Purim at BEKI

Fast of Esther

The holiday of Purim commemorates the failure of a genocide plot against the Jews in the Persian Kingdom over twenty centuries ago. The dramatic (and some would say comic) story is told in the Biblical Book of Esther, which is read on the night and morning of the holiday.

The Fast of Esther, observed the day before Purim, marks the serious side of the holiday. While on Purim we joyously celebrate the failure of the plot and mock the racism of its hatchers, on the Fast of Esther we fast and pray that we will bring the world to an era that does not know the threat of genocide. The Fast of Esther begins at dawn on Monday 25 February 2002. Monday shaharit morning services are from 7:00a to 7:45a and include “Avinu Malkenu — Our Father, Our King,” as on Yom Kippur. No food or drink is consumed. The Fast of Esther is a minor fast, and therefore those with any significant medical contraindications should not undertake the fast. The minha afternoon service is at 5:45p and ends at 6:05p. The fast ends at 6:10p, or when the person observing the fast eats, whichever comes first.

Megilla Readings

The Megilla (Scroll of Esther) is read during the evening service, which begins at 6:30p on Monday 25 February 2002, and then again during the morning service, which begins at 7:00a, Tuesday 26 February 2002. If you are a Megilla reader and have not yet reserved a chapter to read, run, don’t walk, to the nearest telephone and call Rabbi Tilsen at the 24-hour Megilla Readers’ Hotline, 389-2108 x10, or email to iwannareadmegilla@beki.org.

Come one, come all! Hearing the reading of the Megilla (or reading it oneself) is a Biblical commandment (mitzva). Other Purim mitzvot (religious imperatives) include sending food gifts to a neighbor, alms for the poor, and a feast on Purim day. Children are reminded to keep their adults from talking or making too much ruckus during the actual Megilla reading at BEKI. Groggers (noisemakers) will be available so that no one will have to hear the name of the Purim story’s villain reverberate through our sacred halls on our sacred cinderblocks. The use of internal combustion engines, explosives or blackboards as noisemakers is no longer permitted at BEKI. Please keep hands and feet within the sanctuary until the service comes to a complete stop.
Shabbat Services

As parents prepare for Children’s services on Shabbat morning, we have established two resources to assist you. The file cabinet located in the Youth Lounge has two commentaries on the weekly parasha for you to take home to prepare your lessons. The Religious School Library is open in Room 3. Books are displayed that are relevant to the parasha. A complete bibliography of library holdings will be available in the lobby literature rack with the other announcements. Also for parents of younger children, there is flannel available to portray the scenes in the parasha on flannel board (for the artistically talented).

Watch those Kids!

Parents of young children attending services at BEKI are asked to be sure their children are always under their supervision. Children are welcome to be in the sanctuary with their adults or in their age-appropriate youth service. Unsupervised children may represent a safety concern to themselves or to others.

BEKI-Bulletin

The newsletter is published monthly by Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel for the benefit of its members. Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

To contribute articles or for inquiries regarding membership, donations, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724 or email: jjtilsen@beki.org or see our web page: www.beki.org

For information about advertising, call the synagogue office. Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the 1st of the month preceding publication.

Annual subscription is $36.00.

© 2002 Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.

A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi

© 2002 Jon-Jay Tilsen. All rights reserved.

Editor Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen
Associate Editor Donna Levine
Associate Editor Donna Kemper
Circulation Manager Saul Bell
Production Editor David Golden
Advertisement Editor Sheila Gardner
Advertisement Associate Editor Ronni Rabin
Photographer Charles Ludwig

WESTVILLE Kosher MARKET
95 Amity Rd. (Next to Amity Wine) New Haven (off exit 59 Merritt Pkwy)

Glatt 389-1166 Kosher

- New Dining Area - All Foods Freshly Made on Premises
- Bakery Products - Under Strict Rabbinical Supervision
- Expanded Groceries - Expanded Groceries
- Home-Made Deli Items - All Meat & Poultry Kosher & Kashered

Sun. 8:30-4:00 • Mon.-Wed. 8:30-6:00
Thurs. 8:30-7:00 • Fri. 8:30-3:00 • Closed Sat.

