



A New Haven Tradition since 1892

RABBI'S FIRST SHABBAT

Since contract discussions with Rabbi Eric Woodward are proceeding well, we are making plans to welcome him for his first Shabbat on the BEKI bimah Friday, June 4 and Saturday, June 5.

While Rabbi Woodward and his family—wife, Katharine Baker, the publications director at the Rabbinical Assembly, and their daughters, Ayelet and Tamar—are working on relocating to Westville, he will commute to New Haven for each Shabbat in June and do his pastoral work remotely during the week. Assuming that the Board of Directors approves the contract, we anticipate that Rabbi Woodward will start full time on-site July 1.



Eric Woodward

The rabbi's enthusiasm to start work is matched by the congregation's eagerness to engage with him. BEKI's search committee, executive board and board of directors all voted unanimously to hire Rabbi Woodward.

"What was perhaps most thrilling to us as a committee was the number of congregants urging us to hire Rabbi Woodward," Rachel Light, the search committee co-chair said. "And not just giving him their vote, but speaking with passion and excitement about having him as our new rabbi. We did not go into this process expecting that there would be such an obvious choice. But when we heard this groundswell of passion and eagerness, imploring us to hire Rabbi Woodward, it was absolutely clear that we had found the right

rabbi for BEKI. We can't wait for him to start!"

"From the moment we first interviewed him, Rabbi Woodward impressed me with his enthusiasm, his learning, and his basic decency," committee member Mark Oppenheimer said. "This is a guy whose passion for Jews and Judaism comes through even over Zoom, which is pretty rare—almost as rare as the kind of consensus we got around his candidacy."

President Yaron Lew explained, "Rabbi Woodward embodies the *ruach* רוח and *neshamah* נשמה that BEKI is longing for. He is energetic, scholarly and enthusiastic. I have great faith in his ability to draw people back into the synagogue after the pandemic and guide our congregation towards a bright future."

Rabbi Woodward most recently served as the senior rabbi of Tiferet Bet Israel in Blue Bell, Pa., and previously as assistant rabbi at Congregation Tifereth Israel in Columbus, Ohio. In 2015, he was named by the *Forward* as one of America's Most Inspiring Rabbis.

"Within minutes of meeting Rabbi Woodward," committee member Rachel Greenberg said, "it is clear that he exudes a real warmth, passion, and love of *yiddishkeit*. I feel we have found a true scholar and humble leader in Rabbi Woodward. I am beyond excited to welcome him and his family to the BEKI community!"

Born and raised in an interfaith, mixed-race (Mexican and Ashkenazic Jewish) home in Los Angeles, Rabbi Woodward participated in the 2012 American Jewish World Service



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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

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

BEKI Bulletin © 2021 Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.

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BEKI's Board of Directors

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

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Rabbi Woodward rides the New York subway with his daughters Ayelet and Tamar in December 2019.

Rabbi

Continued from **Page 1**

clergy delegation to Muchucuxcah, a Mayan village in the Mexican Yucatan, and has continued to be active in inter-faith work. While studying at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), he completed an intensive unit of chaplaincy at Bellevue Hospital, where he worked with a diverse, urban, largely uninsured population.

“I enjoy seeing how sensitive Rabbi Eric Woodward is to the diverse needs of our BEKI members,” committee member Karel Koenig commented.

Jennifer Myer, her colleague on the committee, agreed. “Rabbi Woodward is warm, energetic, and eager to make a connection. His emphasis on inclusivity and kindness is a great match for BEKI. We are eager for his creative and collaborative leadership.”

“Rabbi Woodward connects deeply with the people around him,” committee member John Weiser explained. “He is drawn to pastoral care, so much so that even during the interview process, he reached out to a BEKI congregant to offer support for a difficult situation. The congregant wel-

comed his outreach and found the discussion very helpful.”

Rabbi Woodward attended Williams College, where he wrote his undergraduate thesis on the theology of Rav Joseph Soleveitchik. Ordained by JTS in 2013, he also studied at Mechon Schechter in Jerusalem and as a fellow at Yeshivat Hadar in New York.

“Rabbi Woodward’s love for traditional Judaism and drive to embrace every congregant regardless of background will be, I think, the right combination to allow BEKI to grow without compromising its core values,” committee member David Goldblum added.

