

Av -Elul 5783

Vol. 29 Issue 8

Sanctuary Redesign Update on Page 6

# August Programs



Elm City Winds will perform at BEKI on August 9

# **Woodwind Concert**

Elm City Winds, a woodwind quintet that performs both classical and popular music, will return to BEKI for an indoor concert on Wednesday, August 9 at 7 pm. Jennifer Silva, flute; Caesar Storlazzi, oboe; Laura Caruthers, clarinet; Adrienne Gallagher, bassoon; and Emily Fine, French horn, will present "Dances Through the Ages," including introductions to the pieces to provide historical and music context.

Admission is free. Donations will be accepted to support the <u>Rapid Re-Housing</u> program at the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness.

## Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik on Teshuvah

"Teshuvah – How much do we do? How much does God do?" is the topic for our Shabbat Schmooze on Saturday, August 26 at 12:45 pm. Join Rabbi Woodward for a discussion of "Acquittal and Purification," an essay by one of the major Jewish theologians of the 20th century, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, about the structure of repentance on Yom Kippur.

### **Adult Learning with Annie**

Our month of Elul programming begins with a Shabbat Schmooze with Annie Norman-Schiff, our Education Director. Her topic is "Time and Uncertainty: Fixing the Date of Yom Kippur in Jewish History." Annie will discuss some of the arguments that ancient Jews had about the proper date for Yom Kippur, based on information from the Dead Sea Scrolls as well as Rabbinic sources, while asking the question, "How



Annie Norman-Schiff



**Bruce Spierer** 

does time both separate people and bring them together?" Join us Saturday, August 19 at 12:45, after services and kiddush lunch, for some adult learning as we prepare for the High Holy Days.

## **Nature Walk**

Naturalist and BEKI member Bruce Spierer will lead an Elul Nature Walk on Sunday August 20, from 10:30 am to noon, at Lake Wintergreen, which is part of West Rock Ridge State Park. Adults and children are all welcome for this walk on the beautiful, quiet nature trail which surrounds the lake. The parking area is across from 45 Main Street in Hamden, off of Wintergreen Ave.

Wear comfortable shoes for hiking and bring water to drink.



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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:

- 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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Editor	Rachel Bashevkin			
Associate Editors	Donna Levine, Donna Kemper			
	David Spitzer			

# **Board of Directors**

#### If you have questions or concerns, please speak with a Board member.

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BEKI STAINED GLASS WINDOW DESIGN BY CYNTHIA BETH RUBIN



# **The Grandparents Are Coming**

While many of our newest members are young adults with children, there's another growing demographic: the grandparents! Some already lived in the area but followed their children to BEKI. Most of them, however, have relocated from elsewhere.

Two of these grandparents have organized a Newcomers Group, which is open not only to newcomers but also to everyone who may feel "in a new place" as we emerge from these pandemic years. If you're interested, email Alisa Levine at <u>alisa.z.levine@gmail.com</u> or Tema Leviter at <u>trleviter@gmail.com</u>.

If you are encouraging your parents to relocate to New Haven, their stories might be helpful.

Before moving from Long Island, Tema and her husband, Coleman, spent a lot of time on the ferry or stuck in traffic on I-95 to see their children. While many of their friends were leaving for Florida, they chose to move north, selecting a house within an HOA (a homeowners association) close to their daughter and son-in-law, Julie Leviter and Daniel Wiznia, and their two children. Being able to work remotely gave them the freedom to relocate.

"We're so happy we made the move. We love being part of our kids' lives," Alisa says. She and her husband,



Alisa and Glenn Levine with their BEKI grandchildren

Glenn, relocated to be near daughter and son-in-law Rozzie and Ben Rodwin and their two children. "If you're thinking about it," Alisa advises, "just do it! It's really



**Coleman and Tema Leviter** 

worth it. It's a big step, but we are so glad." She and Glenn relocated not only themselves but also an aged parent from the Boston area.

Glenn, who works remotely, notes, "I wanted to be able to help the kids before they need to help us."

"The cost of living is better here; there's so much culture with Yale, and we've never been to a restaurant we don't like," Alisa explains. Since so many have children in New York City, old friends visit often when they are traveling through Connecticut.

