



NAME AMNESTY
SHABBAT

SEE PAGE 4

TWO NOVEMBER EVENTS



Corey Stone



Robyn Silverman

Environmental Tikkun Olam

BEKI's Green Team has arranged a program on Wednesday, Nov. 1 about how Energize CT Home Energy Audits can help us remember Bal Tashchit, while living comfortably and saving money. These "energy check-up" audits are free or low-cost to Connecticut renters and homeowners, subsidized by rate-payers at UI and Ever-source.

Auditors review insulation, weather-sealing, heating & cooling, lighting and other systems, fixing small issues on the spot, and identifying subsidies and rebates available to support larger improvements over time.

Hear from one of Connecticut's top-rated auditors, Michelle Long, along with two BEKI members, Robyn Silverman and Corey Stone, who have benefited from the audits.

Join us on [BEKI Zoom](#) at 7:30 pm to ask questions, explore options, and get ready to do environmental Tikkun Olam in your home.

Gender Non-Conformity in Judaism

Rabbi Dr. Jay Michaelson, a political commentator and the author of nine books including the bestselling *God vs. Gay? The Religious Case for Equality*, will join us on [BEKI Zoom](#) Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 pm for a program about Celebrating Gender Diversity in Jewish Tradition, Values, and Theology.

Transgender lives are, today, often the subject of intense debate, persecution and misinformation—and, to be sure, the science of gender may be new to many of us. But while our current understandings of gender may be recent, the phenomenon of gender non-conformity is found throughout Jewish history, Biblical text, and even theology. Coming to appreciate what's *not* new about the gender spectrum can help us be more informed congregants today. No one will be shamed or canceled in this schmooze! Rather, we'll take on this exploration in the spirit of curiosity, joy, and personal growth.



Jay Michaelson

Jay holds a JD from Yale Law School and a PhD from Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is a commentator on CNN, a columnist at *Rolling Stone*, an affiliated assistant professor at Chicago Theological Seminary and a visiting scholar at the Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion.



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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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BEKI STAINED GLASS WINDOW DESIGN BY CYNTHIA BETH RUBIN

Introducing Our Newest Members

Christina Crowder

Hi! I'm originally from Portland, OR, but came to Hamden in 2011 by way of Budapest, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and South County Rhode Island. I've been a professional klezmer (accordion,

tsimbl) since 1993, but started my conversion journey in 2019. I'm excited to begin this new phase as part of the BEKI community, and to connect the cultural Jewishness I've been steeped in for the last 30 years to a personal practice of learning and growth. I split my working life between performing and teaching Ashkenazic expressive culture, running a small non-profit, and hanging wallpaper. In my spare time I crochet and watch the pollinators in my native plant garden.



Melinda Papowitz



Melinda works in advancement and alumni relations at the Slifka Center at Yale. Prior to joining Slifka, Melinda worked in advancement offices on the

data side for Harvard and Yale. She has also supported numerous smaller non-profits, especially those that help New Haven flourish.

In her free time, Melinda enjoys reading widely, hiking Connecticut's trails, adding native plants to her garden, and recently has been taking classes in the Peabody Museum's Natural Science Illustration program. She has lived many years abroad and appreciates exploring diverse

Jewish neighborhoods across the globe. Melinda enjoys spending time with her husband, Gary, and teenage son, Ronan, and their mischievous Australian Shepherd.

Rina Bersohn

This past year, I moved to Westville with my two daughters, Elona and Rebecca Spiewak, and we're thrilled to be here! Growing up, I attended a co-ed Orthodox yeshiva, but my family's observance tends more towards Conservative Judaism. My favorite part of being Jewish is the holidays and spending time in Israel. I'd be delighted to find a fellow member who also likes hiking.



Ora Nitkin-Kaner & Asa Watten



Hello! We're Asa (left), Ora (right), and Tuna (cutest). We've just moved to Westville—directly across the street from BEKI, in fact—and we're delighted to be a part of the BEKI community! Asa is an environmental economist post-doc at Yale, and Ora is a rabbi and climate change chaplain. We both like biking and hiking up the local Rocks. Ora is amusing herself by getting back into rollerblading and growing a mullet, and Asa is amusing himself by learning to bake mooncakes and growing mushroom colonies indoors. We're often wearing masks at shul, but please come say hi!

