Selling Hametz

Since owning hametz is prohibited on Passover, you can sell hametz to a non-Jew for the duration of the holiday. You can appoint Rabbi Woodward to be your agent for the sale by returning this form to the office no later than 6 pm, April 4. The hametz in your home should be covered so that you do not see it during Passover, and it should be organized into a specific area for sale.

Passover ends at 8:13 pm on Thursday, April 13; at that time hametz sold to a non-Jew will revert to your ownership.

Maot Chittin

It’s a tradition to collect "money for wheat" (donations for the poor for Passover). This year, we encourage you to send a check marked for Maot Chittim to the Rabbi’s Tzedakah Fund. Our donations will support the Client Choice Food Pantry in The Hill section of New Haven through CCA, the organization that Rev. Bonita Grubbs directs.

Preparation for Pesach

Cleaning for Passover is complicated! Please consult the Rabbinical Assembly Pesach preparation guide or click to download the Hadar Pesach preparation guide. Rabbi Woodward will teach a class on Hilchat Pesach, the Laws of Pesach—so bring your questions!—on Saturday, April 1, after services, at 12:45 pm.

We encourage you to donate unopened, non-perishable hametz at BEKI’s food drive on Sunday, April 2 (details on page 6).

Bedikat Hametz

After 7:36 pm on Tuesday, April 4, you should search for hametz in your house and say the “annulment of hametz” paragraph. The ritual of searching and annulling hametz is performed to bring to a close the process of cleaning your house. It’s a symbolic search for hametz done by light of a candle that finds ten pieces of hametz (that you had planted before-hand) and collects them in one place.

Immediately before the search, say:

Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh haolam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav, v’atzivanu al biur hameitz. After the search, say, “All hametz in my possession which I have not seen or removed, or of which I am unaware, is hereby nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.” Set that hametz aside to be burned the following day.

Leading into the Seder

Wednesday, April 5, the day leading into the Seder, begins in the morning with minyan at 7 am, followed by a siyyum (a celebration upon completing study of a rabbinic work) for Taanit Bechorot, the fast of the first-born (more about this on page 8). One must stop eating hametz by 10:46 am. One must burn hametz and say the second “annulment of hametz” paragraph...
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: bulletin@beki.org
- Visit our web page: www.beki.org
- Follow us on social media: 
- For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

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

Annual subscription is $36

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BEKI STAINED GLASS WINDOW DESIGN BY CYNTHIA BETH RUBIN
Pesach
Continued from Page 1

by 11:50 am. In the ritual of burning *hametz*, one throws *hametz* into a fire and says, *Kol hamira vahamia d’ika vir-shuti dahaziteih udda haziteih, dahamiteih udda hamiteih, d’viarteih udda viarteih libateil v’lehevei hefkeir k’afra d’ara*, or, in English, “All *hametz* in my possession, whether I have seen it or not, whether I have removed it or not, is hereby nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.”

Candlelighting
For the First Seder, candlelighting is at 7:03 pm. One should try to have the first cup of wine when it is dark (7:21 pm), but if you find yourself needing to start a Seder earlier, then at least try to plan to eat the matzah when it’s dark (7:21 pm).

The Second Seder is Thursday evening, April 6, with candlelighting – which should occur by transferring from a flame lit the previous day before the holiday – at 8:04 pm.

Passover ends with two days of Yom Tov. Candlelighting Tuesday evening, April 11, is at 7:09 pm and Wednesday evening, April 12, at 8:11 pm.

Pesach Services
Please see the calendar page of this bulletin. We will have no evening service on Wednesday, April 5 or Thursday, April 6. Services on the 1st and 2nd days of Pesach, April 6 & 7, will start at 9:15 am. Yom Tov services on the 7th and 8th days of Pesach, April 12 & 13, will start at 9:15 am and 5:45 pm. Yizkor will be included on Thursday morning, April 13.

Seder Food Details
The Seder plate contains:

- **Karpas**, a green, spring vegetable – parsley, asparagus, cucumber
- **Maror**, a bitter lettuce, like romaine, arugula, or raw horseradish (not pickled)
- **Hazeret**, a bitter lettuce or raw horseradish (whichever you didn’t use for maror)
- **Beitzah**, a roasted egg (hard-boil it first)
- **Haroset**, a sweet, fruity mixture
- **Zeroa**, a roasted item of food – a shank bone, a beet, a chicken neck. If you are serving a dairy or vegetarian seder, you should use a roasted beet, not a shank bone. Note: the shank bones packaged and sold at Stop and Shop in Amity are not kosher unless marked as kosher.