"This area is incredible. There's lot of opportunities to do things at BEKI as well as volunteer work in the larger community," Tema adds. Although she acknowledged that cultivating meaningful relationships is more difficult when you're older, she has been able to meet people, and Coleman is meeting people through golf and professional associations. "It's working out fine," he says.

Being part of the grandchildren's lives as they grow up is important, Tema says. "It's such a wonderful thing to be nearby. 'Don't follow your children,' people say, but your kids need you when they are raising kids."

As to the matter of building your own life yet helping your children, Tema advises, "You just set boundaries. You might be a bit more needed than you are willing to offer yourself, or maybe you thought you'd be more needed. Open lines of communication are important."

"When I told a friend that it still doesn't feel like home," Alisa says, "she told me, 'No. You're already creating your history. You just don't know it.' She's right. It's great to be creating this history with our kids. To be part of a multigenerational experience at BEKI is so special. To sit in shul and know our grandson will come find us is lovely."

# Mazal Tov to

Grandmother Margie Wiener and parents Matthew Wiener & Roxanne Kohilakis on the birth of Benjamin Reece

Grandparents Steve & Sherry Rothman and parents Michael Rothman & Suzie St. Pierre on the birth of Morgan Reine

Parents Emilie Egger & Matt Ulman on the birth of Lev Parents Cliff and Anna Merin on the birth of William



**Morgan Reine Rothman** 

## Learn how you can live forever!

Be remembered forever by BEKI with a gift in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy. Or honor a family member by making a tribute gift to charity in your will.

If you've included BEKI in your estate plans, please let us know.

For more information on how you can make these arrangements, contact our Finance Chair, Attorney Donna Levine at <u>sdsij@aol.com</u> or 203-234-9867.

### Welcome New Members

Jason and Arielle Rubenstein Matthew Ulman & Emilie Egger and Lev Sylva Kroeber Shirley & Jay Brodach Laura Glesby



**Benjamin Reece Wiener** 

### **Book Your Photo**

Book your family photo session for the BEKI Directory with Helene Sapadin at <u>hsapadin@yahoo.com</u> or 203.685.2487. Bruce Oren is taking photos in a studio at BEKI on Sundays, starting at 12 noon.

After the photoshoot, Bruce will email you the digital images so you can select one, but then have all of them for your personal use, entirely free of charge.

If you choose to submit your own Directory photo, which must be at least 500KB, email the jpg file to <u>directory@beki.org</u>,or bring a photo to Peggy Hackett in the BEKI office.

So that your address and phone number will be accurate in the Directory, the BEKI office sent you an email with your information around July 18. Be sure to send Peggy corrections by September 1.

## What a Turn-Off!

Did you know an air conditioner left running overnight can burn 72,000 watts of electricity? That's enough to run an average microwave oven non-stop for 3 days straight, making an awful lot of burnt popcorn! To keep our planet cooler than that popcorn — not to mention avoiding burning up the BEKI budget — we should all remember to TURN THINGS OFF when not in use.

After every minyan or meeting at BEKI, please take a moment to ensure all lights, A/Cs and other appliances are switched off before you leave the building. We are exploring putting everything on timers, but that will...take time. For now, your BEKI Green Team, fellow BEKI members, and the planet all thank you in advance for remembering to Turn It Off!

# JCARR Update

Ruth, the mother of Family 5 for the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement [JCARR], graduated in May from Havenly's fellowship program.

Havenly, founded in 2018, is a nonprofit food business, job preparedness, and personal empowerment program for refugee and immigrant women. Its fellowship provides commercial culinary training as well as classes in English, computers, financial literacy, and grassroots community organizing.

Next, Ruth was accepted into the CERCLE Teacher-in-Residence program.

CERCLE's mission is to improve early care and education outcomes for Black and Latinx

children by promoting sustainable childcare businesses in underserved communities in Greater New Haven. With this

training, Ruth can get a job in a daycare center.

It was a JCARR volunteer who brought Ruth to Havenly, where she started on this educational path.