“I am so excited to have Eric Woodward as my rabbi,” Carole Bass, the committee co-chair, said. “Even before the job was posted, a well-respected rabbinic colleague recommended Rabbi Woodward to the search committee. He was the first candidate to apply, just hours after the posting. He told the committee that he feels the match is *bashert* — meant to be. Based on BEKI members’ response, Rabbi Woodward was right. His warmth, energy, and passion will be a *mechayeh* for BEKI, leading us into a bright post-pandemic future.”





PHOTO BY ALLEN SAMUEL

David and Darryl Kuperstock

Saturday, May 29 at 9:30 am

This morning's Shabbat service will honor Darryl and David Kuperstock—who are moving closer to children and grandchildren—for their years of service to the congregation. David will be our darshan. Join us outdoors after services for a boxed lunch Kiddush. We hope that people will linger to say hello to friends and goodbye to the Kuperstocks. If you'd like to sit down to eat, please bring a picnic blanket or folding chair.

Wednesday, June 2 at 8 pm

Rachel Forbes, a transcultural adoptee who was born in Korea, will speak about anti-Asian racism in America. A licensed clinical social worker with a private psychotherapy practice in New Haven, she attended Ezra Academy and celebrated her Bat Mitzvah at BEKI.

Join us for this conversation at [Tinyurl.com/bekischmooze](https://tinyurl.com/bekischmooze).

Wednesday, June 9 at 8 pm

Caroline Keogh from New Haven Tea, producer of artisanal blend flower teas, which is located here in Westville, will lead us in a tea tasting via Zoom. You can choose to buy the sample kit for \$13, or just log in at [Tinyurl.com/bekischmooze](https://tinyurl.com/bekischmooze) to learn about how she creates these



Rachel Forbes



Caroline Keogh

tea blends, such as decaf lavender Earl Grey and lemon soufflé rooibos. Watch for the flyer with details on picking up the kit, which includes 4 (no caffeine) teas, 4 disposable filter bags, and your tea tasting cupping sheet.

Questions? Email caroline@newhaventea.com.

Saturday, June 12 at 9:30 am

This morning's Shabbat service will honor our BEKI graduates. If your graduate would like to participate in the service, please contact Eva Shragis at ritualcoordinator@beki.org. Since it's the second Saturday of the month, this will be an outdoor service, weather permitting.

Wednesday, June 16 at 8 pm

Robert Forbes will discuss Juneteenth, which celebrates the emancipation of those who were enslaved in this country. June 19, 1865 was the day that the Union army announced emancipation in Texas, on a date over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Rob, who is a BEKI member, has served on the faculty at Yale, Wesleyan, UConn, and Southern. His expertise is U.S. history from the Revolution to the Civil War, focusing on the impact of slavery on the development of American institutions. Join us for this conversation at [Tinyurl.com/bekischmooze](https://tinyurl.com/bekischmooze).



Robert Forbes

Monday, June 21 at 7 pm

BEKI's annual meeting will include not only essential business such as the presentation of the slate of officers for the coming year, but also music, a remembrance of those we lost, and surprises too.

On Zoom at [Tinyurl.com/bekischmooze](https://tinyurl.com/bekischmooze).

Wednesday, June 30 at 8 pm

Our speaker on this last Wednesday of Pride Month will be Miryam Kabakov, a former BEKI member and now the executive director of Eshel, which supports and advocates for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Orthodox Jews. The editor of *Keep Your Wives Away from Them: Orthodox Women, Unorthodox Desires*, an anthology of writings by queer Jewish women, she now lives in Northampton with her wife and their two daughters. Join us for this conversation at [Tinyurl.com/bekischmooze](https://tinyurl.com/bekischmooze).



Miryam Kabakov

המקום ינחם
HaMakom Yinahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Shulamith Chernoff

Shrager Lazarus,
father of Dr. Sean (and Ilana) Lazarus, and
grandfather of Justin Lazarus

May the Almighty comfort those who mourn



Shulamith Chernoff

Mazal Tov to

- Grandparents Corey Stone and Sue McDonald, and parents Dan Stone and Aliza Zenilman, on the April 13 birth of Maurice “Moe” Wallace Stone, *Moshe Gershom*
- Grandparents Ellen Cohen and Steven Fraade, and parents Abby Fraade and Tani Cohen-Fraade, on the May 4 birth of Raziel Dov Fraade.