Continued on **Page 4**

New Members

Continued from **Page 3**

Joanna Romberg, Michael Blatchley Eli, Ari and Maya



An Israeli woman and Firefighter walk into a theater...
This is not the start of a joke; that was how the story of our

family began. We met while Joanna was in graduate school at Yale and Mike was a New Haven Firefighter.

Fast forward sixteen years filled with crazy adventures, and our family moved to Woodbridge this summer after living in Hamden for the past ten years. We spent seven of these years commuting to Ezra Academy to drop off/pick up first one, then two, and finally, three of our kids. Joining the school marked a pivotal moment for us—for the first time, we felt like we had a caring community and local ‘family’ that we could feel at home with.

Joining BEKI marks another important milestone for our interfaith family, and we are looking forward to getting to know and getting involved with the BEKI community.

These days, Joanna works at The Peabody Museum, in addition to owning a small events and production planning company. Michael is a Captain at the Wilton Fire Department.

In our spare time, of which we have very little, we enjoy traveling to see our family, cooking and hosting, and spending time with our boisterous but wonderful children.

News

Name Amnesty Shabbat Nov. 11

Do you ever see someone at BEKI and think, “I know this person, but I can’t remember their name?” Do you wish we could all just declare name amnesty and start from scratch?

On Nov. 11, at Saturday morning Shabbat services, we will. Every time you start talking to a person, you introduce yourself with your name: “Hi, I’m Eric.” And the other person says, “Hi, I’m Rachel.” We do this with every person we see, even—and especially—people whose

names we know. In this way, nobody will be “outed” asking for another person’s name.

This is a great Shabbat to come to if you want to meet people, or even if you feel that you know everyone!

Annual Appeal

You should have received Annual Appeal information by email around October 11. There will be no Annual Appeal materials sent by letter, except to those members who have asked to receive materials by mail. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions.

Prize this month is a mug

Within this bulletin, there’s a numeric Prize Code. If you are one of the first 5 people to email it to bulletin@beki.org, you will win a BEKI coffee mug.

Welcome New Members

- Joanna Romberg & Michael Blatchley; Eli, Ari, Maya
- Ezra Homonoff



Amy Reichert Will Design New Ark

As the sanctuary redesign project gets under way, we are excited to announce that [Amy Reichert](#) will design our new Torah ark.

Although the redesigned sanctuary will not have fixed pews facing a stage, the ark will still be the visual focal point. To design the ark doors and the area around them, the Sanctuary Redesign Committee—with input and support from the Sanctuary Art Subcommittee—sought an artist with the skill and experience to create a beautiful and moving design that captures something essential about BEKI's culture and values.

Reichert has that skill and experience. She is an award-winning Judaica designer, as well as an architect and exhibition designer. A graduate of Yale University with both a B.A. and M.Arch, she has designed visual elements for numerous synagogues. Her work has been displayed at the Jewish Museum in New York City, the Yale University Art

Gallery, the Jewish Museum in Vienna, and the San Francisco Contemporary Jewish Museum.

Teaming with members of the Sanctuary Redesign Committee, several members of BEKI's own artist community reviewed the work of dozens of Judaica artists and designers, interviewed about a dozen, and made recommendations to the full redesign committee. Based on those recommendations, the committee chose Amy for several reasons:

- Her work blends a contemporary look with inspiration from traditional Jewish text and prayer.
- Her aesthetic complements the overall sanctuary redesign by architect Michael Goldblum.
- She brings her own architectural perspective to her work.

Reichert thinks of herself as a designer, not an artist, she told the Sanctuary Redesign Committee. She explained the

difference: artists create according to their own internal vision; a designer has to create what inspires the client. The goal, she said, is to produce the best possible version of what the congregation wants.