Shabbat Pesach
Shabbat begins immediately following the second day of Pesach. Rabbi Woodward will already have created an *eiruv tavshilin* for the community, so you can cook on Yom Tov for Shabbat.

Kitniyot
Foods that Ashkenazic Jews traditionally avoid eating on Pesach, such as rice, beans, and corn, are *kitniyot*. Although many Ashkenazic Jews avoid eating them on Pesach, they are not *hametz*. If you are a vegetarian, even if Ashkenazic, you should consider eating *kitniyot*; if you are a vegan, even if Ashkenazic, you should eat *kitniyot*. Derivatives of *kitniyot*, such as corn syrup, are known as *mei kitniyot*, and if you see kosher for Passover foods that have such derivatives (many Israeli products have them), you should feel free to eat them even if you generally avoid *kitniyot*.

Ethical Eating on Passover
Certain areas of food ethics are made more complicated on Passover, Rabbi Woodward notes:

A person should ethically avoid eating palm oil, unless it is fair-trade certified. Many types of kosher-for-Passover mayonnaise use palm oil. You would be Jewishly better off to eat a *kitniyot* oil (which is, anyway, *mei kitniyot*, only a *kitniyot* derivative) even if you normally avoid *kitniyot*, than to eat something unethical.

On a holiday about freedom when many of us eat many eggs, we should strive to buy eggs that are “certified humane.” These eggs are likely to contain protein spots, which are often mistaken for blood spots, causing the egg to be discarded. However, the kind of blood spot on an egg that necessitates its discarding is one that is clearly blood (see this photo) and not a protein spot.

We hope that you ordered fair-trade kosher-for-Passover chocolate through congregant Becky May.

In general, one should avoid buying and discarding lots of plastic products. Avoid making Passover a holiday when your carbon footprint dramatically increases.

Visit us at www.beki.org Follow us on social media Beki Bulletin April 2023 3
April Programs

Professor Uriel Abulof

BEKI’s Israel Discussion Group invites you to a talk by Uriel Abulof, Associate Professor of Politics at Tel Aviv University, on the topic “Suicidal democracy? On the moral and emotional dimensions in Israel’s moment of truth.” He will discuss current politics and judicial reform in Israel via Zoom on Sunday, April 9 at 10 am Eastern.

The author most recently of The Mortality of Morality of Nations (Cambridge University Press), Prof. Abulof studies political legitimation and violence, focusing on nationalism, revolutions and ethnic conflicts in, and beyond, the Middle East.

Yom HaShoah Program

On Tuesday, April 18, join us on Zoom at 7:30 pm to light a yellow candle for Holocaust Remembrance Day. Thanks to Mimi Glenn, special yellow candles will be available in the BEKI lobby during the preceding week.

BEKI’s online commemoration of Yom HaShoah on April 18, after the candle lighting, will be a participatory, experiential program honoring those who perished and those who survived the Shoah. We’ll share songs, poems and personal reflections. The program is sponsored by BEKI Sisterhood, but all are welcome. “Our goal,” Shoshana Zax explains, “is to responsibly remember one of the darkest moments of Jewish history and to nurture hope that we can be part of a future where hate is extinguished.”

If you are a descendant of a survivor and would like to participate, please contact shoshanazax@gmail.com.

Stop the Bleed Training

We’re providing BEKI adults with free training on how to stop bleeding and thereby prevent loss of life on Sunday, April 23 from 11 am to noon (during BINA). This in-person training is not just for medical professionals. The one-hour program will teach how to recognize different types of injuries and then control bleeding until first responders arrive.

Everyone will be comfortably seated and then standing for the workshop. Michael Shanbrom, our Regional Security Advisor, who presented the “Countering Active Threat” Zoom program in the fall, will lead the training.

Pre-registration would be appreciated to office@beki.org. This training is made possible through the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

Counting A New Omer?