The Class of 2021

- GRADUATE/LAW SCHOOL**
Alyssa Sachs, Liora Cohen-Fraade
- COLLEGE**
Evan Buckman, Madeleine Cahn, Daniel Cooper, Dustin Gad, Benjamin Gerber, Matthew Fiedler, Alex Friedman, Ari Kaufman-Frankel, Cory Sachs, Emily Sachs

HIGH SCHOOL

Noam Benson-Tilsen, Benjamin Birn, Aaron Bruce, Ben Bruce, Caleb Freiman, Eitan Hirshfield

BEKI's EZRA ACADEMY GRAD
Ari Hurwitz

If your graduate's name is missing, please accept our apology and send the info to Bulletin@BEKI.org. We will include it in the July issue.

A Message from President Yaron Lew *Adapted from his message to the congregation on May 5*



Yaron Lew

We offered the position to Rabbi Eric Woodward, and he enthusiastically accepted. He said that he is on cloud nine and ran to tell his children. On May 2, Rabbi Woodward came to New Haven to visit. He toured Westville, met members of the Search Committee, visited Ezra Academy, and came in to see BEKI. All of the people who had the pleasure of meeting him and his family in person were thrilled. True to his

nature, Rabbi Woodward said that everything is awesome, amazing and fantastic. When he visited BEKI, we showed him the whole building, and when he stepped into the main sanctuary, he loved it. I said to him, “Go ahead, get on the bimah, pretend you’re the rabbi”. He stood there and said, “This is a beautiful view; I feel like this is where I belong.”

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

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17th of Tammuz to Tisha B'Av

Sunday, June 27, the 17th of Tammuz, *Shiva Asar b'Tammuz*, is a fast day commemorating the breach of the walls of Jerusalem in the year 70 CE, three weeks before the destruction of the Second Temple on the 9th of Av. According to tradition, this was also the day on which the two tablets of the 10 Commandments were smashed by Moses when he came down from Mount Sinai. We observe this day as a minor fast day, which means that we fast only from sunrise to sunset, not the entire 24 hours. Our service, which will begin at 9 am as usual on a Sunday morning, will be in the sanctuary (and on Zoom). There will be a Torah reading and a haftorah; the service should last for about one hour.

The 17th of Tammuz also marks the beginning of a three-week period during which certain restrictions related to mourning are practiced, such as not getting haircuts, having parties or celebrations. The major fast day of Tisha B'Av falls at the end of those weeks, on Sunday, July 18th. That 9 am service, which will be held in the main sanctuary and on Zoom, will include Torah reading and the book of Eicha (Lamentations). There may be an additional service as well; details will be in the July bulletin.

High Holy Days 5782

BY JENNIFER MYER AND HAROLD BIRN, HIGH HOLIDAY CO-CHAIRS

We want to let you know that, despite the ongoing uncertainty in the world, we are very sure that High Holy Days will occur this year as they have for centuries!

Past that, things are still in flux. There are clearly hopeful spots. We will have the able ongoing leadership of Rabbi Carl Astor as well as the new leadership of Rabbi Eric Woodward. Immunizations combined with summer weather are producing a decline in the local pandemic rates.

BEKI now is offering more in-person, indoor services (with participants distanced and masked). How exactly things will be for High Holy Days, however, is still a bit unknown. We hope for a return to a more familiar experience in whatever way possible and will keep you posted.

If you have an interest in participating in High Holy Day planning, please be in touch at jennifer.myer@yale.edu or haroldbirn@aol.com.

Tefilla Updates

As of press time in mid-May, we are offering one in-person service each day of the week. The Rabbi, the Ritual Committee, and the Board are continuing to discuss more in-person tefilla opportunities. As daily services shift to in-

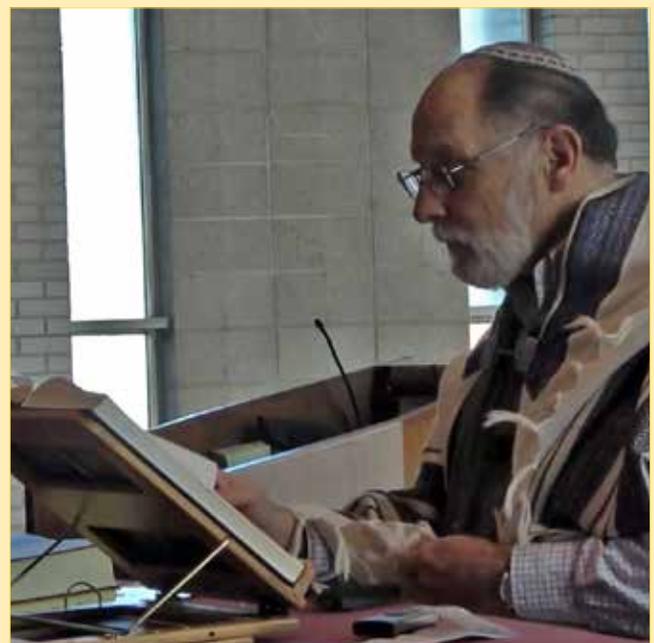
person, you can still attend via Zoom.