What does the congregation want? The redesign committee will seek your input. In the meantime, send us your thoughts:

sanctuaryredesign@beki.org.



The ark doors pictured are part of Amy Reichert's [design for the chapel](#) at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El in Highland Park, Illinois

Hanukkah Gelt—Two Sides of the Coin

Hanukkah gelt usually evokes positive associations with childhood celebration—the shiny foil, the games of dreidl—but most commercial chocolate, or the cocoa industry to be more specific, has a “dark” side beyond just a type of chocolate. That dark history includes child slavery.

Another potentially dark side to chocolate is the recently [discovered](#) prevalence of heavy metals in many brands, which is less evident in milk chocolate than in darker varieties.

The only source we have for fair trade gelt was not among the brands tested, but the recommendations do not suggest eliminating chocolate from one's diet, but instead making conscious choices and not overindulging (a good idea in any case!).

Cocoa farmers and chocolate makers can and, in many cases are, taking steps to address the situation, and hopefully there will be improvement now that the heavy metals are a known concern.

We have decided to continue to offer gelt so that those who elect to purchase it will have access to the most affordable, socially just version possible.

Better gelt—made of chocolate that has been screened for child slavery that plagues the cocoa industry—is available by order through BEKI. We're proud to say that this is the 5th year of this Tikkun Olam project.

As a point of clarification, the synagogue does not profit from these sales but offers it as a service to the communities of consumers (and producers, including the cocoa and sugar farmers).

This gelt is available in milk or dark, in individual mesh bags of 12 mixed size pieces at wholesale pricing of \$2.50/bag, if you order by Sunday, Nov. 19. Pick up at BEKI is preferred once you are notified the order has come in, though delivery is available if needed. Place your order with Becky May at bseashoremay@aol.com.

Should you wish to stock up on other fair trade products, cocoa powder, chocolate chips, brown or white sugar,

and Hershey fair trade Chocolate Minis can also be ordered through Becky.

Just as the miracle of the Hanukkah oil was that it lasted far longer than expected, you can extend your dedication to social justice through the purchase of fair trade chocolate year-round.

Since the chocolate industry is beginning to take steps to address its dark side, we now can find many brands of chocolate that are both kosher (OU) and have been independently screened for fair trade practices—including Stop and Shop *brand* chocolate chips and cocoa powder. Stop and Shop gift cards, which are available for purchase in the BEKI office, help support BEKI.

Look for these 3 symbols on products that have been screened against child slavery by third party certifiers: Fair Trade, UTZ, or Rainforest Alliance.



New JCARR Family Arrives Nov. 1

The Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement [JCARR] will welcome our 9th family on Nov. 1. Mom, Dad, daughters 17, 15, 7, and sons 13 and 7 months will arrive just as the weather gets cold.

We need coats, mittens and gloves. We do not know exact sizes, but we welcome clothing in good condition. We also need backpacks for the five children.

If you can help with these supplies, or volunteer in other ways to settle this family into our community, please email BEKI's liaison to JCARR, Jennifer Mellon, at jnmellon@hotmail.com.

Celebrating Fall Holidays at BINA

By ANNIE NORMAN-SCHIFF, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Since the High Holy Days fell on an uncommon schedule this year, with many weeks of holidays on Sundays, after our first meeting on Sept. 10, BINA did not meet on Sunday for another five weeks! Our older students, in grades two through six, continued meeting on Wednesdays, and had the opportunity to learn about each holiday in depth. Our youngest students, in kindergarten and first grade, had a very long holiday break! But they also had the opportunity to enjoy the holidays with kid-friendly Sunday celebrations at BEKI.

On Wednesdays, our older students learned in turn about Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shmini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah. Our BINA teachers brought these holidays to life with special stories, crafts, snacks, and activities. Every class had the chance to visit the Sukkah and shake the lulav and etrog on Oct. 4, and many families stayed after religious school to eat Apizza in the sukkah with the whole BEKI community.

