



85 Harrison Street • New Haven CT 06515  
(203) 389-2108 • [beki.org](http://beki.org) • [facebook.com/bekicongregation](https://facebook.com/bekicongregation)

### Membership Application

We are delighted at your interest in joining Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, affectionately known as BEKI.

BEKI is a traditional, egalitarian, participatory synagogue, affiliated with the Conservative movement. Our members are diverse – in Jewish background, age, economic situation, political outlook, and sexual and gender orientation – but are united by our love of Torah and Jewish community. **We value every member and prospective member, and we never turn anyone away for lack of ability to pay.**

#### Adult 1

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew name, if you have one: \_\_\_\_\_ bat/ben \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone and Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Adult 2

Name (last, first, MI): \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew name, if you have one: \_\_\_\_\_ bat/ben \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone and Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status (circle one):      Married      Partnered      Engaged      Single      Widowed

If Married, Date of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_



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**Children's Information (if applicable)**

Child 1 Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with:  Both Parents  One Parent \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_

Child 2 Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with:  Both Parents  One Parent \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_

Child 3 Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with:  Both Parents  One Parent \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_

Child 4 Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with:  Both Parents  One Parent \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_

Will your child(ren) be attending our religious school?  Yes  No



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**Tell Us About Your Household**

How did you hear about BEKI? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you are new to the area, where did you live previously? \_\_\_\_\_

If you previously belonged to another synagogue, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

What led you to join BEKI? Tell us about your Jewish journey. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to chant Torah or Haftarah? Can you lead a daily, Shabbat, or festival service? Any other synagogue skills you possess? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

It is the custom at BEKI to read the names of loved ones who are no longer with us on the anniversary of their passing. You will be notified via mail of the date of your loved ones' yahrzeits.

Name (Last, First)	Relationship and to whom related	Date of Death/Time (a.m. or p.m.)



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**What Do You Want From BEKI?**

What are the most important aspects of synagogue life for you? Please rate the importance of each of the following: (**A** is very important, **B** is moderately important, **C** is not important)

	<b>Adult 1</b>			<b>Adult 2</b>		
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
Social Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shabbat Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Holy Days Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children’s Jewish Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult Jewish Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teen Education & Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Events for Young Families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sisterhood/Men’s Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activities for Mature Adults/Empty Nesters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**What do you most hope to get** from synagogue membership? (Shabbat meals with fellow congregants? Adult learning? Religious school? Playmates for your kids? A great challah recipe? You name it.)

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**BEKI is a participatory congregation.** If you feel comfortable, will you tell us what the adults in the household do for a living, so we know what skills you might possess that the congregation needs?

Professions: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your talents or interests? Please indicate with your first name, and an officer will contact you:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| _____ Membership              | _____ Hesed – kindness in times of need |
| _____ Marketing               | _____ Shabbat kiddush preparation       |
| _____ Events & activities     | _____ B’nai mitzvah kiddush preparation |
| _____ Religious school        | _____ Strategic planning                |
| _____ Budget & finance        | _____ Technology/web skills             |
| _____ Fundraising/development | _____ Youth programming                 |
| _____ Ritual                  | _____ Social Action/Tikkun Olam         |
| _____ Shabbat morning greeter | _____ 20/30s Havurah                    |
| _____ Facilities              | _____ Sisterhood                        |
| _____ Adult education         |   |

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**What do you most hope to contribute** to your synagogue? (Leading services? Planning and carrying out activities? Teaching? Raising/contributing money? Chanting Torah/Haftarah? You name it.)

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I hereby apply for membership in Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel and promise to abide by all the rules and regulations of the Congregation. **I understand that nobody is turned away from the congregation because of inability to pay, and that if I am unable to pay full dues, I may apply for a confidential abatement by indicating below. If I apply for an abatement, a member of the abatement committee will call me to arrange a reduced payment (see also "A Guide to Your Financial Commitment," page 7 of this application).**

Dues cover less than half the cost of operating the synagogue. Therefore, I agree to pay the first year of my membership and thereafter, when the Board of Directors sets the annual dues. I also understand that if I resign my membership, I remain responsible for any outstanding debts to the Congregation, including dues incurred until the date the Congregation receives written notice of the resignation.

I have enclosed full payment with application

I would like a member of the confidential abatement committee to call me to discuss reduced dues or a payment plan.

Dues and fees are payable in advance. Please return your application & your check for the correct amount made out to Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.

Adult 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Adult 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***We would love to include your photo in our monthly newsletter. If you're willing, please include an individual or group photo or email one to office@beki.org.***

## Jewish Status and Hebrew Name

We are thrilled that you want to become a member of BEKI!

Identity is a fraught topic in our world today, and many of us often feel that we are “not Jewish enough.” These feelings can be exacerbated by a membership application form like this! We want to push in the other, more human direction, and to embrace you as you are.

We would like to know your Hebrew name, and whether you are Jewish by birth, Jewish by conversion, or not Jewish. We’re also adding a space for “it’s complicated,” as a way that you can let Rabbi Woodward know your story is more complicated than can be represented on a form like this. He’ll reach out to you if you mark that.

Hebrew name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Don’t have one but want one? Mark here: (  )

Please circle: ben (  ), bat (  ), l’mishpachat (  ), or it’s complicated (  )

Hebrew name of parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Is either of your parents a Kohen (  ) or Levi (  )? If so, which?

### **Please check, circle or highlight:**

Jewish by birth (  )

Jewish by conversion (  )

Not Jewish (  )

It’s complicated (  )

### **Were your children born to a Jewish mother?**

Yes (  )

No (  )

It’s complicated (  )

We also want to note that many Jews of color, Jews of interfaith background, and Jews who are transracial adoptees can experience othering from questions like this. We are here for you, and you should feel encouraged to reach out to our rabbi with whatever emotions you are holding.



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**A GUIDE TO YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT  
TO CONGREGATION BETH EL-KESER ISRAEL  
2022-2023 5782-5783**

**Annual synagogue membership dues** cover less than 35 percent of Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel's operating costs. BEKI nonetheless strives to keep costs low and offers abatement and payment plans.

**Name(s) of adult members** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership categories** (synagogue membership includes High Holiday tickets, scholarship eligibility, the rabbi's services for lifecycle events such as weddings and funerals, and discounts on classes for which fees are charged):

- Basic Single Membership: \$1100** - This includes two-adult households, with or without children, in which only one adult chooses to affiliate with Beth El-Keser Israel.
- Basic Family Membership: \$2000** - This covers a two-adult household, with or without children, in which both adults choose to affiliate with Beth El-Keser Israel.
- Young Member:** If you are a single person under age 30, or a couple (living together in one household) both of whom are under 30, you may join as Young Members. The dues for Young Members are set by the Young Members themselves — you pay whatever you are able to pay. When a single Young Member turns 30, or one half of a Young Members couple turns 30; for the following membership year you become eligible for the full dues in accordance with our guidelines for the rest of the adult congregation.

Last Updated - 10 June 2022