Please email our new BEKI liaison to JCARR, Jennifer Mellon, at jnmellon@hotmail.com if vou would like to be a JCARR volunteer.

# **August Food Drive**

BEKI's Hesed Com-

mittee will hold a food collection by appointment only from 10 to 12 noon on Sunday, August 13 to support local food pantries.

Call 203.671.4705 to arrange a time to deliver your nonperishable donations to Rob Lettick in the BEKI parking lot. If you have questions or want to arrange a different drop off, please write to Rob at robolettick@aol.com.

Lunch (catered by Sanctuary Kitchen, with vegetarian options) will be served on the Green at 12:30 pm, and evervone is encouraged to linger through 4 pm to enjoy the music and fun.

on and near the Green.

There is no cost to participate. Click here to register. You can also just show up that day, but pre-registration would be tremendously helpful to the organizers.

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community on Sunday, Aug. 6 STOP SOLITARY CT SOUP KITCHEN SWORDS TO THE SOUND FOR HUMANITY

Ruth, Mario, and their children celebrated her

graduation from Havenly's fellowship program

**Interfaith Day of Service on August 6** 

Join fellow BEKI members and our Greater New Haven

August Fill-A-Backpack **School Supply Drive** 

BEKI is collaborating with New Haven's Lincoln Bassett Community School to collect NEW backpacks and NEW school supplies for the children. Located in Newhallville, the school serves children in grades pre-K to 6.

Please bring your donations to BEKI during the month of August. You'll find collection boxes under the lobby table.

These are the most needed items:

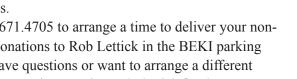
- backpacks

- glue sticks
- scissors (kid and adult)

for the interfaith day of service.

- pencil boxes
- markers
- cravons
- two pocket folders.





# **Redesign Is Moving Toward Reality**

A long-held dream at BEKI—a worship space that better reflects who we are as a congregation—is closer to becoming reality.

The planning and preparation are largely complete to make BEKI's sanctuary more accessible, inclusive, and conducive to participatory, truly egalitarian worship. Here is where we stand as of early July:

What will it look like? The Sanctuary Redesign Committee is talking with Judaica artists about designing and creating our new *aron kodesh* (Torah ark) and will select an artist soon. The Redesign Committee is grateful to the Sanctuary Art Subcommittee, made up of members of the BEKI Art Committee, who did extensive research, interviewed a number of artists, and then made thoughtful recommendations to the Redesign Committee regarding which artists to consider.

Who will build it? The Implementation Committee a separate volunteer group responsible for carrying out the design—is getting close to choosing a construction firm.

**How will we pay for it?** Donations and pledges total \$775,000 of the \$1,250,000 total budget. Although the

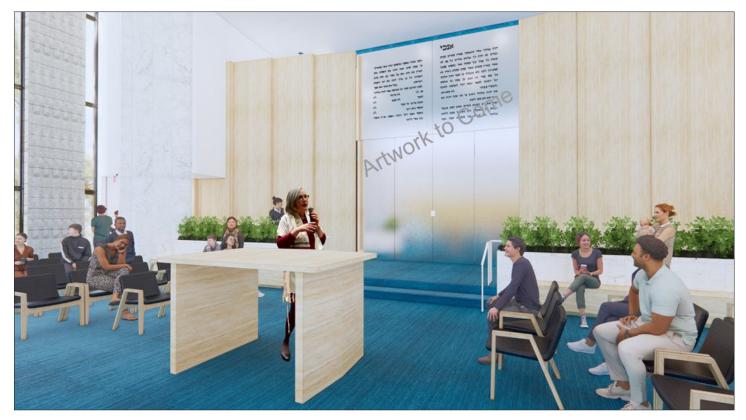
BEKI Board of Directors has authorized some borrowing, additional donations are still needed. Please give as generously as you can!

**Will we be comfortable?** Improvements to the sanctuary heating and cooling system are expected to start this summer. The work, which consists of refurbishing existing equipment, will take place behind the front wall in the sanctuary and should not interfere with our use of the room.

What happens next? The architect is drawing up detailed construction documents. We will update the congregation about the choices of artist and construction firm as those decisions are made. We hope to start construction in late 2023, after the fall holidays.