In June, July, and August, all Saturday morning services will be in the sanctuary except for an outdoor service once a month—on the second Shabbat of the month (weather permitting).

For the most updated information, please check the weekly Happenings email, or email bekitefilla@gmail.com.

Rained out on Lag BaOmer

We'll try again to have a BEKI kumsitz on Wednesday evening July 21 (rain date July 22), open to all, especially anyone nostalgic for summer camp. Watch for details in the July bulletin.



Rabbi Carl Astor leads Shacharit in one of the videos on the BEKI website.

Taped Shabbat Service Videos Online

For anyone not able to attend our in-person Shabbat morning services, a selection of Psukei d'Zimrah, Shacharit, Torah, and Musaf services—led by volunteers and filmed by Jennifer Myer in the BEKI sanctuary—is posted at www.beki.org/shabbat-service-videos.

- Psukei d'Zimrah led by Jennifer Botwick
- Psukei d'Zimrah led by Rabbi Carl Astor
- Shacharit led by Rabbi Carl Astor
- Shacharit led by Max DuBoff
- Torah Service led by Rachel Adelstein
- Musaf led by Isaiah Cooper

Kadima Kids Fly High

BY ANNIE NORMAN-SCHIFF,
YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR

BEKI Kadima (youth in 4th-8th grade) soared on Sunday, May 2, as they took on the high ropes course at the Adventure Park in Bridgeport. The Adventure Park is a set of aerial outdoor trails where young adventurers can climb obstacles and zoom over zip lines, high in the trees. It is managed by the Discovery Museum.

BEKI Kadimaniks were patient as we rescheduled our trip to the park two times due to rain. But there's no way we would miss the chance to have this much challenging, exciting outdoor fun.

Ten Kadimaniks ranging from 4th-7th grade learned to use safety harnesses and clips, then climbed up into the tree line to try courses of different levels of difficulty. Each course involved both clambering over swinging steps, logs, and ropes, and zooming downhill on zip lines.

After climbing, our BEKI crew took over the whole fire circle to catch our breath and share stories about our greatest challenges. By popular demand, the Adventure Park will become a new yearly event for BEKI Kadima.

Ordinarily, Kadima pauses programming over the summer while kids go off to summer camp and vacation. But this year, more families than usual are staying in town. So, look out for additional chances for tweens to spend time

together this summer! Contact Annie at anormanschiff@beki.org with any questions.

Celebrating Shavuot with Nearby Shuls

BEKI kids and families joined Congregation B'nai Jacob and Congregation Or Shalom for a joint outdoor Shavuot party on May 16, hosted at B'nai Jacob. Kids celebrated with frozen treats, a Mount Sinai art project, and a scavenger hunt to find the Ten Commandments. We hope to give children at neighboring Conservative congregations the chance to meet one another at occasional joint celebrations. Look out for a shared Kadima Shabbaton for 4th to 8th graders, hosted here at BEKI this fall.

Upcoming Outdoor Shabbat Services

Family Shabbat Services continue to meet outdoors in the BEKI courtyard, with Children's Havura meeting every week at 10:15 am, and the 11:15 am service alternating between K-2 Kehila and Junior Congregation.

Family service schedule for June

June 5	10:15 am Children's Havura	11:15 am Junior Congregation
June 12	10:15 am Children's Havura	11:15 am K-2 Kehila
June 19	10:15 am Children's Havura	11:15 am Junior Congregation
June 26	10:15 am Children's Havura	11:15 am K-2 Kehila



BEKI Kadima climbers and chaperones at the Adventure Park

Refugee Resettlement Update

The Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement (JCARR) is cautiously shifting to “post pandemic mode” and looking ahead to fundraising events so we can continue assisting JCARR’s refugee and asylum-seeking families. Now that the U.S. will be accepting refugees again, JCARR hopes to receive a new family from IRIS. Stay tuned for information! To find out how you can assist JCARR, please contact Madeleine Kleinman madk117@gmail.com.

