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BEKI bulletin

Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

September 2006

Elul 5766 & Tishrei 5767
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Selihot at BEKI

BEKI will host the Conservative-Masorti Community Selihot Service on Saturday Night 16 September 2006. The evening begins at 9:00p with the evening service and havdala candlelight service. At 9:15p, an hour-long narrated program of instrumental and vocal music begins, featuring local talent. Following a reception, the 11:00p *selihot* service begins, ending at midnight.

The *selihot* (penitential) prayers are said during the middle of the night during the days immediately before Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. It is believed that a heightened sense of spiritual awareness can be achieved during those hours.

Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services

The annual Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services will be held at 10:00a at the Hamden Cemetery, and at 11:00a at the West Haven Cemetery on Sunday 17 September 2006. Rabbi Tilsen will lead a communal prayer and will be available for individual prayers as well. Those who wish to visit the graves

of their ancestors or loved ones but are unable to do so because of distance are invited to attend along with those whose loved ones are buried in the BEKI cemeteries. If you would like a ride to the service, please contact the office a few days in advance.

In addition, a representative of the Cemetery Association will be present to answer questions and concerns of those owning or considering the purchase of plots at the BEKI cemeteries.

Directions to the cemeteries can be found at www.beki.org/findbeki.html. For information on cemetery purchases or upkeep, please call the BEKI Cemetery Association at 389-2108 x57.

High Holy Days Participation

Please be sure to return your High Holy Days volunteer/participation forms. We will definitely need help with every aspect of our holiday celebrations. The form is also available on the BEKI website at www.beki.org/forms.html.

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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.

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BEKI Bulletin

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi

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Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel • 85 Harrison St., New Haven
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Yamim Noraim: Days of Awe

Rosh HaShana & Yom Kippur



Alan Lovins

Rabbi Alan H. Lovins will serve as our Hazzan Rishon (lead cantor) for the High Holy Days. In addition to Rabbi Lovins, the services will again be led by BEKI members serving as volunteer *hazzanim*. For the fourteenth consecutive year, Rabbi Tilsen will conduct the services.

Tickets are required for adult entrance to most services. Among other reasons, this is to ensure the safety and security of the Congregation. Full-time students and military personnel on active duty may enter upon presentation of proper identification. Every person in the building must be identified before entry.

Some of the ushers serving during the Holy Days may be new members. Veteran members who do not recognize the ushers are urged to introduce themselves, as our ushers wish to meet as many members and visitors as they can.

The Rabbi Murray Levine Family is again sponsoring the outstanding High Holy Days programs for children at Beth El-Keser Israel in memory of Malka Levine. Malka, who died in May 1996, was a renowned Jewish educator and wife of Rabbi Murray Levine. She was a beloved member of the BEKI community. For safety and planning reasons, children must be pre-registered to participate in these services. For registration information, call 389-2108 x13.

Babysitting is available by prior arrangement for infants during most of the Holy Day services, and for older children during hours when the Children's Programs are not meeting. Walk-in service is *not* available. To reserve babysitting service, please call 389-2108 x14.

Rosh HaShana services begin Friday 22 September 2006 at 6:30p with the Mincha service, followed by Maariv at 6:45p. Candle Lighting is at 6:32p. The service concludes by 7:15p. Morning services begin at 8:30a on

Shabbat 23 September and on Sunday 24 September. Youth services are held each morning. On Shabbat afternoon, the Mincha service begins at 6:30p. The service is followed by a brief presentation on the poetry of the holidays. The Maariv evening service is from 7:15p to 7:30p.

Tashlikh ("casting") services will be held on the second day of Rosh HaShana, Sunday 24 September, at 4:15p, at the Edgewood Bridge, Beaver Pond Park, and Whitney Museum Covered Bridge. The *Tashlikh* service is a popular outdoor event for people of all ages, and includes a brief prayer, poetry and singing. It is held beside a body of natural water. It is deferred to the second day of Rosh HaShana due to the Sabbath. The Mincha afternoon service is from 5:45p to 6:05p. Havdala is after 7:29p.

