Multiple choice: The primary reason for the popularity of our Congregation has to do with which of the following characteristics?

A. Quality of community  
B. Theological correctness  
C. Halakhic (legal) approach  
D. Ideological authenticity  

The results of our imaginary survey point to answer “A: Quality of Community.” This is an extraordinary community of committed, decent, devoted and hard-working Jews and philo-Semitic, and I am proud to be a member of it. I am deeply appreciative and thankful that Miriam and I are able to raise our children in such a great community.

There are certain ideas that we try to teach our children in this congregation, at least insofar as I have anything to do with it. Among those teachings are several which are not shared by the entire Jewish world.

We embrace reason and science above mysticism and obscurantism. We honor our scholars and philanthropists but make our communal decisions democratically and within the law. Our synagogue is owned by its members, not an external or privately-controlled body.

We renounce the notion of the “genetic spiritual superiority of Jews over gentiles” (see BEKI Bulletin November 2003 page 3). Instead, we teach that each person is valued and loved unconditionally by God, is unique and endowed with certain inalienable rights, and that our distinction is not biologically based. We promote human rights and equality before the law as Divine imperatives.

We teach the equality of genders. We do not teach that men are superior, nor do we teach that women are “spiritually superior” to men and therefore (somehow) may not lead public ritual.

We teach that modern Israel is the Jewish People’s homeland. We value the totality of the Jewish people, struggle against sectarianism and legitimize diversity. We understand Judaism as a civilization and that Hebrew law and Torah are essential and developmental. We try to teach our children and adults to be good, educated Jews and decent human beings, and that they must be part of a community.

While quality of community is more compelling to many people than a community’s ideological content or creed, content and creed do matter. Many of us see the wonderful quality of community of some evangelical Christians or the Amish; it may be hard to find nicer, more giving, more community-oriented people. Likewise, there are so-called sects of Eastern or Jewish origin that also have embracing...

Continued on Page 3
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:
- Call the Synagogue office: (203) 389-2108
- Write: 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724
- Email: jjtilsen@beki.org
- Visit our web page: www.beki.org

For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the first of the month preceding publication.

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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community — “bomb with love.” As lovely, tight and supportive as these communities may be, they are based on, and teach, important beliefs that we do not share and cannot accept, beliefs that in some cases we see as false or malicious. For us, it is not enough for a community to be embracing, caring and loving; content matters.

While we are accepting, then, of great diversity, there are nevertheless ideas and beliefs that define us as a distinct community. It is a very great challenge for us to maintain our identity and be true to our beliefs while accepting others who do not fully share our outlook.

The ideas we embrace, along with our commitment to community, are crucial to the mission and future of our people.

Some people are concerned about the declining number of Jews in America, and some are especially concerned that our Conservative Movement is declining fastest. Some are concerned about the size of this congregation, just 260 member families.

We do most certainly face serious sustainability issues.

Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of concerned people can change the world…. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

The Conservative Movement in this Country began with JTS, a small school that graduated a couple of dozen rabbis and a handful of doctorates a year for a hundred years. BEKI’s predecessor congregations (B’nai Israel which became Beth El, and Temple Keser Israel) began with just ten families each.

If we do not have enough teachers for our schools who are positive religious Jewish role models, who understand and believe in the approach of Conservative-Masorti Judaism, then our children will be taught by secular, Orthodox, Reform, or other Jews. Now, that would not be the end of the world. But it would be the end of Conservative Judaism. Our children must be trained and educated as Conservative Jews at school and at home; otherwise they will naturally make their future in other movements or without community at all.

Are we giving the next generation more or less than we had? If less, then the trend will continue, and the
community will decline.

But if our children participate in the Children’s Shabbat Havura, attend a fine school such as the BEKI Religious School or Ezra Academy or attend camp at Ramah, if they study at the Conservative Yeshiva or Hebrew University in Jerusalem and study Hebrew and Judaism in college, then when they are grown they are not satisfied with responsive English readings, abbreviated liturgy or “scrape the cheese off the meat” kashrut. They want an intense and challenging experience; they want a devout community, and they will not find that in their home synagogues. A varsity athlete does not want to play on the novice team. So they look elsewhere.

Of the 200 children in the religious school in 1969, I doubt there are ten who are members at BEKI today. Where have all of those children gone? Sure, many have moved away. But many others are not members of any synagogue or have found their place in non-Conservative communities.