Food Drive June 13

The next drive-by food collection, delayed one week to Sunday, June 13, will be held from 10 to 11 am in the BEKI parking lot. Call 203.671.4705 to arrange for Rob Lettick to be in the parking lot to receive your donation. Donations will support Jewish Family Service and Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK). If you have questions, please write to Rob at robolettick@aol.com.

Retaj, a member of JCARR Family 2, is doing so well with her reading and arithmetic — thanks to her beloved English tutor — that she was selected this winter to wear the class crown.



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Donations to the Congregation

BY MIMI GLENN, SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT

BEKI Sisterhood once again is happy to support projects at BEKI. We donated to the Art Committee so they can frame some artwork in the BEKI collection. We will donate to the improvement of the playground, and we will donate to a future program the Religious School is contemplating.

Thank you to all our Sisterhood members who renewed your membership. With your help, we sent a bit over \$1,000 to Women’s League of Conservative Judaism. The Sisterhood Board wishes you all a happy and healthy summer, and we hope to greet you in September with new and exciting programs.

Gift Shop Open After Daily Services

Come join Harriet and Karen at Sunday and Thursday morning tefilla and Monday and Wednesday evening tefilla. The gift shop will be open after services each day! In addition, we are open anytime by appointment. Karen 203-430-2182; Harriet 203-675-8607.

As we return to in-person daily tefilla, you might need a new tallis. We have a nice selection of very affordable talleisim and can custom order other styles for you.

Know someone getting married? We have a “smash glass” mezuzah, hand crafted by Joy Stember. (Smash the glass and save the shards in the mezuzah case.)

New baby? Hammered silver ילד טוב / ילדה טובה (good boy / good girl) kiddish cups make great baby gifts.

We also offer individualized shopping times; just email us at giftshop@beki.org, and we will arrange it.



Rosa and David Reich, maternal great grandparents of BEKI member Margaret Olin, at the counter of their Chicago delicatessen, circa 1910s. They emigrated from Hungary around 1880.

BEKI ANCESTORS EXHIBITION: SEEKING PRE-1950 FAMILY PHOTOS

BY THE BEKI ART COMMITTEE

For our High Holiday Ancestors exhibition, BEKI's Art Committee is seeking photographs, paintings, and other types of images dating before 1950 of family members. We broadly define "Ancestors" to also include people who were so close they were considered family as well as unidentified people whom family tradition defined as family. We expect the exhibition to reflect the ethnically diverse ancestry of our current membership.

Up to two pictures of individuals or group shots can be included per member, but you may send more for selection.

Since we plan to repeat the theme of "Ancestors" in future years, some submissions may be held for next time. Paintings and other already framed works are most welcome; however, please send us a quick picture so we know what to expect.

We hope to hold some scanning sessions at BEKI. Watch for future announcements in Happenings or write to be on the list to be notified. High resolution scans are welcome as submissions.

Send photographs (and re-photographs) to beki.photos@gmail.com. Volunteers to edit photographs are most welcome.

Summer Lithograph Exhibit

This summer, the walls of BEKI will be filled with the "Spaces and Spirit of Israel," as we exhibit the lithographs of the Paris-based, but Israeli-born artist Raffi Kaiser.

In 1981, the artist returned to Israel for a time of quiet contemplation in the Negev. Emerging from this time of respite, he embarked on explorations of his homeland through the eyes of

an accomplished landscape artist. "A journey through Israel is a deeply personal experience," he wrote. "Wandering across the primeval land, land of my childhood and youth, is to search for the roots of my memories, the sources of my deepest feelings." The lithographs that Kaiser produced in 1982 are based on his drawings from that period. "Here, each line speaks of the mystical land: Israel," he wrote.

This exhibition is the result of two generous donations. In 2010 Donna and Sid Levine donated selections from this folio of 21 prints. Now, thanks to the generosity of Sisterhood, they are framed and can be properly presented and enjoyed for a longer exhibition. Prints from this same folio can be found in the collection of the Chicago Art Institute and several other museums.

