

A New Haven Tradition since 1892

BEKI bulletin

Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

Elul 5781-Tishrei 5782

Vol. 27 Issue 9

Message from Rabbi Woodward: Page 18

ROSH HASHANAH ARRIVES

Since Erev Rosh HaShanah is Monday, Sept. 6 (Labor Day), we are in the final days of preparation for the High Holy Days.

With ever-changing safety recommendations in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, all activities are subject to change.

Listed here are BEKI plans as of mid-August.

Please check emails, the BEKI Facebook page, and Happenings for updates.

Two Selichot Services

Our traditional Selichot Service is Saturday, Aug. 28 at 9 pm in person and on Zoom.

Rabbi Woodward will also lead an Alternative Selichot Service, "Reflecting on a Hard Year," on Sunday, Sept. 5 at 8 pm (Zoom only). Join us for a service involving meditation, spiritual writing, and chant. We'll process our journeys of the last year, and we will write our own personal Vidui prayers for use on the holy days.

Back to Shul Day

Sunday, Aug. 29 is a work and fun day to prepare the shul for High Holy Days. Our goal is to prepare the synagogue, inside and out, while spending time with friends and getting to know new members. For our youth, the festivities include our second annual Reverse Tashlikh River Cleanup. (They will take trash out of the West River rather than tossing crumbs in.) Please consult the flyer for the details of events, starting after 9 am minyan and ending at 4 pm.



Beit Midrash Wednesday

Our final session of this series, designed to prepare us intellectually and spiritually for the High Holy Days, is Wednesday, Sept. 1 at 7:30 pm with Jay Sokolow, on Zoom. His topic is "Vidui—Essential for Teshuva, Not Just for Yom Kippur: The When, Why & How of Confession."

High Holy Day services

Members should have received an email on July 28 entitled "Holidays at BEKI 5782." (Members who receive their information by snail mail were sent a letter.) That email/letter included information about honors, seating, parking, etc.

Entry will be ticketless for members/guests with the greeters confirming admission using a list at the doorway. Adults from member households in good standing will be included on the list for admission; members with questions as to their standing are asked to inquire with the office.

Guests and visitors are most welcome, but all adults require reservations for most services. Active-duty military and police personnel, and full-time students, may enter with valid official ID; however, *advance arrangements are required*. To be included on our non-member/guest list, please contact our office at 203.389.2108 x114 or office@beki.org for a non-

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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.

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High Holy Days

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member/guest admission form.

Children accompanied by their adults are always welcome to join us.

Livestreaming of Services

In order to make our High Holy Day services accessible to people who will be at home due to the pandemic, we will livestream our services this year. We do so in accord with the teshuvah written by Rabbi Josh Heller (<https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/story/livestreaming-shabbat-and-haggim>) and adopted by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly.

Casting off our sins

BEKI's popular Tashlikh, a brief ceremony suitable for all ages, will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 5 pm at the usual three outdoor locations: the Edgewood Bridge, the Whitney Museum Covered Bridge, and the handicap accessible West Rock Playground on Valley Street. Tashlikh will be held rain or shine. Friends and neighbors are welcome to join us; no reservations are needed.

Break-Fast

Following the Neilah service on Yom Kippur, members and all who have pre-arranged to join us for the High Holy Days are invited to break the fast communally. Although we hoped to return to our traditional festive meal, plans have changed because of current pandemic circumstances. To keep everyone as safe as possible, this year's break-fast will be a grab-and-go quick bite plus dinner to take home.

Kever Avot Services

Rabbi Woodward will lead a brief community memorial service on Sunday, Sept. 12: at the Warner Street cemetery in Hamden at 10:30 am and at the Farwell Street cemetery in West Haven at 11:30 am.

Sukkot Preparations

The week of Sukkot arrives Monday evening, Sept. 20. To order a lulav and etrog set, email or call the office before Wednesday, Sept. 1. Just let Peggy know how many sets you want, and she will bill you \$40 for each set.

Roger Colten needs assistance finishing the BEKI sukkah on Sunday, Sept. 19, at 9:30 am, following services. If you can help, please email r_colten@yahoo.com.

Roger says that the "solemn day of disassembly" will be Sunday, Oct. 3 at 9:30, after minyan.

Two Sukkah Parties

The traditional Sukkah Hop (a progressive party around Westville) will be immediately after First Day Sukkot services on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Details are on the Youth Activities page in this bulletin.

Pizza in the Hut returns! The party is Sunday, Sept. 26 at 4 pm in the BEKI courtyard sukkah. Reservations are due to the office by Sept. 22, \$10/adults, \$5/child under 12, \$30/household. If you request them, vegan pies and gluten free pies will be available. Email shoshanazax@gmail.com if you can help.