In preparation for the full-day fast of Yom Kippur, it is suggested that caffeine users reduce their intake

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Yamim Noraim: Days of Awe

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to avoid withdrawal symptoms on the Holy Day. Some people avoid wearing leather shoes on Yom Kippur, so do not be surprised to see canvas sneakers or other non-leather shoes in use. Some also follow the custom of wearing a *kittel* (white robe) or other white garments on Yom Kippur. People who need to eat or drink or take medication on Yom Kippur may speak with an usher, or contact the office in advance, for assistance. Rabbi Tilsen notes that "People for whom fasting represents a significant medical threat are prohibited from fasting. Water, milk or a simple meal should be consumed as needed."

While it is customary to stand for some parts of the service, those for whom standing is difficult, impossible or dangerous should feel comfortable sitting. Rabbi Tilsen comments that "You get five points for answering 'Amen!' but only one point for standing, so keep it in perspective. This applies to people of all ages."

On the afternoon before Yom Kippur, Sunday 1 October 2006, the Mincha afternoon service begins at 6:00p. Candle Lighting is 6:17p (or earlier). The Kol Nidre and Maariv Evening services begin promptly at 6:15p and end by 8:30p. Shoharit Morning services begin at 9:00a; the Yizkor Memorial service begins after 11:00a. The Mincha Afternoon services begin at 4:45p. The service ends with Havdala and the sounding of the Shofar at 7:18p.

Following the service, everyone is invited to a Break Fast in the Lower

Level Social Hall presented by George G. Posener as a loving memorial to his dear departed family members, whose *yahrzeits* we observe during this season.

The George G. Posener Family Memorial Yom Kippur Break-Fast Fund at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel in blessed memory of his wife, parents, sisters, brother and two precious sons was established by George G. Posener in 2001 to create a lasting memorial at the time of the *yahrzeits* of his family members. Proceeds from this endowment provide for a special and meaningful community gathering at the end of Yom Kippur.

For a complete schedule of services please call the office at 389-2108 x14 or see the schedule at www.beki.org/schedule.html. Schedules are also available in the lobby literature rack, and are included with the High Holy Days mailings sent to all BEKI members.

For information on seating and ticketing, contact 389-2108 x14 or office@beki.org.

Sukkot is Coming

If you feel a sense of loss at the end of the High Holy Days, do not despair: it is time for Sukkot, called *the* Festival by our ancestors. Lulav & Etrog sets may be ordered from the BEKI Religious School at 389-2108 x13 or lkempton@beki.org. Sets are \$36 each. They are used each day of Sukkot except Shabbat, until and including Hoshana Rabba. Information on the festival observances appears in the October *Bulletin*.

Set up of the Morris "Moishe" Schnitman Memorial Sukka is planned for Wednesday 4 October from 3:00p to 5:30p. Add a personal touch by bringing some of your own *sekhakh* (evergreen branches are preferred) for the roof to enhance the beauty and aroma of our congregational *sukka*. Breakdown and storage are planned for Sunday 22 October, following *Shaharit*. Additional power drivers and ladders are welcome. Please come and help.

For information, contact Saul Bell (389-1647) or David Kuperstock (387-0304).



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A Message from Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton

In our lives, we interact with thousands and thousands of people: some are passers-by, some move in and out of our geographic locations, and some enter our lives and the relationships grow stronger and stronger and we deem they will be forever. Such is the case for me with Beccy Adler and her family on Kibbutz Yizrael. Beccy was our Israeli Emissary for the 2004-2005 school year under the auspices of Partnership 2000.

Beccy and her fellow Emissary, Eilam Oren, became Israel for many members of our Jewish community; at Ezra Academy, MAKOM, BEKI Religious School, the JCC and countless other places. Our BEKI members Ron Zlotoff & Donna Kemper hosted Eilam; Jim Graham & Melissa Perkal hosted Beccy. This year the Cheskis-Gold and Silverman-Sokoloff families hosted Hila Arie, Emissary for 2005-2006.

On my Ulpan (intensive Hebrew language program) for the month of July, in Afula, our Sister City for Partnership 2000, on Qibbutz Yizrael, I grew in my understanding of the roots of these amazing young people – parents and grandparents, extended families, teachers and friends who mold both the character and *neshama* (soul) of these teens loaned to us for a year. The *qibbutz* could not have been more inclusive or embracing to me. Mornings at 7:30 walking to the dining hall, calls of “Shalom” would greet me, from two-year-olds in the *qibbutz* buggies for Gan Yeladim to seniors zipping past on their motor scooters. My housing was at no cost at the Beit

Hashutfut, as a member of Partnership 2000. The same housing we will use for our BEKI Israel Trip in February of 2007.