ExecuCare
THE BODY THERAPY PROFESSIONALS
Acupressure • Reflexology • Therapeutic Massage
Jennifer Botwick, LMT
(203) 387-8661 New Haven, CT 06515

Stress is inevitable, misery is optional

BEKI Bulletin 2
Nightmare Scenario

Generally I try to be an optimistic, positive and cheerful person. As one of our sages was fond of saying, “It is a great mitzva to be happy always.” I anticipate and work for a bright future for myself, my family, my community, and the world. This applies as well to the Jewish People.

But there are a number of possible disaster scenarios that face our people, beyond those we share with the rest of humanity (such as runaway global warming, a major meteor strike, and massive ozone completion). With the Shoah (Holocaust) still in the personal memories of many in our community, our generation cannot dismiss disaster as belonging to the distant past.

One of several catastrophe scenarios received some notice a few weeks ago in press reports of a speech by former Iranian President Rafsanjani. Iran, a non-Arab, predominantly Shi’ite Muslim country, had enjoyed cordial relations with Israel and boasted a thriving and secure Jewish population until the revolution of 1980. (Since the Revolution, Iran has been a leader in “fundamentalist Islamic” hostility toward Israel.)

Mr. Rafsanjani is quoted as saying that the Muslim nations should work together to develop nuclear weapons with the intent of using them to destroy Israel. (At present, Pakistan is the only Muslim country with nuclear weapons.) ...

Strategic thinkers have heretofore assumed that Israel’s nuclear arsenal would serve as a deterrent to nuclear (or chemical or biological) attack by any of its hostile neighbors. Israel is safe from (especially) nuclear attack because Israel could use its own arsenal to destroy any attacker, and any attack that permanently poisons the land would preclude Palestinians as well as Jews from inhabiting the land. Rafsanjani nullified this deterrent by saying that although Israel has the capability of destroying an enemy in retaliation, it is not capable of destroying all of the Islamic world. In an all-out war, Israel would be destroyed and some Muslims would survive.

Rafsanjani is saying that the value of destroying the Jewish Sate and its Jews outweighs the value of the lives and well-being of hundreds of millions of Muslims. He is saying that permanently eliminating the possibility of Palestinians occupying Palestine is a price worth paying.

Palestinian leaders have long known and candidly admitted that the support they receive from the Arab and Muslim world is motivated more by hatred toward Israel, Jews and Judaism than by concern for Palestinians.

The problem posed by Rafsanjani is not entirely new. Israel (and, as we have learned, America) increasingly faces the specter of major attack by an anonymous enemy – the suitcase bomb delivered clandestinely in a car trunk. Rafsanjani’s threat adds a new dimension to the terror equation.

The historic strategic response to the broad or anonymous threat is the counter threat of “Mutual Assured Destruction” (MAD) – the strategy used by the United States and Soviet Union for several decades, by which a first-strike nuclear attack was supposedly deterred by the assumption that the sufficient armaments of the attacked nation would survive to return a massive response. Even this deterrence is lost if the attacker’s wish to kill exceeds its desire to survive. As we have seen, there are those who hate us more than they love their own lives.

In a world with armed fanatics eager for “martyrdom,” our usual adversaries become allies. There are many leaders and groups in the Muslim world and in the Arab world who share with us the belief that mass destruction is best avoided. Some of them would be our allies and trading partners today were they not afraid of the fanatics. At some point, they must be forced to decide, “Which side are you on?”
In preparation for the visit of Reverend Eric Smith from Community Baptist Church marking Martin Luther King Jr. observances, I rediscovered some historical facts and quotations that I believe are worthy of reflection. For the BEKI Religious School tribute to Martin Luther King Jr., we focused on Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, of blessed memory, a great leader of Conservative Jewry, but in our classes, we widened our study.

We explored the biblical themes of slavery and triumph especially prevalent in the Exodus story. The story of the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land resonated in the prayers and sermons of the Black church as they did in the art and music of the African American community. Our younger children learned of a young Martin listening to the oratory of his father, preaching in the Ebenezer Baptist Church and Martin stating, “When I grow up, I’m going to get big words, too.”

We traced his rise to leadership within the African American civil rights community with sermons such as, “Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” As we followed the Civil Rights movement we learned that “When the history books are written, someone will say there lived black people who had the courage to stand up for their rights.” So we broadened our study to include James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner and the summer of 1964.