BEKI members can see conceptual <u>sketches</u> for the redesign online. Since the sketches are protected for security reasons, please contact office@beki.org or sanctuaryredesign@beki.org for a passcode. <u>Background information</u> about the project is at our website. Questions? Comments? Email sanctuaryredesign@beki.org.

To donate, or for fundraising information, contact Murray Akresh (makresh@aol.com) or John Weiser (johnw@bwbsolutions.com). Prizecode 2023085783





# **Summer Gatherings & Upcoming Events**

By ANNIE NORMAN-SCHIFF, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

# Shalom Baby on the Go Comes to BEKI

On July 7, Shalom Baby Café, which is a fun, supportive group for parents and young children from pregnancy to age two, came to BEKI. In the spring, the group met at the JCC, but this summer, we have been "on the go," to homes and to Jewish spaces throughout Greater New Haven.

BEKI hosted a lively group of parents and babies, including both members and families visiting BEKI for the first time. We gathered for coffee, playtime, and conversation, plus an introduction to the friendly, wellequipped space we use for Children's Havura (ark full of Torah stuffies and all).

If you are interested in joining Shalom Baby on the Go, email Kayla at kbisbee@jewishnewhaven.org for future locations.

# **Upcoming Events**

# Sunday, August 13, 1-3 PM: Kadima Blueberry Picking

All 4th-8th graders are invited for blueberry picking with Annie and Rabbi Eric. Join us at Bishop's Orchards in Guilford. Dress to get dirty and stained with blue.

### Sunday, August 27, 10-11:30 AM: Family Apple Picking with PJ Library

Get in the Rosh Hashanah mood with an apple picking party at Silverman's Farms in Easton, CT, co-sponsored by PJ Library. We will learn a little bit about Rosh Hashanah, followed by apple picking. This event is intended for families with kids up to age 8; siblings are welcome too.

### Sunday, September 10, 12:30-2 PM: Kadima Reverse Tashlich

This Kadima favorite is back! 4th-8th graders are invited to get their hands dirty for a good cause, as we do a "reverse" version of the Rosh Hashanah Tashlich ritual: instead of throwing breadcrumbs into a river, we'll be taking litter out. Join us in West River Park, just over the bridge from the parking lot. Or, BINA students can walk over from BEKI as a supervised group directly after religious school. Dress in clothes that can get messy; gloves and pickup tools will be provided.



BEKI members Emilie Egger, with Lev, and Coretta Caplan, with Jonah, were among the participants at Shalom Baby Café at BEKI on July 7

# **Education Director Visits Camp Ramah**

July 13 was Rabbi and Educator Visitor Day at Camp Ramah in New England. Education Director Annie Norman-Schiff was able to visit BEKI's many first session campers at the camp in Palmer, Massachusetts. Annie delivered forgotten items from parents, and shared snacks and stickers. She heard about camp highlights and successes, from Shai Hurwitz chanting Torah to Jacob Marx Schonberger helping to lead the winning color war team. Our congregation continues to send one of the largest groups of campers to Ramah in our region. If you're considering sending a child to camp next summer, Annie can connect you to parents and older campers who love Camp Ramah.

# **BINA Registration Due by August 2**

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Please submit your religious school <u>enrollment form</u> by Wednesday, August 2. This is the due date for new students as well as returning ones. BINA is open to non-member families as well.

Through the generosity of a donor, the Jewish Foundation provides needs-based scholarship assistance for New Haven area families to attend synagogue school. The deadline for scholarship <u>applications</u> is Monday, October 2.

# **Off Our Walls – Art from BEKI Homes**

The High Holy Day tradition of inviting guests from the community to our homes is turned inside-out with this exhibit, which brings Jewish-themed artwork from the homes of BEKI members into the communal space.

BEKI members participate in this exhibition by lending works of art that are an important part of their home environments and personal histories.

Why do we choose to place certain art objects in our homes? Some are created and/or given to us by family members and close friends. Some were bought on a trip or for a special occasion and therefore remind us of those significant times in our lives. And some just have an aesthetic quality or cultural value that appeals to us. Our walls become windows into those times, places and values.