Prior to my arrival in June, I kept emailing and asking, “What can I do in return?”

I did teach three Adult Education sessions on “The Power of Stories,” “Resistance” and “Hiroshima.” I was told the *qibbutz* music school could use donations, and Roz & Coby Ben-Chitrit generously donated a trumpet, which was gratefully received.

On qibbutz I saw daily Biff & Baruch Oren and Phil & Inbal Adler, Beccy’s parents and step-parents, and Tom, Beccy’s brother and her sisters Or and Gaia. Since my time there (June-July) was the time of the *milhama* (war) in Lebanon and the incursion in Gaza, many of the Israel Defense Forces soldiers like Beccy were given leave, in anticipation of the escalation of the war. Beccy, Tom and I met Dana, the former Bridgeport Emissary and went to the Tel Yizreel. We bought pita with zaatar from a Druze grandmother and sat on benches in an olive grove overlooking the Yizreel valley.

That afternoon, the war seemed so far off as we caught up on New Haven and Afula news and families. A gentle breeze wafted over us. I looked at Beccy and thought of her transformation from a teen teacher, an Emissary from our Sister City; leading Hatikva, conducting a *tekes* (service) for Rabin, the instructor of an Israel class at MAKOM. Now she is in the IDF, training in the *modiin* (intelligence unit).

The weekend ended with a great dinner with Eilam and Beccy, and they both returned to the IDF. As the fighting intensified the siren soundings increased and we received our bunker assignments. Nightly the skies resounded with Israeli planes and we heard the sirens of the katyusha attacks in Afula and Nazareth. The calls to qibbutz members from family in the States, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa increased. The sub-text of my qibbutz studies became the war. Like Americans during Hurricane Katrina, we were riveted to the television. I checked my email daily and want to share a message from Sharon Conroy to Biff, Beccy’s Mom, as an Emissary parent.



Lauren on Qibbutz

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A Message from Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton

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Dear Friends,

We are all thinking of you and your children and only praying for the situation in Israel to quiet down. It is hard to believe that only a year ago your children were here, making an impact on so many people, representing the best of Israel, and now they are in uniform and protecting Israel and the Jewish people. As a parent, I can not imagine the tension and worries you must live with as you watch your children taking on this huge responsibility. Thinking about your children and this program, I am reminded of how important it is to put a real face on Israel and how this program is so successful in doing just that. I know that so many people here care about you, your children and the State of Israel. -- Sharon Reisman Conroy,

Director, SNEC Israeli Young Emissary Program.

In the past five years I have been blessed to know ten Young Emissaries. Although geographically apart, they remain close to me and constantly in my prayers. This month on *qibbutz* only strengthened my understanding of daily life in Israel and the profound need for our support for Israel as Diaspora Jews. And this Fall , we will welcome our sixth Young Emissary to the BEKI community.

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Sisterhood News September 2006

The first BEKI Sisterhood meeting of the season will be Monday 9 October. Details will be announced soon.

Please don't forget to patronize Sisterhood's gift shop first for wedding and Bar/Bat Mitzva gifts. We have new items and can order special for you. For Giftshop information, contact giftshop@beki.org.

Support BEKI Sisterhood by joining us and helping to make our Sisterhood at BEKI a viable part of our synagogue. As our building changes, so too our BEKI Sisterhood – join us – and make our Sisterhood a community of women making BEKI thrive!

Torah Fund

Starting 1 September, cards are \$4.00 each. This is due to rising costs of printing and postage. It's still a bargain! You save time & gas. I send your card out as soon as you call me at 407-0314. Cards for all occasions - - Bar/Bat Mitzvas, Anniversaries, Get Well and Sympathy.