We explored the writings of Rabbi Heschel and his involvement in the Civil Rights movement. As he said, “The symbol of God is man, every man. God created him in his likeness...human life is holy, holier even than the scrolls of the Torah.” Our teachers attended the Judith A.Kaye Annual Jewish Educator’s Conference at the JCC to increase their learnings of “Two Prophets, One Soul: Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel.”

We concluded our study by choosing our favorite quotes of these two prophets and creating story boards for our Tribute. The older students heeded the lessons of the younger students on Martin’s “big words” Our favorite quotes, many with terms an integral part of our vocabulary such as “by the content of their character” are:

“We have a new song to sing tomorrow, we have overcome.” MLK

“This will be the day when all of God’s children will be able to sing with new meaning, ...let freedom ring” MLK

“I am deeply in accord with what Rabbi Heschel has said concerning the injustices...that the Jews of Russia are facing today...Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” MLK

“Spirit has power. The voice of justice is stronger than bigotry.” Rabbi Heschel

“This the evil of prejudice is indivisible.”

“A person cannot be religious and indifferent to other human being’s plight.” Rabbi Heschel

Those of us who lived through and participated in the Civil Rights era in America have important lessons we have learned to impart to our children. As Rabbi Heschel reminds us, “The essence of a Jew is his involvement in the plight of other people... this is the secret of our legacy.”
Purim at BEKI

Continued from page 1

**Purim Se’uda Celebration**

On Purim afternoon, Tuesday 26 February 2002, a se’uda (Feast) will take place from 5:00p to 8:00p, including a light dairy dinner. Preregistration and payment is required by Wednesday 20 February. The cost is $8 per adult, $4 per child, or $22 per household when registered and paid in advance (or $100 per adult, $50 per child or $200 per family at the door).

Highlights: Participatory square dance with caller Alan Brozek: (note: all children 12 and under must be partnered with an adult for the square dance)*** Purim Shpiel: HARRY POTTER MEETS HAMAN! Written, produced and directed by Dr. Lauren Kempton (actors and actresses of all ages needed! to act in the play, call Dr. Kempton at 389-2108, ext. 33 today!)***Ruth Greenblatt as Cutesie the Clown, with face painting and balloon animals*** BARNEY MEETS HAMAN! starring the Bass Family***Special Purim Birkat Hamazon***And More

Volunteers! Call Amy Pincus, Food Chair, at 397-8816 to volunteer to help in food preparation and serving. Call Sharon Lovett-Graff, Membership Chair, at 387-2683 to volunteer to greet new BEKI members & prospectives at the Seuda. Call Liora Lew, Decorations Chair, at 389-1048, to assist with decorating. To volunteer for the Set-Up, Registration Table, or Clean-Up Committees, call Miriam Benson at 389-6137.

**LK Adds:** A Purim Shpeil is almost complete and we need a complete cast. The theme is top secret so if you want to have fun, go wild and be transported to another time and place call Dr. Kempton at 389-2108, Ext. 33. There will be no auditions, if you answer the call you have the part. There has been some speculation that the play is so funny that there will be national visitors....

Support for the music and dancing at the Purim Se’uda is provided by the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Endowment for Sacred Music at BEKI.

**Koakh Outreach to Students**

We will be sending mishloach manot (Purim baskets) to our students away at school. If you would like to send one or more packages, please contact Mimi Glenn at 397-3851 by 7 February, with name, address and a short message to be included in the package.

**Mishloah Manot – Purim Baskets**

Purim is coming! This year we will again help you celebrate the Purim mitzva of mishloach manot - the sending of gifts - and matanot la evyonim - presents to the poor - with our beautiful BEKI Purim baskets.

No worry! No fuss! No shopping! Just send in the order form you have received. Be sure to get it in on time – the deadline is 8 February.