The artwork on display will reflect all of these meanings. We are seeking artwork and ritual objects in various media that broadly reflect Israeli and Jewish history, scenes of Jerusalem, synagogues, Jewish holidays and practices, and biblical and cultural themes. From the wealth of these resources, we will be reminded of the complex and beautiful heritage of the Jewish people.

The exhibition will be curated by Helen Rosenberg, with input from other members of the BEKI Art Committee.

To lend artworks and ritual objects for the show,

write to <u>art@beki.org</u> or contact Helen at <u>helr12@aol.com</u> before August 20.

# Wall Art During Our Construction

During the post-High Holy Day sanctuary renovation period, the Art Committee plans to fill the walls of the BEKI upstairs gallery areas with posters and other art reproductions.

Framed posters behind glass or plexiglass are preferred. Donations should be imagery which is synagogue friendly. Posters can be left in the office for us, or write to <u>art@beki.org</u>.





"Jacob's Dream" by Ilya Schor, Etching, from the collection of Margaret Olin

# **Reception and Portfolio Sale**

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 3 for a closing reception and portfolio sale at the close of the exhibition "Four Stops Along an Artistic Path" by Anna Broell Bresnick. The artist will be present from noon to 2 pm, followed by the deinstall of the exhibition. She will bring some additional works on paper for you to consider taking home. Come chat with the artist, with the option to help take down and wrap the work.

From the series of drawings done in Venice, by Anna Broell Bresnick



Ritual

dren are invited to bring a favorite stuffed animal ("stuffie") to BEKI on Saturday, August 19.

**Rosh Hashanah La-Behemot** 

The first day of Elul is, according to the Mishnah, the

We'll have our usual children's services, and then, at the end of the regular service (when kids lead Ein Keloheinu/Adon Olam), the stuffies and their owners will receive a special blessing from Rabbi Woodward.

# **Supporting Daily** Services

To make sure we have a minyan consistently, please use Minyan Maker. Up top, you choose which weekday service you are planning to attend



Education Director Annie Norman-Schiff met BEKI's younger half of newal information campers at Camp Ramah's first session: Asher Jacoby, Miriam Perry, is Friday, August 18. Ayelet Baker-Woodward, Cora Blessing, Sasha Perry, and Anna Oppenheimer sponsorship of this

(morning or afternoon). Then find your name below and choose "I'll be there." If your name does not appear on the list, scroll to the bottom and use "Guest Member."

year's book is still available. If you have questions, please contact Shoshana Lash at CantorSL@yahoo.com or 203.732.0275.

Yizkor Memorial Book Deadline

As you read this, notices for the Yizkor Memorial Book

tions will receive their

notices by snail mail;

everyone else will be

If you fall into the

latter group, be on the

with the subject head-

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yizkorbook@beki.org.

your notice by August

If you haven't seen

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folder! The deadline

for return of your re-

Also, as of mid-July,

lookout for an email

ing "BEKI Yizkor

email address

notified by email.

are going out. Members who still receive paper notifica-

RABBI'S RITUAL CORNER 🕱

# Elul Practices at BEKI

This year, Rosh Hashanah falls on a Saturday/Sunday Sept. 16/17. When Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat, as it will this year, the shofar is not sounded that day (Talmud Rosh Hashanah 29b). But we will be sounding the shofar in synagogue from Rosh Hodesh Elul (Aug. 18) until two days prior to Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 14). According to the Shulchan Arukh OH 581:1, the practice in Ashkenaz is to sound the shofar after Shacharit.

There is also an Ashkenazic custom to say Psalm 27 in the mornings and evenings. In researching the question of whether we can say this psalm after minchah on days when timing is such that we do not do maariv at

Each month in this space, I'll brief

you on - or expand on - halakhic issues around the synagogue.

BEKI, I discovered that the custom of saying Psalm 27 only goes back to 1745, to the siddur of Rav Jacob Emden. An article by Rabbi David Golinkin goes into great detail on the origin of the practice.

The upshot of this is that, since this custom is so late, and since there is nothing in the psalm inappropriate for minchah, that it is permissible for us to close minchah services with this psalm, and such will be our practice from Aug. 18 until Sept. 4, when we resume saying maariv at BEKI.