Please join Rabbi Woodward on Zoom for the conversation “Yom HaShoah and Yom HaAtzmaut: A New Omer?” on Wednesday April 26 at 7:30. The mourning practices of the Omer commemorate a plague in the second century CE. But what if a new, reinvigorated Omer commemorated the contemporary Jewish observance of the time between Yom HaShoah and Yom Ha’atzmaut? What would be involved in making this move theologically and halakhically?
Jesse Mattison B’Mitzvah

The b’mitzvah of Jesse Mattison, child of Lisa Yelon and Ben Mattison, will be celebrated on Saturday, April 22, parashat Tazriah-Metzorah. The congregation is invited to attend. Kiddush lunch sponsored by the Yelon-Mattison family will follow. Jesse, who is a 7th grader at the Engineering Science University Magnet School, is interested in design, coding, and Tae Kwon Do. Jesse also enjoys playing TTRPGs (tabletop role-playing games) and reading voraciously.

Oppenheimerers Leave a Legacy

“What will your Jewish legacy be?” is the question asked in the ad on page 13, which this month features the Oppenheimer family.

“This is the only shul to which Cyd and I have ever belonged,” Mark says. “We joined in time for the baby-naming of our eldest daughter over 16 years ago, and it has been our Jewish home—and, really, a home in so many more ways—ever since. It gives us a great feeling of pride to leave something in our will for BEKI (It was also much easier to do the paperwork than I had thought.), and I hope others will do it, too.”

“I think it's especially meaningful for members in their 20s, 30s, and 40s, people who don't typically think of having an ‘estate’ to do this,” he adds, “When we're gone, the shul will be here for our children.”

For information on how to make these arrangements, contact our Finance Chair, Attorney Donna Levine, at sdsij@aol.com or 203-234-9867.

And if you’ve included BEKI in your estate plans, please let us know.

Honoring Graduates

We’ll honor BEKI graduates on Saturday, June 10. We hope all of our graduates—middle school, high school, trade school, college, or graduate program—will participate in the service; please contact our ritualcoordinator@beki.org. Parents of graduates are encouraged to check in with Rebecca Weiner at rhweiner@sbcglobal.net about co-sponsoring the kiddush lunch.

Day Camp Scholarship

BEKI is again hosting the Elm Shakespeare Players Camp in our downstairs space. BEKI families may sign up here. As a benefit of our partnership with the Camp, two full scholarships will be provided for BEKI youth ages 7 to 12 in each ten-day session. The program runs weekdays July 10-21 and July 24-August 4, 8:30am-3pm, with aftercare (if there’s sufficient interest, but not included in the scholarship). If you would like a BEKI scholarship, call or email Peggy at the BEKI office.

Can You Provide a Meal?

BEKI uses the platform Lotsa Helping Hands to support families with new babies. You can prepare and deliver the dinner or arrange delivery from a restaurant. Anything you need to know about preferences and address is provided. Just log in and choose your password. When the calendar is set up for meals, you’ll receive an email with a link. If you have questions, consult rachel.d.greenberg@gmail.com.

Mazal Tov to

Coretta and Naftali Caplan on the birth of Jonah Raphael.
Sanctuary Redesign

Latest Conceptual Sketches

"For, lo, the winter is past," declares the Song of Songs. Every year, spring brings Pesach and a promise of renewal. This spring also brings renewal of BEKI's sanctuary redesign project.

BEKI members can see the latest conceptual sketches for remaking our main worship space. Since the sketches are protected for security reasons, please contact office@beki.org or sanctuaryredesign@beki.org for a passcode.

The seating arrangement depicted is just a suggestion. The beauty of movable seats is that they can be arranged however we want, with different setups for different occasions.

Many details still need to be determined, including the exact materials and colors, the chair selection, and—crucially—beautiful artistic elements covering and surrounding the ark.

Next steps include a new round of talks with construction firms; drawing up detailed construction documents; selecting an artist to design and fabricate the decorative elements; and interim HVAC work to repair and refurbish the existing equipment.

For fundraising information, contact Murray Akresh (makresh@aol.com) or John Weiser (johnw@bwbsolutions.com). Please send redesign questions and comments to sanctuaryredesign@beki.org.

New JCARR Liaison Needed

JCARR, the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement, reports that Family 8 from Ukraine is settling in after their circuitous route from Ukraine to Spain to Canada and finally to Connecticut. They entered the U.S. under the Uniting for Ukraine program, which allows sponsored Ukrainians a path to seek asylum.