Quality of community, not correctness of ideology, is the priority for most people. But correct ideology is also essential for sustainability.

Our former members around the country say they can’t find a Congregation like this — quality community and correct ideology. But if we’ve been successful in our work here, they will be empowered and motivated to create their own communities elsewhere.

This congregation is a somewhat rare model of a truly challenging, accepting, caring and intense community based on a philosophy that is “close enough” to what we really believe, based on the normative centrist traditional understanding of Torah and tradition guided by the insights of Conservative-Masorti Judaism. This is the varsity team.

What is the attraction here? Our building is still in need of a lot more repair and updating. Our bare-bones budget is barely balanced. Our windows are held together with duct tape. The greatness of BEKI is in the exceptional people who form an extraordinary community based on a correct ideology. This is why fifty years ago Beth El survived despite losing half its assets — it kept its community. This is why Keser Israel survived forty years ago despite losing its beloved rabbi and unique building — it kept its community.

The conviction that this community is important motivated some of our young leaders and veteran members to invest a great deal of time, effort and resources to see this Congregation through the leanest years and to develop and implement a plan for renaissance that has brought us to this day.

This is a very special and unique community, one that barely survived but now thrives, one that is challenged and challenging and welcoming and accepting, and one that offers hope for our people, a Torah-community for the modern age, a Congregation that is important to the lives of its members and that makes a unique contribution to the future of the Jewish People, a community where world-renowned scholars and rabbis as well as long-lost adult Jews and potential converts alike find a place. I know that I am privileged to be part of it.
USY

What if we took USYers from all over America and Canada who had a love for Judaism and placed them all together at a synagogue for the weekend? That is just what I was a part of at USY’s International Heschel Honor Society Convention.

The Heschel Society is a club within USY for those most eager and committed to learning and Judaism. Membership for the club is based on a line from Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Fathers), “On three things the world stands: On study of Torah, on worship, and on acts of loving kindness.”

Each Heschel Society member is expected to participate in three hours of Judaic study every week, attend synagogue services four times a month, and participate in community service programs. A special convention only open to members of the Heschel Society is held once per year. Not only is it a time to learn with some of the brightest people in USY, but it’s a great time to see friends from all over the continent.

During the past two years that I have attended, I have met people from Florida, Quebec, California, and more. I also got to see friends that I otherwise wouldn’t see until International Convention in December. Overall, it was one of the most enjoyable conventions I’ve ever been to. Every night during convention, I stayed up late talking with the people who shared my host home as we got to know one another better. It’s hard to explain in words all the fun I had, but I would recommend that anyone who is committed to Judaism and eager to learn should join the Heschel Society and attend this amazing event.

B’Shalom,
Yedidya Ben-Avie
2008-09 BEKI-BJ USY Co-President
2009-10 Hanefesh Regional Religion/Education VP
Youth Representative to the BEKI Board.

BEKI-BJ USY, An Award Winning Chapter

It’s amazing to see what great things have happened at BEKI-BJ USY over the past year. Not too long ago, though we had a strong chapter, we had small regional attendance. This year we had a complete turnaround. Not only did we have many people active in the chapter and many new chapter events, but we also had many people attending each regional event. This year, at the Hanefesh Regional Spring Convention, we were recognized as the Most Improved Chapter as well as receiving many other awards for our programming. These include: Best Bulletin Board, Best Original Tikun Olam Event (for our Pies fundraiser), The Mitzvah Mayhem Award (a special Social Action/Tikun Olam competition), Best Kadima Integration Program (for Big Brother-Big Sister program), Best Original Israeli Affairs Program (for the Emissary mock elections), Ahavat Tzion Award (Love of Israel, a special year-long competition), Most Improved Chapter, and most importantly, Chapter of Excellence. A huge Yasher Koach to NoriAnna Cohen, our chapter advisor, everyone on chapter board, and all of the BEKI-BJ USY members for making this year so great!

Besides winning so many awards, the convention was lots of fun. Can you think of anything more exciting than spending a weekend with Jewish teens from across Connecticut and Western Massachusetts? BEKI-BJ had 9 USYers at convention, and I speak for all of us when I say we can’t wait for the next one, and hope more BEKI-BJ USYers will join us in the future!