It is worth noting how the publishing of the psalm in a siddur, under the simple heading, "Psalm for the Days of Awe," obfuscates the recent history of the psalm's use in this role.

#### **Rabbi's Tzedakah Fund**

- Shoshana Zax & John Weiser
- Alexandre (Sasha) Vaxman

#### **Kiddush Fund**

- Steve Werlin & Lesley Frame
- Families of the following graduates: Libby, Mark & Almonzo Abraham; Sophia Bruce; Marcia & Reuben Colten; Helen & Ben Gerber; Hannah Herbst; Zachary Kleinstein; Elijah Light; Sarah Rastelli; Talia Weintraub & Ari Wyner
- Tamara Schecter & Jessica Bod, Jonathan Gordon & Jonathan Rohner and Jacob Robins
- · Yaron Lew

#### Chai/Synagogue Fund to support synagogue operations

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Next up: Rosh HaShanah! Is there a kittel in your future? Or a new tallit? We are your link! Email us: giftshop@beki.org, or call Karen 203.430.2182. or

- sympathy on the passing of Marilvn Zax by
- The Rothman Family
- The Gad Family

Gift Shop

August heat.

geous.

#### To Sam Werlin in honor of his Bar Mitzvah by

- Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty Gold (to the Barzillai Cheskis BEKI Youth Israel Scholarship Fund)
- Sid & Donna Levine (to the Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library Fund)
- · The Moycik Family
- Gloria Cohen
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

#### To Laura & Aaron Baum in honor of the birth of their twin boys by

• Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

#### **To Susan & Alan Dardik** with sympathy on the passing of Deborah Silverman by

- · Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- · Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty Gold (to the Barzillai Cheskis **BEKI** Youth Israel Scholarship Fund)
- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow

#### To Debbie Chirnomas, Mike

#### Hurwitz & family with sympathy on the passing of **Rabbi Gerald Chirnomas by**

- The Moycik Family
- · The Gad Family

#### **To David Staum, Sharon** Naveh & family with sympathy on the passing of Yitzchak Staum by

- The Avni-Singer Family
- · The Gad Family

#### To Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman in honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> birthdays by

· The Gad Family

To Margie Wiener in honor of the birth of her grandson **Benjamin Reece Wiener by** · David & Darryl Kuperstock

#### Yahrzeit Fund to support synagogue operations

#### In Memory of:

- · Her brother Michael Edelkind by Tamar Edelkind
- Anna Savin by Ronald & Melrene Savin

- Nathan Drutman by Ronald & Melrene Savin
- Robert E. Shure by Robert & Melrene Savin
- · Frances Mann by Lynne Marks
- Mark Brown by Lauren Brown
- William Palmer by Marsha & John Reynolds
- Arnold Levine by Fania Levine
- · Ivan Sachs by Linda & Ken Buckman
- · Robert Zusman by Howard Zusman
- · Samuel Garfinkel by Lawrence & Doralee Garfinkel
- · Eli Berman by Richard Neveloff
- · Dov-Bear Naiman by Polina Naiman
- Ruth Rosner by Sara-Ann & Hillel Auerbach
- Isadore Miller by Bobbie & Harold Miller
- · David Charles Marshall by Shoshana Lash
- · Mike Moss by Shoshana Lash



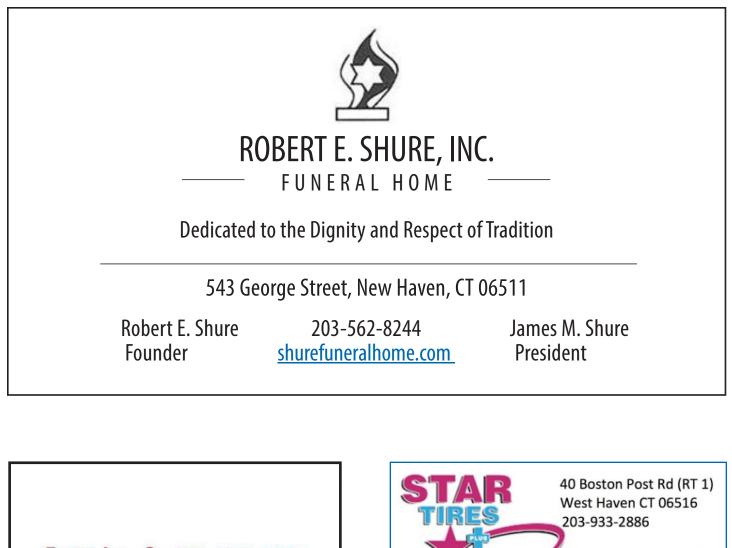
Challah covers available in the **Gift Shop** 