Our Sundays were filled with kid-friendly ways to celebrate the holidays at BEKI. When the second day of Rosh Hashanah fell on a Sunday, school-aged children enjoyed their own services and activities, like shofar origami in K-2 Kehila and saying the Shehechayanu blessing over new fruits in Junior Congregation. The second day of Sukkot also fell on a Sunday, and BEKI celebrated with our kid-favorite Sukkah Hop: a progressive party through Westville, visiting the sukkahs of BEKI families. Simchat Torah morning was another Sunday, and we celebrated in kid-friendly ways, includ-

ing unrolling the entire Torah around the sanctuary—an awe-inspiring experience.

As joyful as these celebrations were, it's nice to settle into our non-holiday routines at BINA. Our kindergarteners and first graders returned to the classroom on Oct. 15, and all of our classes are digging into their topics for the rest of the year: Hebrew, Jewish history, Jewish values, and more.



Miri Rosenberg teaches her 5th & 6th grade students—Mordechai Abraham, Sam Kaplan-Fay, Coby Werlin, Anna Greenberg, Lia Gersick-Seward, and Naomi Rivers—about Sukkot.

Spotlight on a BINA Teacher: Miri Rosenberg

Morah Miri teaches our oldest students at BINA (5th-6th grade). This is her first school year as a teacher, although last year she was a favorite substitute. Her students enjoy her enthusiasm and creativity in the classroom. She is famous for her PowerPoints with YouTube film clips, which help illuminate Jewish holidays and history.

A 2021 graduate of SUNY Potsdam, where she studied theater, she currently works at the Shubert Theater in New Haven. Her favorite previous job was working at Magic Kingdom in Walt Disney World. Miri grew up active at her family's synagogue in Albany, New York and is an alumna of the Nativ gap year in Israel.

HIGH HOLY DAYS RECAP

BY JENNIFER MYER & HAROLD BIRN

As we celebrated our last Rosh Hashanah in our current sanctuary, it was a sweet, nostalgic occasion, combining the familiar with the new. This year marked the first in-person service, post-pandemic, for some, and it was wonderful to see familiar faces. We were able to incorporate new leaders into the service, while having the continuity of longstanding leaders. We again decorated with sustainable flowers which will be replanted on BEKI grounds.

Selichot was expanded and included a seuda and learning, which were appreciated. Overall, our High Holy Days were filled with ruach and a sense of awe for an enlivening, spiritual start to the New Year.

Like everything at BEKI, we are only as good as our volunteers! It's not just that volunteerism makes things go well; at BEKI congregation participation creates the ritual, learning and fellowship which are the substance of our community. This year we welcomed Sarah Silverman to High Holy Days committee leadership and encourage others to join us.

Thank you to the following people for their exceptional leadership and participation:

High Holidays Steering Committee:

Programming: Shoshana Zax, Rachel Bashevkin

Ritual: Russell Epstein

Audio and Environment: Eric Dunsker

Greeters: Rebecca Weiner and Robert Lettick

Security: Evan Wyner and Jay Sokolow

Yizkor Book: Shoshana Lash and Tina Rose

Elul Programming: From our Elul Beit Midrash to Back to Shul, our Elul Programming sets the stage for our High Holy Days. Thank you to Bruce Spierer, Robin Goldberg, Rabbi Eric, Rachel Greenberg, Annie Norman-Schiff, Becky May and Rebecca Weiner for their leadership in the creation and coordination of programming. Becky May, Sarah Berry and Ellen Cohen ensured our grounds and gardens looked their best. Sarah Berry and helpers made our silver shine. Thanks to Ina Silverman for getting the torah covers changed.

Art Gallery: Helen Rosenberg again with the help of the Art Committee coordinated an engaging exhibit entitled "Off Our Walls," which curated Jewish art from our members' homes. Thank you to all who lent their art for our enjoyment.

George G. Posener Family Memorial Break Fast Leaders and Participants: Eva Shragis, Lana Gad, Margie

Weiner, Ellen Cohen, Shoshana Zax, Margie Hirshfield, Trezlen Drake, plus all kiddush team participants, cook and freeze participants, and Yom Kippur Break Fast participants. There is no way Break Fast could ever occur without all of the sets of hands in the planning, shopping and preparation.