Yizkor on Shmini Atzeret

Yizkor prayers are included in the service on Tuesday, Sept. 28, on Shmini Atzeret, meaning the 8th day of solemn assembly.

Simhat Torah Processions

Simhat Torah festivities with hakafot (Torah processions) will be in the sanctuary/social hall on Tuesday evening, September 28 and Wednesday morning, September 29.



As we conclude the annual Torah reading cycle and begin the new one, we read the final chapters of Deuteronomy, followed by the opening passages of Genesis.

L'shanah tovah. May the next year be a good one!

Schedule of Holy Day Services

Sat 28 Aug Traditional Selihot service 9 pm (in person & Zoom)

Sun 5 Sep Alternative Selihot 8 pm (Zoom only)

Mon 6 Sep Erev Rosh Hashanah Service 6 pm

Tues 7 Sep First Day Rosh Hashanah Services 9 am
Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation at 10:30 am

Tashlikh 5:00 pm at Edgewood Bridge, Whitney Museum Covered Bridge, and West Rock Playground
Minchah & Maariv 6 pm

Wed 8 Sep Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services 9 am
Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation at 10:30 am

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High Holy Days

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Minchah 5:45 pm

Sun 12 Sep Cemetery Memorial Service 10:30 am at Beth El Memorial Park, Warner St. Hamden; 11:30 am at Keser Israel Memorial Park, Farwell St. West Haven

Wed 15 Sep Minchah 6:30 pm; Kol Nidre 6:45 pm

Thur 16 Sep Yom Kippur Services 9 am

Children’s Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation at 10:30 am

Study Sessions 2:30 pm & 3:45 pm

Minchah followed by Neilah 5:15 pm

Havdalah 7:41 pm

Mon 20 Sep Erev Sukkot Minchah & Maariv 6 pm

Tues 21 Sep First Day Sukkot Services 9 am, followed by Sukkah Hop

Minchah & Maariv 6 pm

Wed 22 Sep Second Day Sukkot Services 9 am

Minchah 5:45 pm

Mon 27 Sep Hoshanah Rabbah Shaharit 9 am

Minchah & Erev Shmini Atzeret 6 pm

Tues 28 Sep Shmini Atzeret Services 9 am, including Yizkor

Minchah 6 pm, Erev Simhat Torah Service 6:30 pm, featuring processions, dancing and singing with the BEKI torah scrolls

Wed 29 Sep Simhat Torah Services 9 am

Minchah 5:45 pm



Message from President Yaron Lew

Adapted from his email message on July 29



Yaron Lew

We are encouraged by the comparatively high rate of vaccination in our state and county and, anecdotally, among eligible members of the BEKI community (i.e., those 12+). Yet we are aware of an increase in key COVID data in recent weeks due to the transmissibility of the Delta variant.

We ask that people refrain at BEKI from handshaking, hugging, and kissing.

We encourage people to socially distance and use the extra seating in the social hall if needed.

We strongly encourage everyone who is eligible to please get vaccinated.

We will continue to monitor local data and any changes to CDC guidance in order to maintain safety while promoting the spiritual and communal life of our shul.

We are aware that there are two opposing views within our community. On the “mask mandate” side, a fear for the vulnerable in our families and a concern for the community, and on the “non-mandate” side, a different fear of returning to a hard time in a lot of people’s lives. During this frightening time, we want BEKI to be a community in which everyone feels heard and cared for.

Please remember that I am always available, and you may contact me anytime with any issue that needs my attention at president@beki.org.

Welcome New Members

Bonnie Pepper, Aaron Barkon, and Samantha (Sammi)

New Facebook Information

The BEKI Facebook group with the notices, humor, and conversations features our stained-glass window graphic. You go to the page and ask to join.

At the end of July, we rebuilt the BEKI Facebook “like” page, which is our outward-facing page for the gen-

eral public. That one uses the BEKI hamsa logo.

BEKI has a new Instagram, if that’s your thing:

www.instagram.com/bekinewhaven/

For those members who do not have an account but want to see what’s been posted in our Facebook group, just email bulletin@beki.org to request the weekly Facebook Digest, sent as one email on Fridays.

Playground Improvements

BEKI’s children have an improved play area, thanks to the volunteers who came out on a rainy Sunday morning to construct a Lifetime brand Big Stuff swing set. Unlike the one it’s replacing, it’s a hybrid metal/plastic construction. “The hope is it will be there for years to come,” project organizer Adam Miller explained. “It goes a

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Playground

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New playground equipment.

long way towards improving BEKI's kid-friendly infrastructure. With Covid," he added, "the kids are spending so much more time outside. I think it will be a welcome addition." Thanks to everyone who donated funds to the project and to the team that assembled it. "We all had a great time and worked really well as a team too," Adam said.