B’Shalom,
Yedidya Ben-Avie

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Memories
Continued from Page 5

Memories from BEKI-BJ USY
March Chapter Shabbaton

Friday afternoon, right before the last Shabbat in March, nine Jewish teens gathered at B’nai Jacob in Woodbridge. We were ready for a weekend of fun and chilling. We skipped icebreakers since everybody knew each other, and went straight to the playground for some frolicking. After a peaceful Friday night Qabbalat Shabbat with the B’nai Jacob minyan, we had Shabbat dinner all together. Of course, we cleaned up and then spent a relaxing evening playing games. Finally, we settled into our sleeping bags…but didn’t go to sleep. In the morning, we sleepily stumbled over to breakfast, then got dressed and headed over to join B’nai Jacob in Shabbat morning services. We sang loudly, showing our prowess at davenning! After services and qiddush, we went outside and took part in a very educational activity about the sacrifices described in that week’s parasha, VaYiqra. (Esther diligently prepared to lead this activity.) We then relaxed for a couple of hours, and then attended B’nai Jacob’s Minha where some of us had aliyyot and dressed the Torah. As the day was winding down, we said Ma’ariv and Havdala and packed up our stuff to go.

All in all, the weekend was very relaxing and filled with fun. While most of us did know each other from USY events, we were all able to come together and bond even tighter as a chapter should. Best of all, everyone in our chapter grew to like and really respect our advisor, NoriAnna. It was great how everyone was friendly from the start and no one was excluded -- it did not matter if a USYer was from a public school or a private school halfway across the state, there were always things that we all could talk about.

We, as a USY group, just hope that we made an impact on BJ as it has made a big one on us.

Tsvi Benson-Tilsen, USY VP, Religious Education
Carmi Cheskis-Gold, USY VP, Communication

BEKI/BJ USY Elections/Final Event

On June 7, USYers in our chapter will be heading to the Weinstein’s beach house (192 Cosey Beach Ave., East Haven), where we will be having our final event that includes a barbecue and chapter elections for next year. This event will start at 2 p.m. and will end at 6:30 p.m. with dinner included at around 5 p.m. All USYers are welcome. For more information, please contact our advisor NoriAnna Cohen at norianna.cohen@quinnipiac.edu.

Carmi Cheskis-Gold, USY Co-Communications VP

USY & Kadima Regional Final

On June 14, USYers and Kadimaniks are all heading to our very own Six Flags New England for some fun in the sun, not on the beach. For $65 your kids will be going to this event, which has dinner and transportation (bus) included with the price of the park. Kids will meet at a designated bus spot at 11 a.m. and then proceed to the park where they will stay until 4 or 5 p.m. and return by 6:30p to the drop off spot. Please RSVP to the Regional office by 4 June if your child wishes to attend. All letters should be addressed to USY/Kadima Regional Final, 1800 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 221, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

For more information please contact our advisor NoriAnna Cohen at Norianna.Cohen@quinnipiac.edu or Yedidya Ben-Avie at ifyouwereajew@gmail.com
Library News
The following books were purchased through generous donations to the Ari Nathan Levine Book Fund, and are housed in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room: 10 copies, Stan J. Beiner, Sedra Scenes: Skits for Every Torah Portion

Omission or Commission
I do a very large amount of my shopping through it for all kinds of goods. For a small fee, one can sign up for Amazon Prime, which gets you free two-day shipping on all its products. Most items have reviews by purchasers, so you can get a very good idea of what you’re getting.

Yesterday I received a new toaster oven ($54) and a digital bathroom scale ($24), both of which are wonderful. I have the BEKI Amazon link bookmarked on my toolbar, so sending a commission to BEKI is second nature. I recommend that other members try this – it’s even easier than gift cards.

– Robert Forbes

Book Discussion
Join Bob Oakes with Jon-Jay Tilsen on Monday, June 29 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a conversation on Hayim Ben-Sasson’s A History of the Jewish People. The book is in print and available through Amazon at http://www.beki.org/books.html#rabbis or wherever fine books are sold.

Shul in the News
BEKI is featured in a chapter of Volume IX of Jews in New Haven, Edited by Dr. David S. Fischer. For information contact JHSGNH PO Box 3251, New Haven, CT 06515-0351, (203) 392-6125, jhsghn@yahoo.com.

See Mark Oppenheimer’s essay “For God’s Sake: Why it’s worth bringing your kids along to pray,” in Slate (http://www.slate.com/id/2215226/).