Harriet 203.675.8607.



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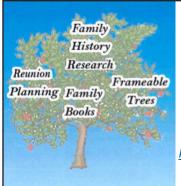
Michael Nolan nolansmonuments@att.net

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# What will your Jewish legacy be?

# Susan Voigt Created a Legacy for Her Synagogue, Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel

"I am excited to leave a two-fold legacy. My greatest legacy is having 3 children and now 7 grandchildren. As the daughter of Holocaust survivors, I can say, 'We live on! We thrive!' My second legacy is to my shul, Congregation Beth El–Keser Israel. I created a legacy for BEKI in my estate plans so that it can continue to be a place for families to learn and grow." —Susan

> For more information, contact the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven Lisa Stanger, Executive Director I (203) 387-2424, ext. 382 | Istanger@jewishnewhaven.org Tamara Schechter, Create a Jewish Legacy Manager I (203) 387-2424, ext. 325 | tschechter@jewishnewhaven.org





# Hamden Hall Country Day School

Educating students in PreSchool through Grade 12.

We celebrated National Mix It Up Day in October to foster greater respect and understanding among our students.

www.hamdenhall.org 203.752.2610 1108Whitney Ave., Hamden, CT 06517





# Reflecting on the Month of Elul

The month of Elul hits differently every year. Elul, the month before Rosh Hashanah, is a month of preparations, and depending on where we are in life, we experience it differently. In 2020, it was the midst of the pandemic. In 2021, it was my first high holy days here, and a re-emer-

gence to in-person community. In 2022, it was late — a fall Elul instead of a summer one.

For me, most high holy day reflection actually happens in Elul rather than during the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur prayers. Maybe that's just an aspect of my job as a rabbi that I spend Elul thinking about the year and writing sermons, and Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur worrying



**Eric Woodward** 

about the service logistics and being hungry — but I don't think it's just me. I think for many of us, the anticipation of an event actually can be more powerful than the event itself.

This year, I want to challenge you to experience Elul more than you have in the past. And I have three suggestions of ways to do that:

1) Come to minyan and hear the shofar or Psalm 27. During the month of Elul, in the mornings we sound the shofar at the end of minyan, and in the evenings, we read Psalm 27. The voice of the shofar has such inspirational power, and

# Tree of Life Awaits Your Leaf

The Tree of Life at our entrance is a collection of golden leaves that honor people and moments in our lives. For \$118 you can add a leaf. Contact



# Prize This Month Is a Mug

Within an article in this bulletin, there's a Prize Code. If you are one of the first five people to find it and email it to bulletin@beki.org, you will win a BEKI coffee mug.

Alisa Levine, Harriet Friedman, Carole Bass, Herbie Rosen, and Sam Purdy were the July bulletin winners. this year we won't get to hear that shofar on the first day of Rosh Hashanah (because it falls on Shabbat). So it is a particularly good year to come to Shacharit in the mornings to hear the shofar. If you can play shofar, even better! We'd love for you to show up and play. (I cannot make a single sound come out of the shofar.)

In the evenings, Psalm 27, one of the most beautiful psalms, brings to us the following verse: "One thing I ask from the Lord, this thing that I seek — to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." The implicit question upon hearing this is: What is the one thing you are asking for?

2) Connect with someone from your past who means something to you. I don't mean someone you have had conflict with and want to approach in amends (although that is of course a good thing). I mean, simply, someone who, by talking to them, will bring up your memories of other times in your life. This helps us to envision other possibilities for our life and our future in the coming year. It helps to clarify to ourselves what exactly is our true self.

