerry Hubal a speedy recovery:

Irving & Myra Memis
Alan & Julie Piaker

In memory of Sy Klionsky:

Marilyn Bell
Michael & Saba Wiesner

In memory of Ruth Buschman & Alice Zappert Bonis:

Martha Klionsky

In memory of Phyllis and Gerald Ansell:

Benjamin & Susan Ansell

In memory of Dora Feuer:

Eric & Seena Preet

In memory of Jeremy Ullmann & Marie Werner:

Robert & Nancy Basmann

PURIM SCHEDULE

Ta'anit Ester

Monday, March 6

*Fast begins 5:09 am
Fast ends 6:41 pm*

Purim

Monday, March 6

Ma'ariv 6:30 pm
Megillah 6:40 pm

Tuesday, March 7

Shacharit 7:00 am
Megillah 7:15 am

SECOND READING OF MEGILLAH 4:30 PM

MINCHA 5:15 PM

Seudah 5:30 pm

MONDAY, MARCH 6 - TUESDAY, MARCH 7

Purim

Beth David Synagogue
קהל בית דוד

The 4 Mitzvot of Purim 2023

1. *Kriyat HaMegillah* - Reading the Megillah
(Mon evening, 3/6 - 6:30pm & Tues morning, 3/7 - 7:15 am)
2. *Matanot LaEvyonim* - Special Gifts to the Poor
Rabbi Silber will distribute
Due by Tuesday, February 28 (Local) / March 7 (Israel)
3. *Mishloach Manot* - Sharing Gifts with Friends
4. *Seudat Purim* - Festive Meal - 5:30pm

Shabbat, March 4 – Parashat Zachor ----- פרשת תצוה/שבת זכור

Services.....9:30 am Shabbat Ends 6:39 pm
Reading of Parashat Zachor

Monday, March 6 - Taanit Esther – Fast of Esther - --- תענית אסתר

Fast Begins 5:09 am
Shacharit | Minchah..... AT HOME
Fast Ends.....6:41 pm

Purim ----- פורים

Maariv – Evening Service at Synagogue 6:30 pm
Megillah Reading 6:40 pm

Tuesday, March 7 – Purim----- פורים

Shacharit – Morning Service at Synagogue.....7:00 am
Megillah Reading 7:15 am
Megillah Reading 4:30 pm
Minchah – Afternoon Service 5:15 pm
Purim Seudah – At Shule..... 5:30 pm

Wednesday, Mar 8 – Shushan Purim ----- שושן פורים





Beth David Synagogue

39 Riverside Drive ♦ Binghamton

Purim Seudah

Festive Purim Meal

Megillah Reading #2
4:30pm

PURIM
TUESDAY

Minchah
5:15 pm

March 7, 2023
Seudah 5:30pm

\$15 per adult
\$7 for children
under Bar/Bat Mitzvah
\$44 maximum per family

RSVP by February 24
Beth David Synagogue Office
722-1793 / bethdavid@stny.rr.com



נדרג

Beth David Sisterhood

HOSTS

an In-Person

PRE-PESACH

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

WITH

Rabbi Zev Silber

WEDNESDAY

March 15, 2023

7:00 pm

OU
Passover
Directory
available
thru
the Office

BRIEF REVIEW OF

Preparing the Kitchen & Passover Products
Making it a Meaningful & Positive Experience
Share Passover recipes and holiday tips

EXPLORATION OF

Ma Nishtanah - The Four Questions
Origins, Purpose and Insights into its Inclusion
in the *Seder* and the *Hagaddah*

ASK THE RABBI

Please submit questions in advance by email to
RABBISILBER@STNY.RR.COM

We will collect food for CHOW.
Clean your pantry and bring your chametzdik donation.

First Seder
WEDNESDAY EVENING
April 5th