Annual Appeal After the Holy Days

In the past, BEKI's Annual Appeal began in late summer, exactly at the time we were asked to pay our membership dues. We realized that was not good timing. Therefore, again this year, we will launch the Appeal after the High Holy Days. At BEKI, you can trust that there will be no solicitation for contributions during High Holy Day services.

You'll receive Annual Appeal information in October. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions.

Synagogue School Scholarships

The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven provides need-based assistance for New Haven area synagogue schools. The deadline for applications is Thursday, Sept. 23. Apply at

<https://scholarships.jewishnewhaven.org/form/religious>

BEKI Books Make Dangerous Trip

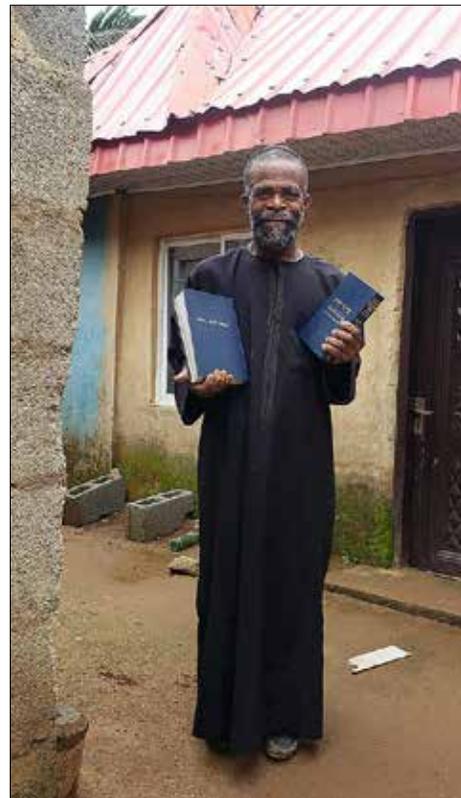
Success! Eliana Saks' group delivered 150 pounds of BEKI's old humashim, siddurim, and mahzorim to Nigeria (and are shipping the rest). Consult the August bulletin for the back story!

However, days before their departure, the trip suddenly became risky. Three Israeli filmmakers who had delivered a torah to a Jewish community were arrested by Nigeria's internal security agency. The filmmakers were there to film *We Were Never Lost*, a documentary series about the African Jewish communities in Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Ethiopia. After twenty days they were released, though their Nigerian host, Imma Lizben Agha, was held for an additional two weeks.

The filmmakers were held in horrendous conditions, locked into a small cell and sleeping on the floor with no access to showers or clean clothes, according to a press release issued after they were flown back to Israel. These men, two traveling with American passports and one with a French passport, were interrogated and mistreated without ever officially being arrested or charged. Their release was secured after efforts by the Israeli, U.S. and French embassies, additional diplomatic channels, and other individuals, according to the press release.

For their security, Eliana and her group canceled a planned visit to the area where the filmmakers were arrested, according to Kulanu, the organization that connected us with the Nigerian community.

Kulanu's President, Harriet Bograd, sends special greetings to BEKI. Her



Elder Habakkuk sent his thanks with a video, which was posted on BEKI Facebook.

daughter, now Rabbi Margie Klein Ronkin, served as BEKI's Kadima advisor when she was a student at Yale (class of 2001). 

המקום ינחם
HaMakom Yinahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Ida Sklaver,
mother of member Diana Firestone and grandmother of Morgan Firestone

David Marshall,
brother of member Shoshana Lash

May the Almighty comfort those who mourn

Seeking Performers for Outdoor Showcase

If you sing and/or play an instrument, come perform for BEKI's Musical Showcase Oct. 23. All kinds of secular and Jewish music welcome. We'll be outdoors in the BEKI courtyard with a campfire and plenty of good vibes. Contact Max at duboff.max@gmail.com if you're interested. Not a performer? Please save the date to attend: Saturday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 pm.

Elm City Kallah Returns

Mark your calendars. We have rescheduled the Elm City Kallah to Oct. 29-30-31 with the hope that we will be able to gather then.

Rabbi Ethan Tucker, who was selected by *The Jewish Week* in 2009 as one of thirty-six young Jewish innovators, activists and visionaries in New York, "36 Under 36," will be our scholar in residence.

Rabbi Tucker will speak Friday evening at Westville Synagogue, will come to BEKI on Saturday, Oct. 30, and will finish the weekend of study on Sunday morning at Congregation B'nai Jacob.

Rabbi Tucker, a co-founder of Kehilat Hadar, an in-



Ethan Tucker

dependent prayer community in New York's Upper West Side, now is President and Rosh Yeshiva at an observant, egalitarian yeshiva, also called Hadar. Rabbi Tucker is known for his ability to transcend the affiliation boundaries of Judaism.