**Mishloah manot - Purim Baskets** ordered from the BEKI office will be delivered on Monday night 25 February and Tuesday 26 February. You can collect the baskets and deliver them yourself on Purim evening or morning; otherwise, the BEKI Basket Bearers bring the baskets to recipients within their delivery area. If you can help deliver, contact Gloria Cohen at 389-2070 or email iwannabe a beki basketbearer bringing bountiful and beautiful baskets@beki.org.
**LifeCycle**

**With sorrow we note the passing of**

Israel Philip Morris, husband of Elsie Morris
Ruth Merriam Fagan, sister of Robert & Bette Merriam
Pearl Hayman, sister of Harriet & Noel Barstein
Marjorie Reynolds, mother of Ellen Dixon
Arthur A. Cohen, uncle of Roger & Susan Levine
Rabbi Samuel Simson, husband of Marjorie Weiss Simson
Mariann DeMatteo, mother of Elaine Luther-Olmer

Death Notices and Yahrzeit Observances listed by name and date can be found on BEKI’s website [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org) in the Lifecycle section.

---

**Mazal Tov to**

Rachel Lampert & Richard Goodwin on the birth of their daughter Jessie Claire Goodwin, and to grandfather Paul Goodwin, aunt & uncle Susan & Robert Lerman, and aunt Debi Goodwin.

*Births and Baby Event Notices can be found on BEKI’s website [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org) in the Lifecycle section.*

**Welcome New Members**

Dr. Marshal Mandelkern, Benjamin and Matthew Bruce & Laurie Lebow, Matthew and Benjamin

---

**Personalized Bookkeeping**

**Services Offered:**
- Check Writing • Payroll
- Statement Reconciliation • P/R Tax Forms
- End of Year Reports

**Accurate and Professional Service**

787-0496

Muriel Chorney 213 Maple St.

---

**Jewish Home for the Aged**

*New Haven, CT*

“Where Caring & Tradition Meet”

- Skilled & Restorative Nursing
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapy
- Religious Programming
- Orthodox Tradition & Kosher Cuisine

(203) 789-1650 Ext. 237

*The Goodwin-Levine Adult Day Health Centers Of New Haven and Woodbridge*

New Haven
(203) 789-1650 Ext. 256
Woodbridge
(203) 387-2886

*“Best Practice” Award Winner, CANPFA ’98,’99,’01 JCAHO Accredited*
USY News

BEKI-BJ USY is having a wonderful year! Our Second Annual Hanuka Limousine Ride was a tremendous success. Thirty teenagers filled four luxurious limos and traveled around New Haven looking for Hanuka-related clues and having a great time. A gigantic thank you to Jimmy Shure and Bobby Levine (Hy’s Livery Service), and to Harvey & Sandy Kliman, Dan Oren, Laura & Norman Kaplan, David & Linda Reis, Bruce & Jill Schaefer, Barbara Schochat, and Rabbi Rick for making it all possible!

Our Thanksgiving Pie sales yielded over $1000 for tzedaqka, and that’s on top of the $1600 we had already donated from T-shirt sales in September! Thanks to Darryl Kuperstock for all of her hard work on pies!

Seven of our BEKI-BJ members attended USY International Convention in Washington, DC, in December. All had a great time!

Karen Nahary, Hanefesh Region President (2001-2002), reports from the International Convention:

“More than 1150 Jewish teenagers from all over the US and Canada in a Washington Hotel ballroom singing “Od Yavo Shalom” (peace shall prevail) and then singing Hatikva – nothing could sound more beautiful. And ruah (spirit) isn’t the only thing we USYers did during 23-27 December.

“International Convention 2001 was held in our nation’s capitol this year. There were many programs: plans for Summer trip reunions, an Israel Solidarity program which included a movie and a speaker, and a Social Action/Tikun Olam project called Portraits of Hope that raised over eleven thousand dollars. Not only did we raise money for the foundation, but we helped paint on canvases. Those canvases had flowers and in the end they turned out to be wonderful works of art with bright fun colors. Over all you knew you had a good time at International if you came home with no voice and needed to sleep for two days straight just to catch up. BEKI-BJ USY chapter had nine kids go to International. All of Hanefesh’s forty four delegates had an amazing time!”