Chai/Synagogue Fund *to support synagogue operations*

To Marty Feldman in honor of Abby & Bernardo's wedding by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Jesse & Joe Palumbo

To Shoshana Lash with sympathy on the passing of Elbert Hall Marshall by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Julie Cohen
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins
- Karel Koenig
- Yaron Lew
- The Rastelli-Weiner family
- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow (to BEKI Religious School)
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- The Purvin/Rosenthal family
- The Lettick family
- Barbara & Murray Akresh

To Emma Sokoloff-Rubin, Sam Purdy & Miriam on the birth of Asher Rubin by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

In honor of Rachel Wiseman-Gerber by

- Esther Brumberg & Frank Silverstein

In honor of the Dimenstein Family by

- Marcie Dimenstein

To Emily Rock, Bret Kupfer & Milo on the birth of Jonah Dorian by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Helen Bromell & family with sympathy on the passing of Clarence Bromell by

- Seth Pauker & Tina Rose
- The Lettick family

To BEKI in appreciation by

- Shereen Edelson, Arnie Menchel & Robert Menchel

To Alan & Rachel Gerber in honor of the engagements of their daughters by

- Beth & Dan Weintraub

To Carole Bass, Rachel Light and the entire Rabbinical Search Committee in gratitude by

- Joy Kaufman & Stewart Frankel

Liora Lew Endowment for the Advancement of Youth Education and Youth Activities

- Iris & Naftali Kaminski
- Carmel & Frank Kostolitz
- Amy Marx & Rob Schonberger
- Rachel & Morris Statlender
- Ina Silverman

Ari Nathan Levine Memorial Fund

In memory of Cousins Mae, Ben and Adrienne Kasdon by

- Ellen & Leonard Martin

Jon-Jay Tilsen Endowment for the Benefit of BEKI

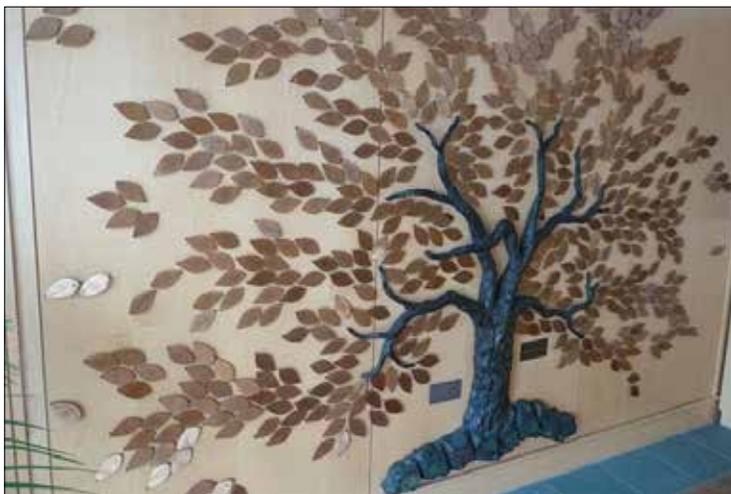
- Jesse & Joe Palumbo

Yahrzeit Fund *to support synagogue operations*

In Memory of:

- Her father Irving Bashevkin by Rachel Bashevkin
- David Kroop by Cliff & Donna Cohen
- Her husband Sidney Louis Kalison by Mildred Kalison

- Max Jack Gad by Martin & Lana Gad
- Marvin Voloshin by Cindy Voloshin Smernoff
- Sylvia Hoberman by Judith Hoberman & Dominic Kinsley
- Pearl Yaffe by David & Enrica Yaffe
- Abraham Margolies by Carol Marcus
- Anne Benson by Joanne & Steve Rudof
- Gladys Franzman by Judith & Stephen Alderman
- Her grandmother Ida Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
- Her sister Myra Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
- Frances Singer by Annette Kisner
- Her mother Kitty Greenberg by Toby Ignal
- His grandmother Anna Ignal by Alan Ignal
- Her aunt Mildred "Millie" Kantrowitz by Sherry Kent
- Hyman H. Haves by Maeera Haves Mouglin
- Rose Kimmel by Annette Kisner
- Rose Hodes by Joyce & David Popowski
- Katie Press by Joyce & David Popowski
- Steve Katz by Harriet Katz
- Her mother Sara Oppenheim by Joyce & Michael Bohnen
- Israel Alderman by Sonny, Bernie & Lynn Alderman
- Elaine Katz by Sonny, Bernie & Lynn Alderman
- Lionel Brody by Joel Brody & Debra Canner
- Bernard Gimple by Sidney Gimple & family
- Simon Berman by Richard Neveloff
- Molka Blank by Fania Levine



Tree of Life Awaits Your Leaf

The Tree of Life at the entrance to BEKI is a collection of gold-colored 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

Facebook Digest Available

Everyone is encouraged to join the [BEKI Facebook group](#). You'll enjoy the humor, community information, and links to cultural opportunities.