Those who make donations of \$180 will receive The Torah Fund Pin for 5767 – 2006-07:

Hallel - Song of Praise
The Torah Fund pin for
5767 - 2006-2007
designed by Eytan Brandes

The Hebrew word, *hallel*, "song of praise" is a central motif in Jewish liturgy. As Miriam and the women

sang and danced at the Yam Suf, praising God for Israel's deliverance, so today do Jewish women dance and rejoice when reciting this prayer. This year, with the creation of Torah Fund's fiftieth pin, Women's League members should exult in our fundamental role in preserving Jewish continuity in our homes, synagogues, and in support of The Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.

Barbara Cushen
Torah Fund Chair



The Torah Fund pin for 5767 - 2006-2007

BEKI Religious School

BEKI Religious school welcomes two new classroom teachers for the 2006-2007 school year. The new teacher for Grade Two is BEKI member Judi Janette. Judi attended Brandeis University and works at Yale Medical School. Our new teacher for Grade Six is Tikva Shapiro. Tikva graduated from Hebrew University in Jerusalem with dual certification in teaching and guidance. She taught at Tzafit, a regional school in Southern-Central Israel. We are also pleased to welcome her daughter Iris to Grade Five.

HaMaqom Yinahem

With Sorrow We Note the Passing of



Henry Rothchild, cousin of Sheila Gardiner

**Estelle Kronick Leventhal,
sister of Phyllis (& Leon) Medvedow**

*May the Almighty comfort
those who mourn*



Valerie and Alex

Letters

We would like to publicly thank all the members of the congregation who have offered to make us Shabbat dinners since Sabrina's arrival in June. We are so grateful for everyone's generosity and thoughtfulness, and are deeply touched by the kindness of the BEKI community.

B'Shalom,
Valerie and Alex Thaler



Tsvi with Paul Israel unloading one of 48 photovoltaic panels

Shabbaton Retreat on Alternative Energy, Conservation and the Environment

We are planning a Shabbaton Retreat on the weekend of 1-3 December along with members of two or three Connecticut congregations including Rodeph Sholom in Bridgeport to be held at Camp Isabella Freedman. The Shabbat experience promises to be inspiring, refreshing and informative for people of all ages. Please reserve the date (Friday afternoon to Sunday mid-day). Registration information is forthcoming. If you would like to help plan the retreat, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at jjtilsen@beki.org 389-2108 x10 or Jennifer Botwick at drjbotwick-nd@aol.com 387-8661.

The Shabbaton Retreat is part of BEKI's effort to promote alternative energy and conservation as Jewish values, and is made possible through the support of the Legacy Heritage Fund.



Kadima Korner



Ruth Greenblatt

Kadima is about to start a new and exciting year, but before we begin I would like to give an overview of last year. Our membership jumped from 14 members to 30, averaging about 12 kids at an event. We started the year with our Pizza party at Edge of the Woods, followed by the Sukkah Hop, a great regional event at Dadds sports facility, a regional overnight bowling, Hanuka party /cookie bake and then later delivering cookies to Jewish Home residents and singing Hanuka songs with them, iceskating and Lazer tag, the messy, fun Chocolate Seder, dance with Or Shalom, Regional final event at Six Flags and some eighth graders went on Limos and the regional convention.

This year promises to be an even better year., My goals are to increase membership, especially of our BJ contingent. I hope to get more parent involvement and more Kadimanicks involved in planning of events. In addition to the fun activities we will have

more fun educational, religious, and social action activities. For the singers in the group we will be forming a Kadima choir to sing at places such as the Jewish Home, Connecticut Hospice, Tower One and possibly the Children's Hospital.

Mark your calendars with the events scheduled so far, and keep your eyes open for a mailing.

- 10 September.....Beach Party and Andy Weinstein's beach house.
- 17 September.....Rain date for beach party or first choir meeting
- 16 October.....Sukka Party
- 29 October.....Kadima Regional Kick-off event.....always fun.
- 12 November.....Mystery Bus Ride to adventures in Massachusetts.
This may be with some other chapters.
- 19 November.....Work in the Soup Kitchen or sing at Hospice
- 3 December.....Ice skating / lazer tag
- 10 December.....singing at Children's Hospital or Jewish Home
- 16 or 17 December...Hanuka party
- 21 January.....Regional event-Snow Tubing
- 17-18 March.....Regional Overnight
- 1-2 June.....Regional Shabbaton

Let me know what YOU want Kadima to be for you. Give me ideas.

