

## High Holy Days Programming for Children and Youth.

**What's happening? A LOT!** A very special part of BEKI is the community's commitment to family and children's education. As on every Shabbat, age-appropriate inspired services and activities are abundant. Children's programs are led by experienced BEKI members and are designed to engage the children in synagogue life. Our High Holy Days Child/Youth Programs are conducted through the very generous support of Rabbi Murray Levine, in memory of his beloved wife Malka Levine.

On each day of the High Holy Days there will be two sessions separated by a snack for the children. Each of the earlier sessions (10:30-11:30 am) will be an age-appropriate engaging service (*tefilot*) for the Holy Day, and the later sessions (12-1 pm) will offer stories and play-based activities.

A quiet and comfortable nursing room (designed for this purpose) is located just off the main lobby. Changing tables are found in all restrooms.

*Children are our greatest joy and always welcome at BEKI, especially during our services. However, all children must be either in the sanctuary with their adults or in one of our supervised programs. It is not allowed for children to be "dropped off" at the synagogue without their adult on the premises at all times.*

*PLEASE NOTE: This year we will NOT be offering childcare at BEKI on the evenings of Yom Kippur (i.e. during the Kol Nidre service, and the Ne'ila service the following evening.) Children are welcome in adult services with supervision.*

### TWO SAFETY NOTES:

- Please inform us of any food allergies.
- Please make sure that your children know that running is not permitted in the halls. This is dangerous for them and for unsuspecting adults who find themselves in the path of oncoming dynamos. Please take responsibility for your child's behavior while at BEKI.

**For more information, to volunteer to lead or assist in leading a program, or any special concerns about our High Holy Days Children's Programs, please contact the BEKI office (203/389-2108 or [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).)**

## HIGH HOLY DAYS PROGRAMS

The following programs for our children occur simultaneously throughout BEKI on both days of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

### **CHILDREN'S HAVURA (pre-school)**

Designed to address the spiritual and social needs of pre-school children, Children's Havura offers songs, stories, prayers, dance, and other activities which both celebrate and teach. The children will also have a light snack and enjoy supervised play.

Children's Havura will meet outdoors in the BEKI courtyard, weather permitting. All participants above age 2 will wear masks. Children will receive a pre-assembled snack pack during their break, and will eat outdoors, weather permitting.

At least one parent's active participation is expected with their child for this program.

### **K-2 KEHILA (Grades K –2)**

K-2 Kehila offers engaging, age-appropriate services and activities, run cooperatively by talented and dedicated parents. Children usually attend on their own, but parents are welcome. K-2 is an opportunity for children to learn even more, and to begin, through song, stories and prayers, to become familiar with the themes and liturgy of the High Holy Days.

K-2 Kehila will meet indoors in lower level classrooms. All participants will wear masks.

Children will receive a pre-assembled snack pack during their break, and will have the opportunity to eat outdoors, weather permitting.

### **JUNIOR CONGREGATION (Grades 3-6)**

Junior Congregation addresses the spiritual, educational and social needs of children in grades 3-6, and is usually attended without parents. High Holy Days themes and readings (e.g., the meaning of the Binding of Isaac), as well as traditional liturgy, discussion, biblio-drama, and songs, are all an integral part of the programming.

Junior Congregation will meet indoors in the George Posener Daily Chapel/Library. All participants will wear masks.

Children will receive a pre-assembled snack pack during their break, and will have the opportunity to eat outdoors, weather permitting.