Greeters: Becky May, Carl Goldfield, Carol Weitzman, CJ May, Cynthia Rubin, David Wright, Deborah Craig, Eric Dunsker, Eva Shragis, Ivan Alvarez, Jessey Palumbo, Jim Stacey, Joanne Goldblum, Jonathan Rohner, Julie Cohen, Julie Katz, Karel Koenig, Ken Buckman, Lisa Stanger, Mark Oppenheimer, Martin Gad, Max DuBoff, Michael Woodward, Mimi Glenn, Miriam Feinstein, Rachel Adelstein, Rebecca Weiner, Richard Kramer, Robert Lettick, Roger Colten, Sarah Berry, Sherrin Stahl, Shoshana Zax, Stephen Rudof, Steve Werlin, Susan Voigt, Tom Goldenberg and Zach Dillon.

Our Service and Learning Session Leaders and Readers: Stephen Fraade, Jay Sokolow, Sarah Silverman, Marsha Beller, Rachel Adelstein, David Gordon, Cantor Shoshana Lash, Russell Epstein, Jennifer Botwick, Sylva Kroeber, Paul Bass, Corey Stone, Elan Weinstock, Isaiah Cooper, Jonathan Gordon, Max DuBoff, Rena Cheskis-Gold, Rachel Light, Miriam Jennings, Glenn Levine, Dan Prober, Shayna Schor, David Wright, Jacob Robins, Carole Bass, Jessica Bod, Eli Lebowitz, Klara Oppenheimer, Mick Lebowitz, Sam Werlin, Eleanor Blessing, Natalya Moycik. Thanks to Daniel Manning, Miles Katz and Miranda Hurwitz, our USY co-presidents, who organized Havdalah on Yom Kippur.

Ushers: Max DuBoff, Stewart Frankel, Becky May, Jennifer Botwick and Jay Sokolow.

Children's Service Leaders: Rozzie Levine Rodwin, Ben Rodwin, Abby Fraade, Tani Cohen-Fraade, Eva Schultz, Helen Rosenberg, Ellen Cohen, Amy Schwartz, David Levy, David Goldblum, Josh Perry, Mark Oppenheimer, Libby Abraham, Jane Rivers, CJ May.

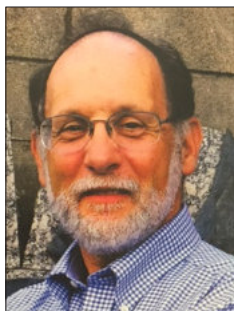
The BEKI Staff: And as always, without the hard work of Peggy Hackett, Michael Barone and Amer Hassoon, nothing would happen the way it should.

If we have forgotten to thank you, we apologize. Please know your efforts are greatly appreciated!

We are already thinking about next year, including assigning a portion of mobility impaired parking ahead of time. Parking in general was difficult, given that some of the holidays fell on the weekend, and the weather was rainy for others. Please feel free to contact Jennifer or Harold with concerns, ideas or comments about the holidays. And as always, if you would like to be involved in planning, please volunteer!

Prayer and Liturgy

On Wednesday, Nov. 8, explore prayer and liturgy at 7:30 pm on BEKI [Zoom](#) with Rabbi Carl Astor. Hebrew proficiency is not required. This is not a class, but rather an open forum to learn together and share ideas. 320211



Rabbi Carl Astor

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

Sign up for Torah Reading

If you are able to read an aliyah of Torah or a Haftorah, make your selection via our online [spreadsheet](#).

Just scroll down to the proper date to see details about each aliyah. Questions? Consult Rachel Adelstein at ritualcoordinator@beki.org.

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 Shacharit.

On select Sundays from 10 to 11 am (after 9 am Shacharit), Rabbi Woodward leads in-person study of Talmud, Chapter 2 Tractate Shabbat.

Prior study of Jewish texts is not required.

