

# Bet Havarim Announces July Service

By Mel Shindler

Bet Havarim's Cantorial Soloist Hanita Margulies Blair will be leading the opening part of Bet Havarim's July 17<sup>th</sup> Shabbat Service in an outdoor setting when the service begins at 7:30PM in the Social Hall at St. David's church in Dewitt. An Oneg Shabbat reception follows the service and the community is cordially invited to attend all services.

"We wanted to give everyone attending our July 17<sup>th</sup> service a new and joyful experience as we prepare to welcome the Sabbath Bride," said Blair, "I hope to be adding new music and in the summer setting we shall truly begin to experience a *Kabbalat Shabbat*," adding, "Mel Shindler and I have worked together and feel that we will be able to add a new dimension to our Shabbat services."

The *Kabbalat Shabbat* service was created by the Kabbalists (Jewish Mystics) of Safed in the sixteenth century and was almost universally accepted by Jewish communities. Though a relatively recent innovation in Jewish liturgy, it probably emanates from ancient customs as those of R. Hanina and R. Yanay in third century (C.E.) Palestine. The Talmud records that at sunset on Shabbat eve, R. Hanina would stand dressed in fine garments and say, "Come, let us go forth to welcome the Sabbath queen."

At Bet Havarim's Annual Meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> it was announced that Rabbi Deborah Waxman will be returning to conduct services on the High Holy Days. "Our meeting was well attended and the announcement of Rabbi Waxman's return this September was well received by everyone in attendance," said Marty Morganstein.

St. David's Church is located on Jamar Drive in Dewitt. Off street parking is available and the Social Hall is handicapped accessible.

For information visit Bet Havarim's website at [www.bethavarimsyr.org](http://www.bethavarimsyr.org). Inquiries may be made by phoning Marty Morganstein at 637-5390 or Mel Shindler at 478-6856 or be email to [info@bethavarim.org](mailto:info@bethavarim.org).