Cars Accepted
Our congregation can now accept the donation of automobiles and trucks. For information on donating a vehicle, contact Peggy at 389.2108 x14 office@beki.org.

Torah Readers Wanted
If you would like to read from the Book of Numbers (through July 8), contact Darryl Kuperstock at 387-0304 kuperst@aol.com.

Monthly Bulletin-by-Email
Members and supporters who wish to receive the monthly BEKI Bulletin (the newsletter of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel) by email as a PDF file may subscribe by sending an email message to bulletin-subscribe@beki.org from the email account to which the file is to be sent.

To subscribe: Send a blank message to bulletin-subscribe@beki.org from the email account you want to receive the monthly Bulletin. A request for confirmation will be sent to that computer within a moment, and then you must reply to that request for confirmation by hitting “reply” and then “send.” To cancel a subscription, send a message to bulletin-unsubscribe@beki.org from the email account you wish to unsubscribe.

Publication Deadlines
Submissions for the July-August combined edition of the Bulletin should be sent to jjtilsen@beki.org or office@beki.org and are due June 1. Submissions for the mid-month mailing should be sent to office@beki.org (or delivered to Peggy) and are due by noon on the ninth of the month; please let Peggy know in advance if you plan to submit material. Submissions for Happenings (email) should be sent to happenings@beki.org and are due on noon Wednesday (late submissions are included when possible). Submissions for Shabbat announcements should be sent to announcements@beki.org and are due at noon on Wednesday (late submissions are included when possible).
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Torah for the Hungry Mind – Adult Studies

Shabbatot

Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan
The “Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan,” which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 in the office, is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to become more comfortable and proficient in the Shaharit (morning) and Torah services in a supportive setting. Expertly led by Steven Fraade, Rabbi Alan Lovins, Rabbi Murray Levine and others, the Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan is a nurturing exploration of practice and theory presented in a participatory, non-threatening and multi-generational setting. Many members who take advantage of this unique offering feel a deeper sense of awe born of increased understanding and appreciation of the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Sundays

New: Summer Talmud with Moshe Meiri
Serious adults of all ages are invited to delve into the depths of Talmud on Sunday mornings with Moshe Meiri this summer. This six-week series meets on six consecutive Sundays from 9:45 a.m. (right after services) until 11:15 a.m., from July 12 through Aug. 16. For more information, contact Moshe at moshe@snet.net.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group
Each Monday morning from 7:45 to 8:30 adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi’s commentary on the Torah. It is possible to join the study group 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 immediately following the 7 a.m. shaharit service.

Wednesdays

Word for the Day
The Wednesday morning service (shaharit) now includes a 36-second “Hebrew word for the day” to promote the learning of Hebrew. The Hebrew language is highly-structured. Most words are based on three-letter roots, and are made with a limited set of verb or noun forms. By learning a few dozen roots and a small set of word-forms, it is possible to roughly translate Hebrew words isolated from any context, something not normally possible in English.

Rabbis’ Study Group
Wednesdays with Murray is a weekly study group exclusively for rabbis, facilitated by Rabbi Murray Levine. The Wednesday study group affords local rabbis an opportunity to pursue their own talmud torah (Torah study) in a “safe” setting and with opportunities to learn from each other’s experience and insight. The study group is recessed for the summer and will resume in the autumn. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at 397-2513.

Minie Maariv Learning Service
The Wednesday evening services during the school year are supplemented with commentary and teaching relating to the history, themes, choreography and language of the daily evening service. Now in recess, the learning service will resume in September. Minha & Maariv services are from 5:45 to 6:15 each weekday.

Thursdays

Mini Morning Learning Service
The Thursday morning services are supplemented with commentary and teaching relating to the history, themes, choreography and language of the daily morning service. Shaharit service is from 8:15 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Fridays; on other weekdays, the service begins at 7 a.m.

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group
The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30 to 1:30) at the downtown New Haven professional office of attorney Isaiah Cooper for Talmud study. The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required. For location or information, contact Isaiah Cooper at 233-4547 or icooper@cooperlaw.net.

Every Day

Divrei Torah on the Web
A collection of Divrei Torah (Torah commentaries) and essays by members and Rabbi Tilsen is posted on BEKI’s website under “Adult Studies” and “Meet Rabbi Tilsen.”
HaNoladim BeMazal Tov
Mazal tov to Rachel & Jonathan Dranoff on the birth of their children Nathaniel Alan (Natanel) Dranoff and Evelyn Grace (Hava) Dranoff in May, and their celebration of brit mila and simhat bat on the eighth day; and mazal tov to aunt Melinda Wright.