Sisterhood

Not Too Soon to Think about Hanukkah

We continue to renew our inventory of beautiful Judaica. In addition to providing beautiful and functional Judaica, the giftshop strives to support local, artisan and socially conscious businesses.

We have new kippot from Mayaworks (see two photos on this page), a nonprofit social venture that empowers indigenous women of Guatemala to achieve economic security by providing markets for their hand-crafted products. And besides that, their kippot are beautiful, well made and unique.



This year Hanukkah arrives Thursday, evening Dec. 7. We have menorahs for every style and need—and beautiful Israeli made candles for you to light. Get a head start with gifts and travel menorahs for the family and friends you will see at Thanksgiving.

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 9 am for our annual Hanukkah book and gift sale. Sisterhood members will re-

ceive 10% off all purchases. In addition, from 11 am to 12 pm that day, we will host an author talk with artist Joel Silverstein. Book signing and bagels will be included in the program.

We are open every day by appointment, except Shabbat. You can usually drop in around minchah and maariv, but it's best to text or call first: Karen 203.430.2182 or Harriet 203.675.8607.

The BEKI Giftshop is a project of the Sisterhood. Please support the gift shop and please become a member of Sisterhood—a foundational arm of BEKI.



Rabbi's Tzedakah Fund

Marking the yahrzeit of Avraham Ben Shalom by

- Tikva & Marc Shapiro

With thanks for your kindness and compassion after the passing of her Uncle Charle Ludwig by

- Sandra Ludwig

To Rabbi Carl Astor with wishes for good health by

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To Joanne & Steve Rudof in honor of their 58th wedding anniversary by

- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow

To Michael Barone in appreciation by

- Josh Weinstein

To Katharine Baker, Rabbi Eric Woodward & family with sympathy on the passing of Eric H. Baker by

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- Alexandre (Sasha) Vaxman

In honor of Katie Grant's conversion by

- Larry & Amalya Brownstein

Kiddush Fund

- Tani Cohen-Fraade
- Bobbie & Harold Miller
- Rebecca Weiner
- September birthdays: Susan Voigt, Max Duboff, Michael Ries, Morris Bell, Isaac Levy, Annie Bass & Marissa and Jonah, Marsha Beller, Miri Hasbani
- September anniversaries: Emma Sokoloff-Rubin and Sam Purdy, Jennifer Botwick and Michael Ries, Carole and Paul Bass, Beth Wallace

Chai/Synagogue Fund to support synagogue operations

To BEKI with thanks for allowing their son and all the other Chapel Haven community members to attend services by

- Bill & Lynn Levine

To Angela & Bruce Oren with sympathy on the passing of Wilmoth Williams by

- Rachel Bashevkin
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
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- David Schwartz
- Cynthia Rubin (to Tikkun Olam for Columbus House)
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- Dan & Sharon Prober
- Jessey & Joe Palumbo
- Veronica Guevara
- Joan Patrick
- David & Darryl Kuperstock

To Bobbie & Harold in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary by

- Michael & Marla Miller
- The Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Eden Gerson & Chanan Zupnick on the birth of their son by

- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Sherry Kent & Richard Kantrowitz and family with sympathy on the passing of Charlie Ludwig by

- Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty Gold (to the Barzillai Cheskis BEKI Youth Israel Scholarship Fund)
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- Diane Krevolin
- Barbara Cushen
- Jessey & Joe Palumbo
- Rissa Mendlestein
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Stacey Goodwin-Podell

To Max DuBoff in honor of

his birthday by

- Marsha Goodman

To Michael Winter, Ellen Mackler & family with sympathy on the passing of Paula Winter by

- Mimi Glenn

To Margie Wiener in honor of the birth of her grandson Benjamin Reece Wiener by

- Mimi Glenn

To Sherry & Steve Rothman in honor of the birth of their new granddaughter by

- Mimi Glenn

To Robert Lettich with sympathy on the passing of Charlie Ludwig by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock

Eric I.B. Beller Fund for the Environment

To Katharine Baker & Rabbi Eric Woodward with sympathy on the passing of Eric Baker by