After his B.A. from Harvard College, Rabbi Tucker studied at Yeshivat Ma'ale Gilboa in Israel, was ordained by the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, and earned a PhD from the Jewish Theological Seminary. New Haven people know him as the son of Hadassah Lieberman and Rabbi Gordon Tucker and the stepson of former U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman.

Supporting the Garden of Healing

For those members who attended the July 31 tour of The New Haven Botanical Garden of Healing Dedicated to Victims of Gun Violence, this is the link to join the email list, support the project, or contact the garden's founder, Marlene Miller-Pratt: <https://uri.yale.edu/botanical-garden-healing>.

The garden, located just below BEKI on Valley Street, is designed by Svigals + Partners. The brick walkway through the garden is inscribed with the names and ages of over 600 victims since 1976, all arranged chronologically.



BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY

The New Haven Botanical Garden of Healing graces the area below West Rock on Valley Street.

JCARR FAMILY REUNIFICATION

JCARR, the Jewish Community Alliance for Refugee Resettlement, is celebrating the resettling of its 6th refugee family in 6 years, a notable accomplishment! What makes this new family so special is that they are the mother, sister, and brother of Issa, the father of Family 2. JCARR is thrilled to accept these new refugees and to be a part of the reunification for this family.

By the time you read this bulletin, the new family will have arrived, and all the work necessary to resettle them in their new home and new country will be underway.

JCARR is doing its usual work: finding an apartment, furnishing it, working with the family on financial management, enrolling them in English classes, providing guidance on health care, applying for social services, assisting with transportation, and perhaps most important – helping to find employment for the adults who can work.

Family 2 is sharing the workload: acquiring seasonally appropriate clothing, shopping for groceries, preparing the apartment, and making a big “welcome!” sign in Arabic and English. Our goal, as always, is helping the new family become self-reliant as soon as possible.

Please contact Madeleine Kleinman, our BEKI liaison to JCARR, for information on volunteer opportunities: madk117@gmail.com

Operation Isaiah is Back

BEKI will be collecting non-perishable food items during the High Holy Days. The Food Pantry at Jewish Family Service is always so appreciative of our generous donations of food



JCARR's Family 2 is reuniting with three other family members.

and/or financial contributions through BEKI. Check the August mid-month flyer for details about purchasing food or donating funds for grocery gift cards. Any questions? Please ask Lynn Brotman 203.623.0271.

Learn about CONECT

The October bulletin will include information about BEKI's opportunity to join CONECT, Congregations Organized for a New Connecticut, the local interfaith action group. We hope you will join the Zoom schmooze on

this topic Wednesday, Oct. 6.

CONNECT is a collective of churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and civic organizations from New Haven and Fairfield Counties – representing more than 20,000 people from different races, faith backgrounds, and living in both cities and suburbs – that have joined together to take action on social and economic justice issues of common concern. CONECT has made an impact on issues as varied as gun violence, health insurance rates, police reform, immigrant rights, and more.

GREEN TEAM PLANS PROJECTS

Around a dozen members of the BEKI community gathered in late July — fittingly, outside in the courtyard — for the inaugural in-person meeting of BEKI’s “Green Team.” The people around the circle brought diverse motivations and experiences but shared a conviction for helping BEKI to become an even more environmentally sustainable community.

Several recent virtual Schmoozes have inspired dialogue, including one in January with Nigel Savage and Shamu Sadeh of the Jewish environmental nonprofit Hazon, and one in April with Rabbi Ellen Bernstein, author of a Passover Haggadah called *The Promise of the Land*. This is a conversation with deep history at BEKI. Evidence of BEKI’s commitment to sustainability is seen in the many rounds of building renovations



BEKI’s first Green Team meeting, with attendees both in person and on Zoom.

done to increase energy efficiency, the installation of rooftop solar arrays tied to the city’s electrical grid, and improvements to make Kiddush “greener.”

Green Team members hope to bring about additional changes and projects like these at BEKI, but also to empower members of our community to make more sustainable decisions as individuals and families. Several participants spoke enthusiastically about a renewed congregational focus on sustainability, spurring participation in local initiatives around carbon neutrality and

interfaith and racial and social justice efforts. Through all of this, a shared priority emerged of engaging BEKI youth to help set the group’s direction.

Energy and possibilities abound. The team’s members will soon seek to enroll BEKI in Hazon’s Seal of Sustainability program, which offers structure and

support to invigorate this work in our community. The team is looking to align with the upcoming seven-year Shmita cycle to set realistic and attainable goals and be in sync with the rhythm of the Jewish calendar.

Sam Purdy and Josh Weinstein have been coordinating the group and are eager to hear from interested members of the community about what excites them about this initiative. Be on the lookout for details about upcoming meetings and the budding Green Team’s continued growth.