Mazal tov to . . .
MAKOM graduates Avital Sokolow Silverman and Maya Sutin, who constitute 20% of the graduating class
Judith Hoberman on receiving the Connecticut Law Tribune Pro Bono Award
Are you, your child or grandchild graduating from High School, College, Yeshiva, Graduate School? Have plans for school, Israel program or yeshiva next year? Share your news with office@beki.org or mail a note to the office.

Welcome New Members
Amy Aaland & Jonathan Freiman and Gabriel, Elijah and Caleb
Bruce Altman & Darcy McGraw and Anna

Benei Mitzva in June
Eyal Joseph Minsky-Fenick, son of Yair Minsky & Ada Fenick, Shabbat June 5-6, parashat Naso
Miriam Gerber and Eva Gerber, daughters of Alan & Rachel Gerber, Shabbat June 12-13, parashat BeHa’alotekha
Aliyah Oestreicher, daughter of David & Edina Oestreicher, Shabbat June 19-20, parashat Shelah-lekha

Eyal Minsky-Fenick
Miriam & Eva Gerber
Aliyah Oestreicher
Contributions

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Families, Alumni & Friends of Ezra Academy

Chai Fund (minimum $18) to support synagogue operations
• For the selling of Hametz by Leon Cummings
• To Bernice & Lester Margolis with sympathy on the passing of Robert Levine by Lisa Stanger
• To Sarah Rastelli in honor of her 4th birthday by Zachary Schulman & Family
• To Stephen & Joanne Rudof for “their many kindnesses to an old aunt” by Ruth Savitt
• To the BEKI Religious School in honor of Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow by Marcia M. Landsberg

Synagogue Fund (minimum $10) to support synagogue operations
• To Carrie Spangler with sympathy on the passing of Joan Katz Spangler by Leon Cummings

Hesed Committee
• To Michael Kligfeld with wishes for a speedy recovery by Jesse & Joe Palumbo
• To Muriel Banquer with wishes for a speedy recovery by Jesse & Joe Palumbo
• To Susan Spear with wishes for a speedy recovery by Jesse & Joe Palumbo
• To Cathy Schwartz with wishes for a speedy recovery by Jesse & Joe Palumbo

Palumbo
• To Don Hackett with wishes for a speedy recovery by Jesse & Joe Palumbo

Louis Friedman Scholarship Fund
• To Jacob Feuerstein in honor of his 8th birthday by Sophia Bruce & Family

Ari Nathan Levine Library Fund
• Deborah Ziskin & William Berson

Harold Ratner Memorial Fund
• In memory of her husband Harold Ratner by Mikki Ratner
• In memory of Ida Ratner by Mikki Ratner
• In memory of her sister Louise Egalka by Mikki Ratner
• In memory of her parents Etta & Charles Miller by Mikki Ratner
• To Edith Goodman in honor of her milestone birthday by Mikki Ratner
• To Paul Sobel with sympathy on the passing of Rose (Buddy) Sobel by Mikki Ratner
• To Mrs. Mandel Slater & family with sympathy on the passing of Mandel Slater by Mikki Ratner
• To Bernard Slater with sympathy on the passing of Mandel Slater by Mikki Ratner

Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund
• To Shirley Mattler in memory of Jacob (Jake) Botwinick by Sylvia Botwinick

Yahrzeit Fund ($5 minimum) to support synagogue operations
• In memory of Moses J. Henken by Gladys Lipkin
• In loving memory of his mother Lillian Silverman by Robert Silverman
• In loving memory of his brother David Silverman by Robert Silverman
• In memory of Jeneoe Goldberg by Anna Goldberg
• In memory of her sister-in-law Edith Miller by Mikki Ratner

In memory of her husband Harold Ratner by Mikki Ratner
In memory of Ida Ratner by Mikki Ratner
In memory of her sister Louise Egalka by Mikki Ratner
In memory of her parents Etta & Charles Miller by Mikki Ratner
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To Mrs. Mandel Slater & family with sympathy on the passing of Mandel Slater by Mikki Ratner
To Bernard Slater with sympathy on the passing of Mandel Slater by Mikki Ratner