Ruthie Greenblatt
Kadima Advisor
203-389-4349
ruthept@aol.com kadima@beki.org

Teen Reps to Board

The BEKI Board is seeking two teen representatives to the BEKI board, a main teen representative and an alternate. The teen representatives should be in grades 9 through 12, participating members of USY, and regular attendees at the Teen Minyan when it meets on Shabbat morning. The teen representatives' job is to foster communication between all synagogue teens and adults at BEKI and the BEKI board. The teen rep should attend Board meetings where he or she will be a non-voting member, although he or she may serve on committees. If the main teen rep can not attend a meeting, he or she should arrange for the alternate to attend. More information about the positions can be obtained by emailing Rena Cheskis-Gold, BEKI Youth Commissioner, at r.cheskis-gold@snet.net. The teen representatives will be appointed by the end of August.

New USY Advisor

The Youth Commission would like to introduce our new USY advisor, Jon Orell. Jon is a New Haven and Westville native, coming from a family that is very involved in Congr. Or Shalom and in many other aspects of the Jewish Community. While in high school, Jon was President of BBYO. He recently graduated from the University of Vermont and has returned to New Haven to be the Director of Development for Camp Laurelwood. Baruch haba, Jon! We also bid a fond farewell to our outgoing advisor Katie Rzyhikov who is stepping down due to the rigor of her Master's degree program. We are very grateful to Katie for volunteering to be available as a resource to Jon and to our chapter.

For BEKI Parents & Friends

A discussion series/support group for parents, especially of young children, is forming among parents from the Children's Shabbat Havura. Everyone is welcome, Tuesday evenings, 5p - 6:15p in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room in September. Please bring your children to play while the grown-ups talk; if you have a babysitter available, please bring him or her, if not, there should be enough to go around. We will discuss whatever parenting issues interest the group, especially early childhood Jewish education, balancing careers and parenting, and raising healthy kids with good values. This will be a 6-week series, to 5 September, but may be extended if

participants wish. Please note also that we will be sharing the room through August with the Minha afternoon and Maariv evening services; discussion group participants are encouraged to join the 20-minute service as desired.

BEKI Israel Trip

BEKI members will visit Israel together from 17 February to 1 March 2007. Join Rabbi Tilsen, Dr. Lauren Kempton and five BEKI members (so far) for a do-it-yourself carry-your-own-luggage low-budget vacation tour in Israel. For information, contact Rabbi Tilsen at jjtilsen@beki.org 389.2108 x10 or Dr. Kempton at lkempton@beki.org 389.2108 x13. Under \$2,000 per person (does not include all meals or site entry fees). Itinerary negotiable; will include north, south and central Israel.

Jewish & Christian Trip to Israel

Members of Spring Glen Church in Hamden have invited members of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel (BEKI) in Westville to explore the possibility of traveling to Israel together. While the details of the trip are intentionally open-ended at this time, the ten-day trip (22 April – 1 May 2007) will consist of visiting historical, holy sites and meeting with Israelis and Arab Palestinians who are working for peace. Some participants may elect to arrive early or stay longer.

The adult participants will share in the planning of the trip and will meet regularly (perhaps monthly) as a group for study, good food and camaraderie. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen (389-2108 x10 jjtilsen@beki.org) or Rev. Andy Nagybenson (288-3381).

Space is limited to 18, with the hope that there will be equal representation from the two congregations. Sign-ups will be first come-first served. The next planning meeting will be held in September.

Skilled & Unskilled Labor Needed

Some of the work in creating the new Claire Goodwin Youth Room is being done "in-house" by BEKI volunteers. People with skills in masonry, plumbing, carpentry, drywall, and painting are needed, as well as anyone willing to do other skilled or unskilled jobs. Many hands are needed during September. Please contact John Weiser 389-0931 (johnw@brodyweiser.com) or Coby Ben-Chitrit (H 389.9934 or M 915.6357) to volunteer.

Sponsor a Qiddush

Dates for the coming months are available. Contact Bryna at brynap@sbcglobal.net or 389.9603. Standard sponsorship is \$250.