One way to support JCARR’s efforts is to have direct interaction with refugee family members; another is to do tasks that are not directly involved with family members. Within the next few months, BEKI will need a new liaison to JCARR. For more information about how you can help, contact Madeleine Kleinman at madk117@gmail.com.

Donate Your Hametz

BEKI’s food collection from 9 to noon on Sunday, April 2 is a joint project of BINA, our religious school, and the Hesed Committee. We encourage you to give away unopened, non-perishable hametz before Pesach. Please bring your food—no glass bottles or anything past expiration—into the lobby. If you have questions, please write or call Robert Lettick at robolettick@aol.com or 203.671.4705.
Erev Purim at BEKI brought together young families with children and our whole community into one happy, raucous celebration. The evening began with programming for children. They illustrated the story of Esther on paper scrolls, making their own megillot in the style of comics or graphic novels. They played Twister with hamentaschen flavors, putting their right hand on raspberry or lemon. And they listened to a Purim story read by BINA teacher Rachel Scheinerman. On the stage in the downstairs social hall, the BINA sixth grade class put on their own original play about the Fools of Chelm—retelling some of the very silliest stories from Jewish Eastern Europe.

Finally, children and parents in costume paraded upstairs. Some families showed off impressive group costumes, like the Staums in 18th century wigs and tri-corner hats, and the Landaus as Pooh, Piglet, Tigger, and Eeyore. More than sixty children joined the celebration over the course of the evening, enjoying the crafts, games, hamentaschen, Megillah reading, and mishloach manot to take home.

When everyone, children and adults, gathered in the sanctuary for the Megillah reading, the groggers drowning out Haman’s name were thunderous.

Scholarship Opportunities

Jewish Camp Scholarships

The website “One Happy Camper” helps families explore a variety of traditional and specialty Jewish day and overnight camps. Some camps offer need-based financial assistance, and parents are encouraged to inquire about the level of assistance available. In addition, the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven offers needs-blind incentive grants of up to $1,000 for first time campers as well as needs-based scholarships for all campers.

Scholarships for Israel Trips

The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven provides Israel Experience scholarships for Teens and Young Adults. Applications for summer trips are due by Friday, April 7.

USY is offering a variety of EPIC Israel trips this summer. All participants are eligible for a RootOne Voucher subsidy in the amount of $3,000, a gift of the Marcus Foundation.

College Scholarships

Three different college scholarship programs—one of them needs-blind—are available through the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. The deadline for all of them is May 15.
Weekly Classes
Join Rabbi Woodward for a discussion of the week’s Torah portion on Thursdays 9-9:45 am in the library, following 8:15 am minyan.

On Select Sundays from 10 to 11 am (when BINA meets), Rabbi Woodward leads in-person study of Chapter 2 Tractate Shabbat. Prior study of Jewish texts is not required.

Join Rabbi Woodward Thursdays at 7 pm on BEKI Zoom for an examination of the philosophy, theology, and history of Conservative Judaism. Readings are distributed in advance.

Prayer and Liturgy
On Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 pm via a special Zoom link, you are invited to Prayer and Liturgy with Rabbi Carl Astor, a discussion about the language, historical context, and meaning of our prayers.

Supporting Daily Minyan
To make sure we have a minyan consistently, please use Minyan Maker. Up top, you choose which weekday service you are planning to attend (morning or afternoon). Then find your name below and choose "I'll be there." If your name does not appear on the list, just email ritualcoordinator@beki.org.

Sign up for Torah Reading
If you are able to read an aliya of Torah or a Haftorah, make your selection via our online spreadsheet. Just scroll down to the proper date to see details about each aliya. Questions? Consult Rachel Adelstein at ritualcoordinator@beki.org.

Fast of the Firstborn, Taanit Bechorot
The day before Pesach is known as the fast of the firstborn, a fast going back to the 8th or 9th century in which firstborn sons would fast because they were “passed over” on the night of the Seder and spared. The fast is first attested in Masechet Sofrim, a post-Talmudic work modeled after the Talmud. Traditionally, on the day of this fast, we have a siyyum, which is a celebration marking the end of the study of a section of rabbinic work, and which, we are told, obligates people to celebrate, exempting them from the fast.

However, you might notice that we never do a siyyum to “get out of” other fast days. The siyyum only “works” to exempt one from fasting because the fast is not a “real” obligation, dating only to this post-Talmudic work. I think the siyyum — and the fast — are actually liturgical and practical ways to commemorate another event, the sacrifice of the korban Pesach, the Passover lamb, that we would have been busy dealing with that day when the Temple stood. The siyyum practice gives us something to do, halakhically, on a day that otherwise would not be observed.