3) Spend some time alone in nature. Go to the forest, go to the beach, go to Edgewood Park. Go somewhere you can walk, quietly, alone. Do some self-reflection, or just let the reflection happen by dint of being on your own. You don't need to have a mental agenda — just being on your own will be sufficient.

May this Elul bring you a sense of deep connection.

# המקום ינחם

HaMakom Yinachem With sorrow we note the passing of

Polina Naiman Deborah Desenti, sister of Wendy (& David) Chorney Paula Winter, mother of Michael Winter (& Ellen Mackler) Eric Baker, father of Katharine Baker (& Rabbi Eric Woodward)

## May the Almighty comfort those who mourn



# August 2023 14 Av 5783 - 14 Elul 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mark Your ( Sept 9 Selichot Sept 16/17 Rosh H: Sept 24 Kol Nidre Sept 25 Yom Kippu Oct 14 Miriam Peri Oct 21 Esther Scho Oct 27-28-29 Elm (	ashanah ur ry b'mitzvah onberger b'mitzvah	1 Office Closed 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service 7pm Camp-Style Sing- Along (raindate 8/2)	2 Tu B'Av 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service 7pm Raindate for Camp- Style Sing-Along	3 8:15am In-person & Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	4 7am In-person & Zoom service 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:47pm Candle Lighting	5 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation
		14 Av	15 Av	16 Av	17 Av	18 Av
6 9am In-person & Zoom service 9am-4pm Interfaith Service Day (off-site) 12-8pm Directory Photo Shoot (by appt only) 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	7 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	8 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	9 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service 7pm Elm City Winds Concert (in-person, indoors)	10 8:15am In-person & Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	11 7am In-person & Zoom service 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:38pm Candle Lighting	12 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation
19 Av	20 Av	21 Av	22 Av	23 Av	24 Av	25 Av
13 9am In-person & Zoom service 10am Talmud Study 10am Food Drive (by appt only) 12-8pm Directory Photo Shoot (by appt only) 1pm Kadima Blueberry Picking (off-site) 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	14 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	15 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	16 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	17 Rosh Hodesh I 8:15am In-person & Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	18 Rosh Hodesh II 7am In-person & Zoom service 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:28pm Candle Lighting	19 9:15am Shabbat Servic w/Rosh HaShana La- Behemot (Sanctuary, in person) 11am Childrens Havura K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 12:45pm Elul Schmooze w/Annie Norman-Schiff
26 Av	27 Av	28 Av	29 Av	30 Av	1 Elul	2 Elul
20 9am In-person & Zoom service 10:30am-12pm Naturewalk w/Bruce Spierer - Lake Wintergreen 12-8pm Directory Photo Shoot (by appt only) 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	21 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	22 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	23 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	24 8:15am In-person & Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	25 7am In-person & Zoom service 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:18pm Candle Lighting	26 9:15am Shabbat Servic (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 12:45pm Elul Schmooze w/Rabbi Eric Woodward
3 Elul	4 Elul	5 Elul	6 Elul	7 Elul	8 Elul	9 Elul
27 9am In-person & Zoom service 10am Talmud Study 10-11:30am Family Apple Pucking w/PJ Library (off-site) 12-8pm Directory Photo Shoot (by appt only) 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	28 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	29 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	30 7am In-person & Zoom service 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service	31 8:15am In-person & Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5pm Deadline for Fill-A- Backpack Drive 5:45pm In-person & Zoom Service		
	l		Service Times			
lays N	Aondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays



DATED MATERIAL

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage P A I D Permit #131 New Haven, CT

# 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.

# Join BEKI on Facebook

Everyone is encouraged to join the <u>BEKI Facebook group</u>. 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 Earthfriendly, we have transitioned to e-statements and e-yahrzeits. If you prefer to receive them by paper, please contact the BEKI office at <u>office@beki.org</u> or 203-389-2108 x114. The BEKI Green Team supports BEKI's movement toward paperless communications and hopes the community will also.

# **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 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 <u>Happenings</u> or email <u>bekitefilla@gmail.com</u>