In March we’re having a Shabbaton at BEKI, several social get-togethers, and we’re making Craft Kits for children at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Jocelyn Öpf and Yael Schochat are our Social Action Tikkun Olam vice-presidents in charge. We have many things planned for the Spring. It’s not too late to join USY! Eighth-graders are welcome to join USY now. Contact our Membership Chair: Eleanor Reis at 387-2641 or BEKIBJUSY@mac.com for more information. JKO
News

**Torah for the Hungry Mind: Adult Studies at BEKI**

**Jewish Cooking**

Chief Chef Michael Ries will present “Jewish Cooking” on Tuesday evenings from 7:00p to 9:00p in BEKI’s Kosher Kitchen. The class will meet on 5, 12, 19 February and 5, 12, 19 March. There is a $36 materials and registration fee. To register, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Starry Nights: The Winter Sky**

The study of our world is one way we come to know and love the Almighty. On five Tuesday nights from 7:00p to 9:00p, Brooks Parmelee will help us identify and appreciate what is above. Class meets on Tuesday 5, 12 & 19 February and 12 & 19 March. To register, contact Lauren at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Mishna With Moshe**

A Mishna Study with Rabbi Moshe “Murray” Levine will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:00a in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library. The class is scheduled to meet every Tuesday in February and March (except Purim, 26 February). To register, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Talking with Your Child about God**

Amy Pincus will lead a workshop for parents and interested adults on Sunday morning 10 February from 9:45a to 11:45a. To register, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Pirqe Avot**

Mishna Avot, also known as Pirque Avot or Ethics of the Fathers is studied at BEKI each Shabbat afternoon between the minha and maariv services during the winter months. Everyone is welcome. See the calendar page or www.beki.org/rotate.html for the service time.
**Rashi Study Group**

Special time: 18 February 9:45a to 10:30a  
All other Mondays: 7:45a to 8:30a

Each Monday morning from 7:45a to 8:30a adults meets in the Rosenkrantz Family Library to read Rashi’s commentary on the Torah. It is possible to join the study for a single meeting or to begin at any time. Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Rashi purported to explain the peshat of the text, i.e., the meaning in its historical, literary and linguistic context. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets at a special time, 9:45a to 10:30a, on Monday 18 February 2002, Presidents’ Day, immediately following the 9:00a morning service.

**AA Meetings Thursdays at 8:00p**

The Thursday night AA meeting has been held at BEKI since May 1997. Open to any person who can benefit from a recovery program, the meeting is held according to standard AA procedure. This is not a specifically Jewish recovery group, although a large proportion of participants are Jewish. The meeting now features a speaker. For information on the weekly meeting call Jay at (203) 387-6019 or email Jay at jay@jacsweb.org.

**Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan**

The Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan for adults meets in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library every second Shabbat (Saturday) morning year-round from 10:45a to noon. The SSLM meets on the 9th and 23rd of this month. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

**More Torah for the Hungry Mind**

Please look for information on additional classes, including “The Miqva” with Rose Rudich; “Passover: Enriching the Experience” with Amy Pincus (9:45a 3 March); and “Shabbat: Ritual & Song,” with Amy Pincus (9:45a 10 March). For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.
## B.E.K.I. Events

### February - Shevat - Adar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaharit=Morning</td>
<td>BEKI phone numbers:</td>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Office: <a href="mailto:beki@snet.net">beki@snet.net</a></td>
<td>7:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>9:15a Shaharit</td>
<td>27 Shevat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minha =Afternoon</td>
<td>(203) 389-2108</td>
<td>Mon 9a-12 &amp; 1p-3p</td>
<td>Rabbi: <a href="mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org">jjtilsen@beki.org</a></td>
<td>4:49p Candles</td>
<td>10:45a Children's Programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maariv=Evening</td>
<td>Fax (203) 389-5899</td>
<td>Tue by app. only</td>
<td>Religious School/Education</td>
<td>6:00p Maariv</td>
<td>10:45a Cosmic Conversations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSLM=Shabbat Shalom</td>
<td>Mary Ellen-Office x14</td>
<td>Wed 10a-12 &amp; 1p-6p</td>
<td>Director: <a href="mailto:kempton@beki.org">kempton@beki.org</a></td>
<td>4:50p Minha, Avot, Maariv, Havdala</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learners' Minyan</td>
<td>Religious School x13</td>
<td>Thu 9a-12 &amp; 1p-3p</td>
<td>website: www:beki.org</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRS=BEKI Religious School</td>
<td>Rabbi x10</td>
<td>Fri 9a-2p</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Lauren Kempton x 33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Shevat</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22 Shevat</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23 Shevat</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24 Shevat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Shevat</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26 Shevat</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27 Shevat</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Shevat</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>29 Shevat</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30 Shevat</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1 Adar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Adar</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3 Adar</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4 Adar</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Adar</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6 Adar</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7 Adar</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8 Adar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Adar</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10 Adar</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11 Adar</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Adar</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>13 Adar</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>14 Adar</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15 Adar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Adar</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>17 Adar</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19 Adar</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21 Adar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Adar</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16 Adar</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17 Adar</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Adar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Rosh Hodesh**
  - 9:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 8:15a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit

- **Presidents' Day**
  - 9:00a Shaharit
  - 9:00a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Maariv
  - 4:00p Religious School
  - 4:00p Religious School
  - 8:00p A.A.
  - 5:16p Candles
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 5:16p Candles

- **Sharim Purim**
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 7:00a Shaharit
  - 6:30p Maariv & Megillah
  - 5:45p Maariv
  - 4:15p Benet Mitzva Pgm
  - 5:45p Maariv
  - 8:15a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Maariv
  - 8:00p A.A.
**BEKI Religious School Announcements**

The Open Houses and classroom visitations are proceeding nicely. The Grade Five students prepared spice jars for a special Havdala service on 5 January to celebrate their mastery of the blessings. The students and their parents filled the George G. Posener Daily Chapel and light from the Havdala candles illuminated proud faces as the blessings were explained and recited. The Gan is busy working on invitations for their parents to a TuBeShevat seder.

The BEKI Religious School parents continue to meet on the first Sunday of each month in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library. The meeting dates for the rest of the year are 3 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, and 2 June. Parents are working on additional fundraising ideas. Please join us. Sherry Rothman is chairing a fund-raiser for candy for Passover. LK

**Erev Shira – Song Night**

There will be an “Erev Shira” – Song Night on Saturday Night 23 February 2002 7:30p TO 9:00p at the Residence of Sascha van Crevel & Michael Ben-Avie 345 Stevenson Road, New Haven. Call 389-2108 or 389-1146 for directions. Please bring your voice, songs, song sheets and instruments. If you expect to attend, kindly let the hosts know by calling 389-1146. This evening is made possible by the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Endowment for Sacred Music at Beth El-Keser Israel and by the van Crevel & Ben-Avie Family.

**20s-30s Havura at BEKI**

Jewish singles and couples in their 20s and 30s are invited to contact BEKI member Valerie Sandler (777-4784 or valerie.sandler@yale.edu) or Mary Ellen Mack (389-2108 x14 or beki@snet.net) for information on special events of interest. BEKI’s 20s-30s Havura is primarily for adults without children, and meets about once a month at BEKI for Shabbat services, dinner and shmoozing and informal discussion. An event is planned for Shabbat Evening 15 February; reservations are required. People with children are encouraged to contact Lauren Kempton (389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org) or Mary Ellen Mack (389-2108 x14 or beki@snet.net) for information on the Children’s Shabbat Havura and other activities of special interest.

**Family Education Programs**

These Family Education programs are presented by “Learning Lites,” which is partially funded by Kesher L’Mishpacha, made possible by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven.

To respond for participation in any program, please contact Betsy Rosenberg at 389-2108 x25 or betcr@yahoo.com.

- Sunday 3 February, 10:45a to noon, “Akiva Series #2 - Further Explorations in Reading the Hebrew Alef-Bet.” Newcomers Welcome! Adult BEGINNER Hebrew Reading / Language exploration group.

- Sunday 10 February, 9:30a to 10:30a, Preschool Children’s Shabbat Havura Social Hour & Purim program.

- Sunday 24 February 10:00a to noon, “School-wide Family Participation Purim Celebration” — a mix of fun, sprinkled with learning, games, and arts!

**KISS**

The KISS program (“Kids In Shul when they close the School”) continues to run very smoothly under the direction of Sybil Richards. Now that winter has arrived, you may need childcare for an unplanned snow day. Or perhaps you must find placement for your elementary-age children when school closes for a civic or school holiday, such as Presidents’ Day (Monday 18 February 8:00a to 3:00p). Please contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x 33 or lkempton@beki.org to arrange for participation in KISS, BEKI’s program of Judaic and fun activities when the schools are closed.