For members who do not have a Facebook account but want to see the posts, just email bulletin@beki.org to request the weekly Facebook digest, sent as one email each Friday.

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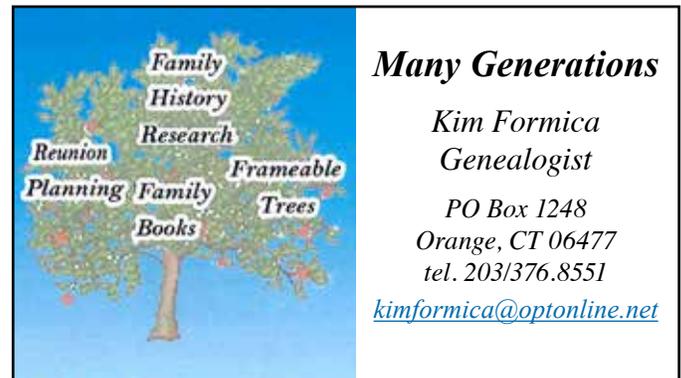
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OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

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For more information about Create A Jewish Legacy, contact Lisa Stanger,
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TO ALL OF YOU

As I sit down to write this Bulletin message on May 6, I don't know if I'll be serving as the rabbi of BEKI for another three weeks or three months, but assuming the former, there are a few things that I'd like to express while I still have your ears.

First of all, it has been a profound honor and privilege to serve in this position since March. We moved to New Haven in the autumn of 2017 and became active members of the congregation at that time. We found an extremely welcoming and comforting community. We became friendly with quite a few members and also with Rabbi Tilsen, with whom I spent time learning, hiking, and talking. It was at that time that I lost my mother, and it was a great support to have so many BEKI members help us through that difficult period. I had lost my dear sister, Hedi, two years earlier in 2015 and was still in denial over such a sudden and untimely loss.

Jumping ahead to February of this year, I was of course as surprised as anyone to hear that the rabbi was not going to be continuing for the next year, and even more surprised upon hearing that February would be his last month serving actively as rabbi of BEKI. When the congregation turned to me to fill in on an interim basis until a new rabbi was found, I of course had mixed feelings. I won't go into all



Carl Astor

of my considerations, but at the end of the day, I felt that I actually might be able to help BEKI transition to a new rabbi and deal with the loss of a beloved rabbi of 27 years.

My major hesitation was this: We are planning, God willing, to make New Haven our home for the foreseeable future, and I wouldn't want anything to create conflict or discomfort between us (me) and the congregants. Being a congregant is one thing; being in the position of the rabbi is something entirely different. There can be disagreements, personality clashes, and even contractual issues that come between rabbis and their congregations.

Well, I am pleased to say that this has worked out better than I could have imagined. Everyone has been so positive, helpful, and understanding that, to the contrary, I feel more attached and comfortable at BEKI than I did before this. I feel that I know many of you much better, and you have trusted me with your beloved congregation.

So, what I really want to do is to thank you for trusting me and for being so patient with me. Whether I leave this position in more or less time, I feel confident in the future for BEKI with your new rabbi and for my future with all of you. So, thank you for all you have done and, while I will try my very best to stay out of the way of the new rabbi, Eric Woodward, and to support him in every way that I can, I will be here with you.

Todah and l'hitra'ot,
Rabbi Carl Astor



Raffi Kaiser, *Midbar Yehuda II*, lithograph, 62cm x 44cm, 1982; from the BEKI collection (donated by Donna and Sid Levine).

Thanks to Sisterhood for funding frames (see story page 8). See the summer exhibit story (Gallery News, page 9).