Minyan Seekers / Minyan Makers Mailing List

If you would like email notification when BEKI members are seeking additional participants for a daily service in order to insure a minyan, and might like to request that others attend on a specific date on which you seek a minyan, send a message to minyan-subscribe@beki.org. You can unsubscribe by sending a message to minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org and obtain additional instructions at minyan-help@beki.org.

The Shul in the News

See "Rabbi on a Roof," by Allan Appel, New Haven Independent, 3 August 2006, http://www.newhaven-independent.org/archives/2006/08/rabbi_on_a_roof.php reporting on the August installation of the photovoltaic array, which was Tsvi Benson-Tilsen's bar mitzva project.

LeHitraot

We offer our wishes of success and blessing to BEKI families who have relocated this summer, including Adam Gordon. Adam is moving to the New Jersey / Philadelphia area to further his law career insuring housing rights and low-income housing.

Garinim Montessori Preschool

The 2006-2007 year for the Garinim Montessori Preschool for children ages 2 to 6 at BEKI begins in September and is now accepting registration. The school combines the methods of Montessori with the traditions and culture of Masorti-Conservative Judaism. For information, contact Lana Gad at 389-7445 or lanag@garinim.org.

Food Certificates Fundraiser

With the High Holidays and Sukkot approaching, you will probably be doing a large amount of food shopping. Your food purchases can produce significant income for BEKI if you use food certificates that are available for Stop & Shop, Shop-Rite, and Westville Kosher Meat Market.

Certificates can be ordered from Gloria Cohen, at 389-2070 or at morris.cohen@yale.edu. It doesn't add anything to *your* food bills, but it can help BEKI pay *its* bills. GC

Need a Letter for Employer or School?

Shul members occasionally need letters to employers or principals explaining the nature of the Jewish holiday observance. Despite the high level of understanding in our community, there is still a need for education and information. It is important that our children be in shul for all of *Yontif*.

If you would like such a letter for Rosh HaShana, Yom Kippur or Sukkot, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org.

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Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven



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September 2006

8 Elul 5766 - 8 Tishrei 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Service Times</p> <p>Sundays: 9a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Mondays: 7a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Tuesdays: 7a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Wednesdays: 7a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Thursdays: 8:15a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Fridays: 7a Shaharit 6p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Saturdays: 9:15a Shaharit 5:45p Minha</p>					<p>1 7:08pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Elul</p>	<p>2 Darshan: Rabbi Peter Stein 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Elul</p>
<p>3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 Elul</p>	<p>4 Office Closed/Labor Day 9:00am Shaharit 9:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 Elul</p>	<p>5 Kulanu, Saul's Circle & Shalom Group meeting "Giving Meaning to the High Holidays" (off-site @ JFS)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Elul</p>	<p>6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13 Elul</p>	<p>7 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14 Elul</p>	<p>8 6:56pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 Elul</p>	<p>9 Darshan: Steven Wizner 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 Elul</p>
<p>10 9:00am Religious School Begins</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 Elul</p>	<p>11 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">18 Elul</p>	<p>12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19 Elul</p>	<p>13 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 4:45pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 Elul</p>	<p>14 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">21 Elul</p>	<p>15 6:44pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">22 Elul</p>	<p>16 Selihot 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha Conservative-Masorti Community Selihot 9:00pm Program 11:00pm Service See related article for more information</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 Elul</p>
<p>17 9:00am Religious School 10:00am Qever Avot Beth El Memorial Park 11:00am Qever Avot Keser Israel Memorial Park</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24 Elul</p>	<p>18 7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25 Elul</p>	<p>19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26 Elul</p>	<p>20 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 4:45pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27 Elul</p>	<p>21 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">28 Elul</p>	<p>22 Erev Rosh Hashana 6:30pm Minha 6:32pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29 Elul</p>	<p>23 Rosh Hashana I For High Holiday service schedule, see related article</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Tishrei</p>
<p>24 Rosh Hashana II No Religious School For High Holiday service schedule see related article</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Tishrei</p>	<p>25 Fast of Gedaliah 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Tishrei</p>	<p>26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 Tishrei</p>	<p>27 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 4:45pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 Tishrei</p>	<p>28 12:30 Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 Tishrei</p>	<p>29 6:20pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 Tishrei</p>	<p>30 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Tishrei</p>