- Marsha Beller & Robert Hoffnung

Charles & Violet Ludwig Fund for BEKI and in honor of Jay Sokolow

In honor of Charlie Ludwig and Jay Sokolow by

- Carole & Paul Bass

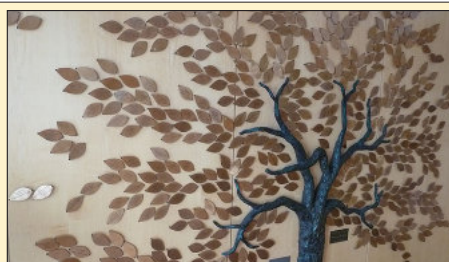
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- Her beloved Bubby Sophie Walinsky by Harriet Friedman & family (to the Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library Fund)
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- Moscovitz
- Rena Miller by Howard Miller
- Evelyn & Henry Cohen by Donna & Cliff Cohen
- Harriet & David Kroop by Donna & Cliff Cohen
- Steven Kroop by Donna & Cliff Cohen
- Arnie Lash by Shoshana Lash
- Lev Malamud by Fania Levine
- Esther Landau by Ken & Linda Buckman
- Lester P. Isenberg by Janis Isenberg
- Michael Harold Rudof by Joanne & Steve Rudof
- Jacob Sokoloff by Shirley Goldstein Frumento
- Herman Goldstein by Shirley Goldstein Frumento
- His father Paul Cooper by Isaiah Cooper
- Irving Kaufman by Ann Cassarino
- Elaine Lettich by Robert Lettich & family
- Her mother Mary Edelkind by Tamar Edelkind
- Her brother Jamie Edelkind by Tamar Edelkind
- Diana Leviter by Coleman & Tema Leviter
- Susan Gell by John & Marcia Gell
- Her mother Esther Melnick by Jay & Marjorie Hirshfield
- Robert Kisner by Annette Kisner
- John Freedman by Anette Kisner
- Sadie Kisner by Anette Kisner
- Jacob Cohen by Ted Maltin
- Ruth Maltin by Ted Maltin
- Albert Hamoway by Ted Maltin
- Edward Mattler by Judy Resnick & Debra Levine (to the Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund)
- Eileen S. Rogoff by Jonathan Eagan
- Jay Moscovitz by Mike Moscovitz

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



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It's not too late to make a pledge or donation to the **Sanctuary Redesign**, or to increase the amount that you have already given.

Contact Peggy in our office, or speak to a member of the Fundraising Committee: John Weiser, Murray Akresh, Yaron Lew, Jessey Palumbo, or John Wareck



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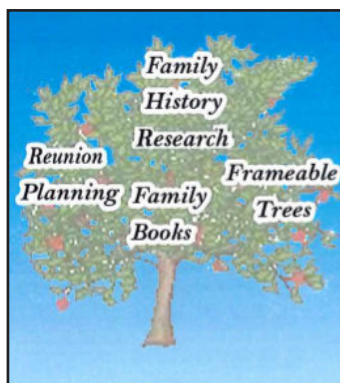
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THANKSGIVING GRATITUDE

In 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln decreed that the last Thursday of November should be set aside as a day of “Thanksgiving and Praise.” “In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity,” his Secretary of State, William Seward wrote, the country was nevertheless blessed.

I’m writing this on Oct. 9, 2023, two days after Hamas’ horrifying attack that has killed, at this writing, more than 700 Israelis, and led to the kidnapping of more than 100. I have no idea what to expect in the coming month; the weeks to come, between this writing and its reading, are obscured not only by the fog of war but by the fog of the future.

But I know that, on the last Thursday of November, we’ll gather for Thanksgiving, a day of connection and gratitude.

And it leaves me thinking of two things. First, for myself—and you are not reading this as I write it—but it is my hope that I can find gratitude and connection over the coming time. Second, for all of us: let Thanksgiving remind us that we as Jews—as humans—have been through narrow and hard places before, and it is our task and our honor to find gratitude and holiness even in these moments.

