

## Mechirat Hametz (The Selling of Hametz)

On Pesach, we are forbidden to eat hametz and to have it in our possession. For that reason, the ceremony of mechirat hametz (the selling of hametz) should be performed.

The hametz which is in your house over Pesach must be sealed and locked away, preferably in a place other than the kitchen. That hametz should be sold to a non-Jew since it is prohibited for a Jew to own hametz over Pesach. The hametz is then purchased back again after the holiday.

The proper way to sell hametz is to have a Rabbi perform the sale for you. You may drop off your form at the office during regular business hours (Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.). Bedikat Hametz kits will be available as well. You may also drop off your form during evening minyan.

Please understand that your home need not be completely kosher for Pesach at the time of the sale. The sale does not take effect until the time of the prohibition of eating hametz.

At the time that you sell your hametz, it is customary to make a donation to the Ma'ot Hittim fund, money distributed to those in need at Pesach. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send a check payable to the Beth Israel Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, marked for Ma'ot Hittim.

The tradition of selling hametz can be done in person, or you may fill in the form below and send it so it reaches Rabbi Blumenthal by Friday, April 7th. Your name will be added to the document of sale. You may FAX your form to 665-2733, but **please do not** use e-mail, since a signature is needed.

If you do send the form in, please consider sending a contribution to the Discretionary Fund for Ma'ot Hittim. You may also make donations directly to MAZON at: 10495 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 100, Los Angeles, CA 90025.

We strongly urge you to use the Pesach cleaning as an opportunity to donate unopened hametz to the needy. Please make this a part of your Pesach preparation.

The ceremony of searching for hametz should be done on Sunday, April 9th. The hametz should be burned on Monday morning, April 10th.

Copies of a guide to performing the ceremony of searching for and burning the hametz will be available in the synagogue office before the holiday.

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I (print full name) \_\_\_\_\_ authorize Rabbi Kim Blumenthal to sell the hametz that I have at (address) \_\_\_\_\_ for the duration of Pesach 5777.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

1. Bring this form in person to the office or
2. Mail this form, signed, to the office at Beth Israel Congregation  
2000 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or
3. Fax this form, signed, to 734-665-2733.

*The deadline this year is Friday, April 7th by 3:00 p.m.*