Join BEKI on Facebook
Everyone is encouraged to join the BEKI Facebook group. You’ll enjoy the humor, community information, and links to cultural opportunities. You’ll want to choose the private group with the stained-glass window image. Just ask to join. (The BEKI page with the hamsa is the public-facing page, which has few postings).

E-Statements
Due to rising costs and BEKI’s efforts to be more Earth-friendly, we have transitioned to e-statements and e-yahrzeits. If you prefer to receive them by paper, please contact the BEKI office at office@beki.org or 203-389-2108 x114. The BEKI Green Team supports BEKI’s movement toward paperless communications and hopes the community will also.
An exhibit by Israeli-born artist Dganit Zauberma, titled “Land in Flux,” will be on view in the BEKI Gallery from April 15 through June 14.

The artist has created a unique approach to landscape portrayal that defies the limits of the canvas on which they appear. Motivated by the effects of climate change on the land and the feelings they evoke, Zauberma says she “intuitively construct[s] a ‘place’ – a resemblance of a landscape that aims to present an idea of land that is composed of layers, both physical and emotional.”

“The physical attributes include the land’s form and texture, along with the processes by which the land forms, moves and erodes,” she explains. “Meanwhile, the paintings also represent the land as a source of emotional and psychological mood.”

Zauberma, who was raised in a kibbutz, moved to North Carolina in 1992, where she began formal art training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After relocating to Philadelphia, she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of the Arts and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Since moving to New Haven in 2016 and establishing a studio at Erector Square, Zauberma has focused almost exclusively on developing her art. She has exhibited in galleries located throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, California and Connecticut, including at the Institute Library and ArtSpace in New Haven.

Zauberma will discuss her work on Saturday, April 29 at 12:45 pm after kiddush lunch.

The Sisterhood Giftshop has everything you need for Passover. The First Seder is Wednesday April 5, but it’s not too late to buy a new Seder plate. We also have beautiful frog dishes to drip 10 plagues of wine. Check out our jumping matzah balls and dancing frogs. We carry Haggadot for all ages, Passover cookbooks, and a wonderful selection of Passover story books for children.

We are continuing our Jewelry Sale, offering 25 percent off all jewelry (except Newbead Designs).

The Giftshop is open by appointment every day except Shabbat, and usually at the time of minyanim and religious school. Email us at giftshop@beki.org or text Karen 203.430.2182 or Harriet 203.675.8607. Follow us on Instagram @bekijudaicagifs.
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- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Harold Miller in honor of his 80th birthday by
- Vivian Rowe & Albee Budnitz
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To Renee Drell & family with sympathy on the passing of Dr. Barry Zaret by
- Seth Pauker & Tina Rose

To Ron Zlotoff & Donna Kemper in honor of the birth of grandsons Noah & Jonah by
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Rachel Beaver & Max Duboff for hosting and the BEKI community for being so welcoming by
- Jeremy Jacobson

To Itamar Lebowitz in honor of his Bar Mitzvah by
- Lana & Martin Gad

To Mick Lebowitz in honor of his Bar Mitzvah by
- Lana & Martin Gad
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Joel Grutzender in honor of his Bar Mitzvah by
- Lana & Martin Gad

To Elisabeth Oppenheimer in honor of her Bat Mitzvah by
- Lana & Martin Gad

To Lynn Saltz in honor of her 70th birthday by
- Jessica, Kyle, Harrison & Gabby Preman

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- Her beloved mother Thelma Kugell by Harriet Pearl
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- His grandmother Anna Igna by Alan & Toby Igna
- Rose Witten by Marvin & Susan Witten
- Eunice Rogoff by Jonathan Eagan
- Jerome Rifkin by Sylvia Rifkin
- Philip Abramowitz by Marcia & John Gell
- Abraham Epstein by Kranie & Earl Baker
- Ida Brody by Fran Goldberg-Cohen & David Cohen

Stanley Saxe’s Legacy

Stanley Saxe, who died in June 2022, left a legacy donation of $10,000 to BEKI. With the check, which we received in February, his nephew Tracy Saxe sent a letter that noted, “One of Stanley’s specific requests and last wishes was to make a donation to the BEKI community to continue their lifelong mission to teach and apply Jewish values and principles within the community of faith.”