BAL TASHCHIT, DO NOT DESTROY

BY MIMI GLENN

The Midrash says that when God created the first human beings, God led them around the Garden of Eden and said, “Look at my works! See how beautiful they are, how excellent! For your sake I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world, for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it.” (Kohelet Rabbah 7:13)

Even though we celebrated Earth Day in April, we should be celebrating it EVERY day. The Jewish belief is that every living thing has a right to exist and should be

preserved. For the first time, the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy is clear because fewer people are touring and less waste is polluting the water. Because of Covid, more people stayed home and as a result, air quality improved. If we can celebrate Earth Day every day, we have an opportunity, as humans and as Jews, to sharpen our awareness of what we can all do on a daily basis to preserve the earth for future generations.

The heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth God gave over to humans. (Psalms 115:16)

High Holy Days for Children and their Families



Anna Greenberg shows Coby Werlin her family's sukkah at last year's outdoor Sukkot party.

BY ANNIE NORMAN-SCHIFF,
YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR

This year, we are overjoyed to return to our usual schedule of rich, engaging, meaningful services for all ages of children, led by incredible BEKI parent volunteers. Every age group will meet on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, with opportunities to sing and pray, eat a snack, and join activities that bring the meaning of the High Holy Days alive.

These are the major changes for safety this year:

- Children's Havura services for our youngest children will be held outdoors, weather permitting.
- A pre-prepared package of fresh snacks will be available for each child to grab and eat during the snack break. Snack will be outdoors for all children, weather permitting.
- Everyone will follow BEKI's mask policies. Children age 3 and up should plan to wear masks.
- We are not offering any childcare at BEKI over the High Holy Days. (Most years, we provide childcare during the Kol Nidre and the Neilah services, at the start and conclusion of Yom Kippur. We hope to bring these back in future years.)

Every service will meet by age group:

- Children's Havura (Preschool) will meet outdoors in the BEKI courtyard, weather permitting. In case of inclem-

ent weather, the service will meet in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room.

- K-2 Kehila (Kindergarten-Second Grade) will meet indoors in the lower level classrooms.

- Junior Congregation (Third-Sixth Grade) will meet indoors in the George Posener Daily Chapel/Library.

Please reach out with any questions, ideas, or concerns to Youth and Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff at anormanschiff@beki.org.

The schedule for all children's services, on both days of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur:

- 10:30 to 11:30 am: *Tefilot* (Services) by age group
- 11:30 to noon: Snack Break for all children
- Noon to 1 pm: Activities and Playtime by age group

Our Sukkahs are Hopping Again!

Join BEKI children and their families for a Sukkah Hop on the first day of Sukkot, Tuesday, September 21, from 12 to 2 pm, right after festival services at BEKI.

We will process from sukkah to sukkah through the Westville neighborhood, with each host family sharing its own snack, game, or activity. This will be an outdoor program, with the chance to visit each family's sukkah. All eating will take place outside and spread out. Watch for a detailed Sukkah Hop schedule by email.

ANCESTOR EXHIBIT OPENS SEPT. 2



Helene Sapadin assembled an array of family photographs together with a portion of her family tree.

For the seven years prior to the 2020 Covid shutdown, the BEKI Art Committee curated High Holy Day exhibits featuring artwork and photographs from the homes of participating BEKI members. Initially, congregants were invited to share Jewish art from their personal collections. The last two exhibits showed their photos of synagogues taken from near and far. These displays have provided an opportunity for the BEKI community to expand its Jewish cultural knowledge as well as get to know exhibit participants.

This year, the exhibit will expand this theme by featuring pre-1950 photographs and artwork that portray the diverse

ethnic backgrounds of BEKI members. Entitled “Ancestors,” the exhibit reveals fascinating stories of the extraordinary and mundane experiences of those who helped form future generations.

The exhibit has motivated BEKI members to rediscover old photos, many of which have long been hidden away, and others whose stories have not been told for too long. Around 40 members are contributing images of ancestors, some which date as far back as the 1880s, along with information on their identities and the lives they lived.

The exhibit will be on display from Sept. 2 to Nov. 7.

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.

Save a Tree and Save a Stamp

Contact the BEKI office if you would like to receive your monthly yahrzeit notices and/or monthly statements via email rather than snail mail; office@beki.org or 203-389-2108 x114



Isaiah Cooper is one of the BEKI congregants who recorded Shabbat morning services for anyone not able to attend in person.

Outdoor Service 2nd Friday

BEKI will continue holding an outdoor service once a month, weather permitting. This month, we hope to be in the courtyard for Kabbalat Shabbat on the 2nd Friday, which is Sept. 10, at 6 pm.