June 2021

21 Sivan 5781 - 20 Tammuz 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 21 Sivan	2 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 8:00pm "Anti-Asian Racism in America" with Rachel Forbes 22 Sivan	3 8:15am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 23 Sivan	4 7:00am Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom 24 Sivan	5 9:30am Shabbat Service - Sanctuary (in-person only) 10:15am Outdoors Children Havura 11:15am Outdoors Jr. Congregation 25 Sivan
6 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 26 Sivan	7 Office Closed 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 27 Sivan	8 Office Closed 7:00am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 28 Sivan	9 Office Closed 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 8:00pm Zoom Tea Tasting 29 Sivan	10 Rosh Hodesh I Office Closed 8:15am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 30 Sivan	11 Rosh Hodesh II Office Closed 7:00am Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom Service 1 Tammuz	12 9:30am Shabbat Service Honoring BEKI Graduates (Outdoors, in-person only) 10:15am Outdoors Children's Havura 11:15am Outdoors K-2 Kehila 2 Tammuz
13 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 10:00am Drive-By Food Collection 5:45pm Zoom Service 3 Tammuz	14 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 7:00pm Executive Board Meeting followed by General Board Meeting 4 Tammuz	15 7:00am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 5 Tammuz	16 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 8:00pm Juneteenth Schmooze (Zoom) 6 Tammuz	17 8:15am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 7 Tammuz	18 7:00am Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom 8 Tammuz	19 9:30am Shabbat Service - Sanctuary (in-person only) 10:15am Outdoors Children's Havura 11:15am Outdoors Jr. Cong. 9 Tammuz
20 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 10 Tammuz	21 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 7:00pm Annual Meeting (Zoom) 11 Tammuz	22 7:00am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 12 Tammuz	23 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 13 Tammuz	24 8:15am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 14 Tammuz	25 7:00am Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Sanctuary & Zoom 15 Tammuz	26 9:30am Shabbat Service - Sanctuary (in-person only) 10:15am Outdoors Children's Havura 11:15am Outdoors K-2 Kehila 16 Tammuz
27 Fast of Tammuz 17 9:00am 17th of Tammuz Sanctuary & Zoom Service (Fast Day) 5:45pm Zoom Service 17 Tammuz	28 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 18 Tammuz	29 7:00am Sanctuary & Zoom Service 5:45pm Zoom Service 19 Tammuz	30 7:00am Zoom Service 5:45pm Sanctuary & Zoom Service 8:00pm Pride Month Schmooze with Miryam Kabakov 20 Tammuz	Mark Your Calendar July 9-10 Bar Mitzvah of Itamar Lebowitz July 18 Tisha Be'Av July 24 Tu Be'Av Sept 7-8 Rosh HaShanah First & Second Day Sept 15 Kol Nidre Sept 20 Erev Sukkot Sept 28 Erev Simhat Torah Oct 8-9 Bat Mitzvah of Aviva Robbins		

Service Times

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
9 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	8:15 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:30 am Shaharit



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BEKI Service Schedule & Leaders

Sunday	9:00 to 9:30 am	(courtyard* & via Zoom)	CAPTAIN Sarah Berry; HOST Rachel Gerber
Sunday	5:45 pm	(via Zoom)	HOST Marge Wiener
Monday	7:00 am	(via Zoom)	HOST Sarah Berry or Evan Wyner
Monday	5:45 to 6:00 pm	(sanctuary & via Zoom)	CAPTAIN Marge Wiener; HOST Jessey Palumbo
Tuesday	7:00 am	(sanctuary & via Zoom)	HOST Eva Shragis
Tuesday	5:45 pm	(via Zoom)	CAPTAIN & HOST Karen Kassap
Wednesday	7:00 am	(via Zoom)	HOST Isaiah Cooper
Wednesday	5:45 pm	(sanctuary & via Zoom)	HOST Becky May
Thursday	8:15 am	(sanctuary & via Zoom)	CAPTAIN Becky May
Thursday	5:45 pm	(via Zoom)	HOST Rachel Gerber
Friday	7:00 am	(via Zoom)	HOST Sarah Berry
Friday	6:00 to 6:40 pm	(sanctuary & via Zoom)	HOST Rachel Gerber
Saturday	9:30 to 11 am	(sanctuary but outside on the second Shabbat June/July/August *)	

Potential in-person service opportunities are **boldface**

* Weather permitting

For all in-person services, wear face masks and keep six feet distancing. **However, a vaccinated leader of the service may be unmasked.**

So that we can anticipate the size of the group, RSVP to bekitefilla@gmail.com or the minyan captain. For the

latest information on in-person services, check BEKI Facebook, Happenings or email us. **Since any group gathering has inherent risks, participants need to make their own informed choices as to what is best for them.**