What has the last month brought? What have your prayers been? What are they now? I want to share two texts here.

The first is from Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, Nov. 19, 1863—one week before the declared Thanksgiving. Lincoln famously wrote, “It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here

highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

We just celebrated Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and we do not know who will live and who will die. But we know that whatever has happened in the last month, our task is to ensure that those who gave the “last full measure of devotion” inspire us to “increased devotion to that cause.”

And my second text, Hatikvah. Od lo avedah tikvateinu—our hope of two thousand years, to be a free people in the land of Zion and Jerusalem, shall not be lost. This is that cause of devotion.

May the Thanksgiving holiday inspire in us increased gratitude, kindness, and devotion.



Eric Woodward



Gabor Peterdi, Sunshine with Flowers, 1966; from A Genesis, a suite of 15 etchings, half of which are on display in the BEKI Beit Midrash.

November 2023

17 Heshvan 5784 - 17 Kislev 5784

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Mark Your Calendar

- Dec 3** Joel Silverstein book talk
- Dec 3** Hanukkah book and gift sale
- Dec 6** CATT security presentation
- Dec 7** First Night Hanukkah
- Dec 9** Kadima Hanukkah party
- Dec 7-15** Hanukkah clothing drive

			1 7am In-person/Zoom service 4pm BINA 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 6:30pm Teen Keshet 7:30pm Zoom Schmooze about Home Energy Audits w/BEKI's Green Team 17 Heshvan	2 8:15am In-person/Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 18 Heshvan	3 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:26pm Candle Lighting 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 19 Heshvan	4 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 20 Heshvan
5 9am BINA 9am In-person/Zoom Service 1-4pm USY Pie Baking 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 21 Heshvan	6 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 22 Heshvan	7 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 23 Heshvan	8 7am In-person/Zoom service 4pm BINA 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 7:30pm Prayer & Liturgy w/Rabbi Carl Astor (Zoom) 24 Heshvan	9 8:15am In-person/Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 25 Heshvan	10 Veterans Day/Office Closed 7am In-person/Zoom service 4:19pm Candle Lighting 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 26 Heshvan	11 Name Amnesty Shabbat 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 27 Heshvan
12 9am BINA 9am In-person/Zoom service 10am Talmud Study 1pm Kadima: IT Rope Course 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 28 Heshvan	13 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 7pm General Board Meeting (on-line) 29 Heshvan	14 Rosh Hodesh 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 1 Kislev	15 7am In-person/Zoom service 4pm BINA 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 6:30pm Teen Keshet 7:30pm Zoom Schmooze w/Jay Michaelson "Celebrating Gender Diversity in Jewish Tradition, Values & Theology" 2 Kislev	16 8:15am In-person/Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 3 Kislev	17 7am In-person/Zoom service 4:12pm Candle Lighting 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4 Kislev	18 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary, in-person) 11am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 5 Kislev
19 9am BINA 9am In-person/Zoom service 10am Talmud Study 12-1:30pm Pie pickup 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 6 Kislev	20 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 7 Kislev	21 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 6-7:30pm Pie pickup 8 Kislev	22 7am In-person/Zoom service No BINA 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 9 Kislev	23 Thanksgiving/Office Closed 9am In-person/Zoom service (Federal Holiday Service Time) No afternoon/evening service 10 Kislev	24 Office Closed 9am In-person/Zoom service 4:08pm Candle Lighting 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 11 Kislev	25 9:15am Shabbat Service 11am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 12 Kislev
26 No BINA 9am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 13 Kislev	27 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (on-line) 14 Kislev	28 7am In-person/Zoom service 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 15 Kislev	29 7am In-person/Zoom service 4pm BINA 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 6:30pm Teen Keshet 16 Kislev	30 8:15am In-person/Zoom service 9am Torah Study 5:45pm In-person/Zoom service 17 Kislev		

Service Times

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

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.

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.

Services

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

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

For the latest information on services, check [Happenings](#) or email bekitefilla@gmail.com