We hope that Stan’s example will inspire you as well to arrange a legacy donation to BEKI. To discuss options of how to make those provisions in your estate planning, consult our Finance Chair, Attorney Donna Levine, at sdsij@aol.com or 203-234-9867.

Stan, who was born in New Haven, graduated from Hillhouse High School, and attended the University of Connecticut, died at age 94. After his service in WWII and the Korean War, he joined his father in the family business, Silver Liquor Store on Chapel Street. Later in life, he became a juvenile detention officer.

Many at BEKI remember Stan fondly, and with this gift, we will continue to be reminded of him as one of our legacy donors.
ROBERT E. SHURE, INC.

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Ezra Academy is a preschool through 8th grade Jewish day school offering outstanding academics and a nurturing community, rooted in the Jewish tradition of critical thinking and ethical behavior.

Ezra Academy welcomes a wide spectrum of religious and cultural beliefs and affiliations.
What will your Jewish legacy be?

Mark and Cyd Oppenheimer Created a Legacy for Their Synagogue, BEKI

“We joined BEKI in time for the baby-naming of our eldest daughter over 16 years ago, and it has been our Jewish home—and, really, a home in so many more ways—ever since. We are proud to leave something in our will for BEKI (it was also much easier to do the paperwork than I had thought). When we’re gone, the shul will be here for our children.” —Mark

For more information, contact the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven
Lisa Stanger, Executive Director | (203) 387-2424, ext. 382 | lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org
Tamara Schechter, Create a Jewish Legacy Manager | (203) 387-2424, ext. 325 | tschechter@jewishnewhaven.org
For the first time in several years, I’m planting a garden. I built a raised bed; I made compost over the winter; I took lead tests for the soil (all clear!); and what’s next is filling the bed with soil and planting.

I don’t know what will get stolen by squirrels and birds, but if I can grow some herbs, some peppers, some lettuces, I’ll be thrilled.

But that’s the thing about planting: we don’t know how what we plant will turn out. And that’s why Pesach is in the spring.

Pesach is the holiday of freedom — of release from bondage. It’s a celebration of the completion of winter — a winter that began at the end of Sukkot (Shmini Atzeret, really) and ends at the beginning of Pesach. We are free to go forth, but the challenge is that we don’t really know what will happen when we go out. Freedom is scary.

We encounter freedom as we grow up — whether it is experiences of independence from going on a first walk without our family, or experiences of travel, or of changes in our life. We experience freedom many times. The hallmark of freedom is its openness — if it weren’t open to both good and bad possibilities, it wouldn’t really be freedom; it would be another set path.

We know this in our own personal lives, and today we are encountering it in the political world. We are seeing that the United States and Israel are both facing crises of freedom, namely, that being able to make one’s own national choices in the world is scary, and without promise of success. That’s why we pray for these countries on Shabbat. We pray that they navigate freedom with peace and success.

Watching the news now makes me worry about Israeli society, and I can’t write any simple platitude, that all will be well.

But what I can do is remind us that freedom is a process — that the work of finding one’s way through the desert of independence, finding one’s way after liberation from Egypt, is constant work.

And so here, facing the dilemma of stepping forward, I want to return to the metaphor of the harvest. What are we planting? We cannot control what springs from the ground, but we can design what seeds we sow, what the soil is like, when we plan to harvest. We can exert some control.

This spring, ensure that what you are planting — whether with regard to Israel, America, or your own life — is what you truly intend to plant. Think of what you are growing. Think of what you want to do with your freedom. And plan to grow only that.

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**Message from Rabbi Woodward**

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**Tree of Life Awaits Your Leaf**

The Tree of Life at the entrance to BEKI is a collection of golden leaves that honor people and moments in our lives. For $118 you can add a leaf. Contact Marjorie Wiener at 203.387.6278 or marjoriewiener@yahoo.com
April 2023
10 Nisan 5783 - 9 Iyar 5783

Mark Your Calendar

**May 8**  Erev Lag BaOmer
**May 25**  Erev Shavuot
**June 3**  Samuel Aaron Werlin b’mitzvah
**June 10**  Graduates’ Shabbat
**June 14**  BEKI Annual Meeting
**June 17**  Pride Shabbat