Please note that September is the last month when Friday evening services can be available on Zoom. Starting Oct. 1, as sunset comes earlier, that service will be exclusively in person.

Making a Minyan & Torah Reading

Now that we have services twice a day and plenty of Torah to be read, we need YOUR help! To make sure we

have a minyan consistently, please, if you can, make a weekly commitment to one or more service times. Let Rachel Wiseman Gerber (wisemangerber@gmail.com), Max DuBoff (duboff.max@gmail.com), or any of the minyan captains know about your availability.

We're also looking to expand BEKI's pool of Torah readers, both for Shabbat and weekdays. Please let Eva Shragis (ritualcoordinator@beki.org) know if you want to read a segment of any length, including if you want to but don't yet know how. Help is available.

Thank you to everyone who helps make BEKI services strong.

Taped Shabbat Services 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

COME IN AND BROWSE

Kiddush cups in need of a loving home, only \$10! Do you need an extra cup for guests and large holiday celebrations? See our window display and pick up some kiddush cups, sold “as is.”

It’s time for renewal. Start the year off with a new tallit. We have new tallitot in stock, both embroidered and traditional. Come in and try them on.

Beautiful shofarot in three sizes are in the gift shop. Help the kids feel included in the rituals of the new year with realistic plastic and plush toy shofarot. In addition, we have restocked the children’s holiday books.

Puzzle piece candlesticks can be disassembled and stored easily. We will demonstrate them for you.

Come in and browse, safely. Personalized shopping is always available. We are in the store after services on Sunday and Thursday mornings, and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and always by appointment. Call Karen 203.430.2182 or Harriet 203.675.8607, or email giftshop@beki.org.



BECOMING A SISTERHOOD MEMBER

BY MIMI GLENN, PRESIDENT OF SISTERHOOD

Every Conservative Jewish woman has the opportunity to be a link in the worldwide network of women engaged in Jewish life and committed to enhancing their Jewish knowledge, expanding their involvement in their communities and supporting klal Yisrael, the entire Jewish people.

Women’s League for Conservative Judaism encourages and guides its members to support those in need with programs such as social action and community service cam-

paigns, domestic abuse prevention programs, and holiday packages for Jewish military personnel.

Membership is still only \$25 for the year, which includes \$15 to Women’s League to help support the Jewish Theological Seminary and other Conservative movement institutions. We are in the process of sending out membership applications for 2021-22.

The Board of BEKI Sisterhood wishes all our congregants Shanah Tovah Umetookah.

Rabbi's Tzedakah Fund

In memory of Lillian Suslew Silverman by

- Ina Silverman

To Ina Silverman, Jay Sokolow and family with sympathy on the passing of Lillian Suslew Silverman by

- Cynthia Rubin
- Judy Hoberman & Dominic Kinsley

Chai/Synagogue Fund to help support synagogue operations

To BEKI in honor of David Bershaw by

- The Bershaw Family

To Ina Silverman, Jay Sokolow and family with sympathy on the passing of Lillian Suslew Silverman by (to BEKI Religious School unless otherwise noted)

- Michael Stern & Kathy Rosenbluh
- Joanne & Steve Rudolf
- Jay Brown
- The Rastelli-Weiner family
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins
- Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Yaron Lew
- Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty and Carmi Gold (Barzillai Cheskis Youth Israel Fund)
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- Lauren Kempton & Brooks Parmelee
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Sharon & Carl Astor To Shoshana Lash with sympathy on the passing of David Marshall by

- Yaron Lew
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins
- The Rastelli-Weiner family
- Raina Sotsky & Morris Bell
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Diane & Dan Krevolin
- The Freiman-Light family
- Linda Schultz & Howard Gralla
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade

To Itamar Lebowitz in honor of his Bar Mitzvah by

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To Diana Firestone with sympathy on the passing of Ida Sklaver by

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
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To Mimi Glenn in honor of her birthday by

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To Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade in honor of the birth of their grandson by

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To Helene Sapadin on the birth of her granddaughter by

- Sharon & Carl Astor

To Stacey & Evan Wyner in honor of the marriage of their son by

- Sharon & Carl Astor

With sympathy on the passing of Wilma Cain

- To Robin Abelson by Gitty Cohen
- To Brian Smaul by Gitty Cohen

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

- In memory of her parents Herbert Rabinowitz Roberts & Helene Goldblatt Roberts by Caroline Rosenstone

Yahrzeit Fund to help support synagogue operations

In Memory of:

- Her mother Lea Gutman by Mimi Glenn
- Her father Marcel Gutman by Mimi Glenn
- Herb Weiner by the Rastelli-Weiner family
- Miriam Zerwitz by Ron Zlotoff
- Jacob Cohen by Betty Swinkin
- Joseph Swinkin by Betty Swinkin
- Ruth Rosner by Hillel Auerbach
- Shirley Chain by Carol Marcus
- Albert Abelson by Gitty Cohen
- Anita Deanna Fink Saxe by Stanley Saxe
- George Schnitman by Edward & Helene Schnitman Vanderhoef
- Eli Berman by Richard Neveloff
- Bernard Weinstein by Suzanne Weinstein
- Ben Marks by Lynne Marks
- Frances Mann by Lynne Marks
- Samuel Garfinkel by Lawrence & Doralee Garfinkle
- David F. Goldberg by Wayne & Sue Cole
- Everett Rader by Dennis Rader
- Lillian Senderoff Resnick by Sherry Kent
- Their father Max Small by Rhoda & Bruce Small
- Sue Eisenberg by Rick & Judy Eisenberg
- Joe Baer by Irving Baer
- Dorothy Siegle Mattler by Shirley Mattler (to the Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund)
- Zelda Frankel Katz by Shirley Mattler (to the Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund)
- Eli Slopak by David Schwartz
- Her sister Michele Edelkind Lechner by Tamar Edelkind
- Howard Goldberg by Eileen Schuman
- Nathan Kisner by Anette Kisner
- Rose Freedman by Anette Kisner
- John Freedman by Anette Kisner
- Louis Blatt by Arnold Margolis
- Norman Rosenberg by Lillian Rosenberg
- Rose Pergament by Deanna Tulin
- Mark Brown by Phillip & Lauren Brown
- Irv Zerwitz by Rob Zlotoff
- Sarah Greenberg by Betty Swinkin

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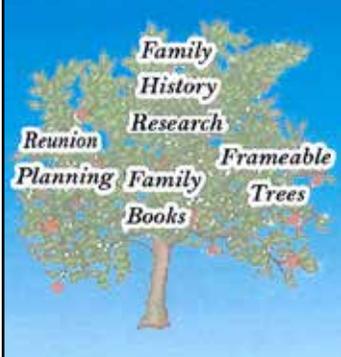
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—Harold

For more info about Create A Jewish Legacy, contact Lisa Stanger, (203) 387-2424 x382, lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org.
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BEKI Service Schedule

BEKI Services for September

All service are also available on Zoom except Saturday morning.

Sunday 9 am (outdoors *)
Sunday 5:45 pm
Monday 7 am
Monday 5:45 pm
Tuesday 7 am
Tuesday 5:45 pm
Wednesday 7 am

Wednesday 5:45 pm
Thursday 8:15 am
Thursday 5:45 pm
Friday 7 am
Friday 6 pm (outdoors 2nd Shabbat in September*)
Saturday 9:15 am

* Weather permitting

For the latest information on services, check Happenings or email bekitefilla@gmail.com

MAY YOU HAVE A YEAR OF JOY AND LOVE



Eric Woodward

Of all the bulletin articles I write as a rabbi, it is the High Holy Day bulletin article that I find the hardest to write. Why? Because I don't want to steal material from my sermons! A bulletin deadline always hits several weeks before the holidays – when I am usually in the midst of writing sermons – and I have to be careful

not to cannibalize my own material.

That's why I am excited to use this space to talk about Sukkot. But first, some culture and food.

* * *

One book I have really enjoyed is John Fowles' *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. Is it Jewish? No. Is it emotionally deep? Oh, yes. Does it make you want to go hunting for fossils on an overcast English beach while waves crash around you portentously? Definitely! For me, the relationships depicted in the book are beautifully complex. I don't want to go into them too much, but there is an emotional depth in this book that is not melodramatic, but is instead authentic and real.

* * *

Now, a recipe. This is a perfect one-dish meal for sitting in a sukkah.

Eric's Black Bean and Sweet Potato Chili

- 1 lb of dry black beans
- 4 sweet potatoes, peeled and chopped into ½ inch pieces
- 2 onions, 1 halved, and 1 minced
- 1-2 jalapenos, minced
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 28-oz can of whole peeled tomatoes in their juice, crushed by hand
- 2 bell peppers, diced
- 2 poblano chiles, diced
- 1 canned chipotle in adobo sauce, chopped, with a heaping spoonful of the sauce

- 2 bay leaves
- 1 sprig thyme
- 1 tsp Ancho chile powder
- 1 tsp regular chile powder, or paprika
- 1 tsp Mexican oregano
- 1 tsp cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Cilantro for garnish
- Fried tortilla strips, sour cream, feta, avocado, or hot sauce to garnish

- 1) Cook black beans in an Instant Pot, salting the water before cooking, adding the halved onion. Drain beans and reserve cooking liquid.
- 2) Sauté onions until softened in a large stockpot. Add bell peppers, jalapenos, and poblanos, sauté until softened. Add garlic and spices. Sauté 1 minute. Add sweet potatoes, can of tomatoes, and bean-cooking liquid to just cover. Remember: this should not be too liquidy, so use your eye to ensure that you don't add too much — you can always add more later.
- 3) Cook on stovetop partially covered at a simmer about 40 minutes, until soup has thickened.
- 4) Serve over rice, garnishing appropriately.