Torah for the Hungry Mind - Adult Studies

Shabbatot

Darshanim in September

Rabbi Peter Stein 2 September parashat Ki Tetsei

Stephen Wizner 9 September parashat Ki Tavo

Rabbi Moshe Murray Levine 30 September parashat Haazinu – Shabbat Shuva



Rabbi Peter Stein



Stephen Wizner



Rabbi Moshe Murray

Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan

The “Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan,” which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45a in BEKI’s Library Chapel, 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

MAKOM at BEKI Mishna with Moshe Meiri *Beginning & Intermediate Sections*

Serious youth are invited to dive into the “sea of Talmud” on Sunday mornings with Moshe Meiri. Two sections



Moshe Meiri

will be offered; one for beginning students, and another for continuing students. Students are expected to have studied some Mishna and be able to read Hebrew. An acquaintance with Rashi’s commentaries is helpful. The text, the *El - Am* edition, will be supplied. This text is vocalized for easy reading and is accompanied by an English commentary and translation. The classes meet Sunday mornings from about 10:00a to 11:00a and 11:05a to noon. Students wishing to enroll should speak with Arnold Carmel at MAKOM. The classes are open only to students in grades 8-12. This is an honors program class and will be taught in an academic Jewish Studies style. Disciplined attendance is expected. Moshe may be reached at moshe@snet.net.

MAKOM at BEKI Miqra with Margolit

Margolit Kern will be teaching *Miqra* (Scripture) for youth at two challenging levels on Sunday mornings. The classes are part of the MAKOM honors program at BEKI for students in grades 8-12. The classes meet Sunday mornings from about 10:00a to 11:00a and 11:05a to noon. Students wishing to enroll should speak with Arnold Carmel at MAKOM. This is an honors program class and will be taught in an academic Jewish Studies style. Disciplined attendance is expected.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group

Each Monday morning from 7:45a to 8:30a 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. The Rashi Study Group has met weekly since 1994 and is currently reading the book of Numbers. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7:00a *shaharit* morning service. (The RSG will meet at 9:45a on Monday 4 September following the 9:00a Labor Day service.)

Thursdays

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The "Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group," hosted by Isaiah Cooper, meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30p to 1:30p) with Rabbi Tilsen at a downtown New Haven professional office 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.

Writing Group

The Writing Group meets each Thursday in the Chapel Library from 2:00p to 4:00p. Interested writers gather to share the short pieces that they have written: memoirs, poetry, children's stories and short stories. The goal of the group is to encourage writing, critique of written pieces, and publishing. Each week the participants bring a piece of their writing. The writer then has a "Read-Aloud" and the group provides feedback. This community aims to generate writing and provide support and feedback for published pieces. For more information please contact Ruth Silver at bergida@yahoo.com or Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 or lkempton@beki.org

AA Meeting

The *Here We Are* Group of AA meets at BEKI every Thursday night at 8:00p. The weekly 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. It is currently engaged in a 12 & 12 Study – Discussion. This is not a specifically Jewish recovery group, although a large proportion of participants are Jewish. For information on the weekly meeting contact Jay at (203) 387-6019 or sokolow@snet.net.

Every Day

New: Divrei Torah

Divrei Torah (commentaries) by BEKI members are published on the web at www.beki.org/hungry.html. Recent additions include Emma Golub's bat mitzva Devar Torah; Rabbi Lina Grazier-Zerbarini's Devar Torah on Gay Pride Shabbat; and Rabbi Tilsen's Devar Torah "How Many Jewish Leaders Does it Take to Screw-In a Light Bulb?"

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Religious School Beginning

Religious School classes opening is Sunday 10 September 2006. Late registration is still open. The School is under the direction of Principal Dr. Lauren Kempton.

Again this fall educational services will be available for students with special education needs. If your child might benefit from special education services, please call Principal Dr. Lauren Kempton (389-2108 x13 lkempton@beki.org) at your earliest opportunity.