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In memory of Lylalan Goodwin by Stacey Goodwin Podell & Jeffrey Podell
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In memory of her mother Toby Blatt by Marilyn Margolis
In memory of Reuben Gralla by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz
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In memory of Bennett Schultz by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz
In memory of Gussie Finkelstein by Gertrude Gollinger
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In memory of Uncle Morris “Moishe” Schnitman by Edward & Helene Vanderhoef
In memory of Aunt Anne Schnitman Irwin by Edward & Helene Vanderhoef
In memory of her brother Seymour Kaltman by Muriel Kaltman
In memory of her mother Bess Kaltman by Muriel Kaltman
In memory of Matthew Lettick by Robert & Janice Lettick
In memory of Bella Avrin by Robert & Susan Spear
In memory of Ida Weiss by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein
In memory of Ruth Magid by Helen Gandelman
In memory of his mother Marilyn Levine by Judah Levine
In memory of Murray Ratosh by Sheri Ratosh & Alan Glombicki
In memory of Ida Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

The Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism is a home within the homeland for Conservative Jews from North America. It's your center of Conservative life and learning, prayer and play, culture and creativity in the heart of Jerusalem.

At the Fuchsberg Center, you can enjoy concerts in our auditorium, feast in our elegant dining rooms, attend discussions in lecture halls, pray in our synagogue, study in the Conservative Yeshiva, and there is so much more.

Now the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism is embarking on a major campaign to support this bastion of Conservative life. We urgently need your participation to help us complete this dream.

WE'VE DEDICATED OURSELVES TO THIS DREAM
NOW WE URGE YOU TO DEDICATE YOURSELF

SUPPORT THE FUCHSBERG JERUSALEM CENTER
YOUR HOME WITHIN THE HOMELAND

Call Miriam Benson, Executive Director of United Synagogue's Connecticut Valley Region at (860) 563-5531 or e-mail her at benson@uscj.org
Sisterhood Shabbat will be June 27, when we will dedicate our 2009 “Book of Life.” Invitations will be sent out and we hope BEKI members will support this project which benefits the synagogue. Also on the 27th, Sisterhood Board Members will be honored. They are: Adele Tyson, Liora Lew, Mimi Glenn, Harriet Barstein, Violet Ludwig, Mikki Ratner, Sylvia Zeid and Barbara Cushen.

Please join us for this special Shabbat.

Our Sisterhood will match all donations of non-perishable food to the “Food Pantry Box” in our lobby through Aug. 31. Please donate generously.

An overdue thank-you to Alan Soffer of Soffer Farms for their donation of the eggs for the Seder for People with Special Needs.

Our gift shop has lovely gifts for weddings, anniversaries and Bar & Bat Mitzvahs. Open on Sundays 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., by appointment by calling Adele (389-9599) or Mimi (397-3851) or see Peggy during office hours. Your patronage benefits our synagogue.

Torah Fund

Cards for all occasions are always a very special way to honor or memorialize a loved one. Torah Fund benefits The Jewish Theological Seminary. Please call Barbara Cusen at 407-0314 to have a card sent. $4 each includes the postage.

Adele Tyson
Mimi Glenn
Sisterhood Co-Presidents
# Service Times for Spring and Summer

**June 2009**  
9 Sivan 5769 - 8 Tammuz 5769

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:45am Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 5:00pm Beni Mitzva Program</td>
<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>6:00pm Eyal Minsky Bar Mitzva 8:03pm Candle Lighting</td>
<td>6:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)</td>
<td>6:30pm Annual Meeting</td>
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<th>7 Sivan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)</td>
<td>8:30am Rabbi's Study Group (last meeting for the summer)</td>
<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>6:00pm Miriam &amp; Eva Gerber Benot Mitzva 8:07pm Candle Lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</td>
<td>7:30pm Finance Meeting</td>
<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>6:00pm Aliyah Oestricher Bat Mitzva 8:10pm Candle Lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45am Rashi Study Group 6:15pm Book Discussion with Bob Oakes</td>
<td>6:30pm Annual Meeting</td>
<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>8:11pm Candle Lighting Sisterhood/Book of Life Shabbat</td>
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<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>5:45pm Minha</td>
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**BEKI Events**

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<tr>
<td>Rosh Hodesh I 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</td>
<td>Rosh Hodesh II 6:30pm Annual Meeting</td>
<td>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>8:11pm Candle Lighting Sisterhood/Book of Life Shabbat</td>
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