### BEKI Events

#### Service Times

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<td>7am Shaharit</td>
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<td>5:45pm Maariv</td>
<td>5:45pm Maariv</td>
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<td>5:45pm Maariv</td>
<td>5:45pm Maariv</td>
<td>6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>9:15am Shaharit</td>
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#### B’Elkenu Events

**Sundays**
- 9am BINA
- 10am Talmud Class (in-person)
- 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service

**Mondays**
- 9am In-person & Zoom Service
- 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service

**Tuesdays**
- 9am In-person & Zoom Service
- 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
- 6pm Deadline for Sale of Hametz

**Wednesdays**
- 9am BINA
- 7am In-person & Zoom Service
- 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service

**Thursdays**
- Passover
  - Taanit Bechorot, the fast of the first-born
  - First Seder
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - No BINA
  - No evening service
  - 7:05pm Candle Lighting
- Passover I
  - Office Closed
  - 9:15am Shacharit, Hallel, Musaf (Sanctuary, in-person)
  - No evening service
  - 8:04pm Candle Lighting
- Passover II
  - Office Closed
  - 9:15am Shacharit, Hallel, Musaf (Sanctuary, in-person)
  - 6pm First Friday
  - 7:05pm Candle Lighting

**Fridays**
- Passover
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - No BINA
- Passover II
  - Office Closed
  - 9:15am Shacharit, Hallel, Musaf (Sanctuary, in-person)
  - 6pm First Friday
  - 7:05pm Candle Lighting

**Saturdays**
- Passover
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
- Passover I
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7:09pm Candle Lighting
- Passover II
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 8:11pm Candle Lighting
- Passover III
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7:12pm Candle Lighting
- Passover IV
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7am In-person & Zoom Service
  - 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service
  - 7:20pm Candle Lighting

**Service Times**

- **9am Shaharit**: 9am-12pm BINA Pre-Passach Food Drive
- **9am In-person & Zoom Service**: 9am-12pm BINA Pre-Passach Food Drive
- **10am Talmud Class (in-person)**: 10am Talmud Class (in-person)
- **5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service**: 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service

**Additional Events**

- **11 Nisan 2023**: 11 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **12 Nisan 2023**: 12 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **13 Nisan 2023**: 13 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **14 Nisan 2023**: 14 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **15 Nisan 2023**: 15 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **16 Nisan 2023**: 16 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **17 Nisan 2023**: 17 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **18 Nisan 2023**: 18 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **19 Nisan 2023**: 19 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **20 Nisan 2023**: 20 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **21 Nisan 2023**: 21 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **22 Nisan 2023**: 22 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **23 Nisan 2023**: 23 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **24 Nisan 2023**: 24 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **25 Nisan 2023**: 25 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **26 Nisan 2023**: 26 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **27 Nisan 2023**: 27 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **28 Nisan 2023**: 28 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **29 Nisan 2023**: 29 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **30 Nisan 2023**: 30 Nisan 2023 - 9 Iyar 2023
- **1 Iyar 2024**: 1 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **2 Iyar 2024**: 2 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **3 Iyar 2024**: 3 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **4 Iyar 2024**: 4 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **5 Iyar 2024**: 5 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **6 Iyar 2024**: 6 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **7 Iyar 2024**: 7 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **8 Iyar 2024**: 8 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
- **9 Iyar 2024**: 9 Iyar 2024 - 9 Iyar 2024
Donate Online
Fast and easy at
www.beki.org/give

Advertise in the Bulletin
Would you like your ad here in the coming year? Each month, the BEKI bulletin reaches over 700 households, most of them in the New Haven area. Check with Peggy in the BEKI office about our variety of ad rates.

Easy Fundraiser
The Stop & Shop gift cards sold by the BEKI office are debit cards for groceries or gasoline. This is an ongoing fundraiser that costs you nothing. Contact Peggy office@beki.org to arrange pickup.

Services
All services are also available on Zoom except Friday night and Saturday morning.

- Sunday 9 am
- Sunday 5:45 pm
- Monday 7 am
- Monday 5:45 pm
- Tuesday 7 am
- Tuesday 5:45 pm
- Wednesday 7 am
- Wednesday 5:45 pm
- Thursday 8:15 am
- Thursday 5:45 pm
- Friday 7 am
- Friday 6 pm
- Saturday 9:15 am

For the latest information on services, check Happenings or email bekitefilla@gmail.com