Thanks to **Gladys Lipkin** for establishing The Gladys Lipkin Fund for the BEKI Hebrew School, to **George G. Posener** for establishing The George G. & Leah Posener Fund for Youth Education at BEKI, and the **Borick Family** for establishing the Borick Family Endowment for Special Education at BEKI. The **Bessie & Max Levine Endowment** provides some of the textbooks for the students. These endowments provide an annual contribution to support BEKI's religious school. We also thank **Dr. Ralph Friedman** and all those who contribute to the **Louis Friedman Scholarship Fund**, along with our contributors to the **Rabbi Andrew Klein Scholarship Fund**.

We urge all children's participation in either the Children's Shabbat Havura (for preschoolers), K-2 Kehila (for kids in K-2) or Junior Congregation every Shabbat morning year-round at 10:45a until about noon. Older youth, in grades 6-8, may participate in Cos-

mic Conversations. There is no additional charge for these programs that reinforce and supplement the School's curriculum. These programs are also ideal for children attending Ezra Academy and other Jewish Day Schools. We urge all families to participate in BEKI's Family Education Programs.

For more information, please call BEKI Religious School Principal Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 (lkempton@beki.org).

Saul's Circle

Saul's Circle, BEKI's *qeruv* (outreach) program for adult mental health services consumers, presents programs at Fellowship House in New Haven and at BEKI. This outreach program seeks to welcome its participants into the BEKI and the broader Jewish community, and to help bring the healing and saving power of Torah and Jewish tradition to those in need. The program also aims to help the general BEKI membership learn to understand, welcome and appreciate Saul's Circle participants. Saul's Circle will celebrate the High Holidays with a teaching

session led by Dr. Lauren Kempton. For more information contact Lauren at 389-2018 x13 lkempton@beki.org.

Kulanu Program

Kulanu, BEKI's outreach program for adults with developmental disabilities, will begin its sixth year this autumn. Kulanu participants have had a very busy summer. We had many programs preparing for the High Holidays. Parents of new community members at Chapel Haven now visit BEKI when they bring their family members to join Chapel Haven. Attendance on Shabbat morning has increased. For information on Kulanu, please contact BEKI's Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 lkempton@beki.org. Kulanu is funded in part by the David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs at BEKI and by the Congregation.

Office Hours by Appointment
(203) 389-9174

RAVIT AVNI-SINGER, MSW LCSW
Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychotherapy

214 Amity Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Benei Mitzva Program Begins in September

Rabbi Tilsen will serve as the director of our Benei Mitzva Program beginning this autumn. We will also have a number of new tutors, as some of our tutors are off to college or yeshiva.

Our previous director, Sarah Serkin, will be turning her attention to her work as a college and high school math teacher and to other projects.

We project that the BMP will meet on Wednesdays from 4:45p to 6:15p most weeks during the year. Individual tutoring will be scheduled at the convenience of the tutor and student. BMP students who are also students at BEKI Religious School can expect their schedules, and curriculum, to be coordinated.

We are very excited about the upcoming year. We believe that we are developing the Program in response to the direction offered by parents and participants, as well as our professional judgment. Class begins Wednesday 13 September at 4:45p; preregistration is required.



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During the coming weeks, our Education Director, Dr. Lauren Kempton, as well as Rabbi Tilsen will communicate further details of the Program and schedule. If you have any questions or concerns at this point, please do contact Lauren (lkempton@beki.org) or Rabbi Tilsen (jtilsen@beki.org) 389-2108.

Memorial Plaques Available

The Memorial plaques displayed at BEKI serve as a reminder and memorial to departed loved ones. Plaques are available for \$360 by calling Peggy at 389-2108 x14. Prepayment reserves a space and a plaque.

Calling all College Students

We would like to correspond with college, university and yeshiva students and other post-high school youth. In addition to sharing holiday greetings, we seek to inform them of United Synagogue programs that might be of interest. Please send your or your

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youth's email address and other contact information to Lori Weinstein care of office@beki.org.

Remember our Students & Youth

We are happy to send a holiday package with sweets and good wishes to students and youth away from home. Help us let them know that we care. Please provide contact information (name, address, email and phone, and parents' phone) to the attention of Lori Weinstein care of office@beki.org.



Garinim Montessori Preschool & The Children's Shabbat Havura

Invite you to a fun interactive musical presentation by Isaiah Cooper

**Sunday 9 July 10:00a to 10:30a
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lana@garinim.org office@beki.org

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