* * *

Now for some Torah. Sukkot is a crucial counterweight to the Yamim Noraim. It provides a chaotic, life-affirming moment of revelry right after we leave a space of intense spiritual work. We're told regarding Sukkot, "v'samachta b'chagekha v'hayita akh sameach" — you should rejoice on this holiday and be only happy. This is a reminder to us that our work of teshuvah – of bettering ourselves and changing – is actually joyful and beautiful work. And in fact, coming out the other side of teshuvah might seem like a painful exercise, but it's actually a life-affirming one.

As you prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year, think about Sukkot. Think about your soul preparation as joyful and loving – and may you have a year of joy and love.

September 2021

24 Elul 5781 - 24 Tishri 5782

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Mark Your Calendar

- Oct 6 Zoom Schmooze about CONECT
- Oct 9 Aviva Robbins Bat Mitzvah
- Oct 13 Zoom Schmooze about Fair Trade
- Oct 23 BEKI's Musical Showcase
- Oct 29-30-31 Elm City Kallah with Rabbi Ethan Tucker

1 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 7:30pm Elul Beit Midrash "Vidui-Essential for Teshuva, Not Just for Yom Kippur: The When, Why & How of Confession" w/Jay Sokolow 24 Elul	2 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 25 Elul	3 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom 7:02pm Candle Lighting 26 Elul	4 9:15am Shabbat Service - Sanctuary 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 27 Elul
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5 9:00am Courtyard or Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 8:00pm Alternative Selichot Service "Reflecting On Our Years" (Zoom only) 28 Elul	6 Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Minchah & Festival Service 6:57pm Candle Lighting 29 Elul	7 Rosh Hashanah I Office Closed 9:00am Festival Service 10:30am Children's Tefilot 5:00pm Tashlikh 6:00pm Minchah/Maariv 7:56pm Candle Lighting 1 Tishri	8 Rosh Hashanah II Office Closed 9:00am Festival Service 10:30am Children's Tefilot 5:45pm Mincha 2 Tishri	9 Fast of Gedaliah 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 3 Tishri	10 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat Courtyard or Chapel & Zoom (Maariv in-person only) 6:51pm Candle lighting 4 Tishri	11 9:15am Shabbat Service/Sanctuary 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 5 Tishri
12 9:00am Courtyard or Chapel & Zoom Service 10:30am Kever Avot - Warner St Cemetery 11:30am Kever Avot - Farwell St Cemetery 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 6 Tishri	13 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 7:00pm Executive Board Meeting 7 Tishri	14 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 8 Tishri	15 Erev Yom Kippur 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:30pm Erev Yom Kippur - Minchah & Kol Nidre 6:42pm Candle Lighting 9 Tishri	16 Yom Kippur (Yizkor) Office Closed 9:00am Yom Kippur-Festival Service 10:30am Children's Tefilot 2:30pm Study Session 3:45pm Study Session 5:15pm Minchah & Neilah 7:41pm Havdalah 10 Tishri	17 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom (Maariv in-person only) 6:39pm Candle Lighting 11 Tishri	18 9:15am Shabbat Service -Sanctuary 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 12 Tishri
19 9:00am Courtyard or Chapel & Zoom Service 9:30am Sukkah Assembly 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 13 Tishri	20 Erev Sukkot 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Erev Sukkot Minchah & Maariv 6:34pm Candle Lighting 14 Tishri	21 Sukkot I Office Closed 9:00am Sukkot Day 1 Festival Service 12:00pm Sukkah Hop 6:00pm Festival Minchah/Maariv 7:33 Candle Lighting 15 Tishri	22 Sukkot II Office Closed 9:00am Sukkot Day 2 Festival Service 5:45pm Minchah Service 16 Tishri	23 Hol Hamoed Sukkot I 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 17 Tishri	24 Hol Hamoed Sukkot II 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom (Maariv in-person only) 6:27pm Candle Lighting 18 Tishri	25 Hol Hamoed Sukkot III 9:15am Shabbat Service/Sanctuary 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Jr. Congregation 19 Tishri
26 Hol Hamoed Sukkot IV 9:00am Courtyard or Chapel & Zoom Service 4:00pm Pizza in the Hut 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 20 Tishri	27 Hoshanah Rabbah 9:00am Hoshana Rabbah Shacharit 6:00pm Minchah & Erev Shmini Atzeret 6:22pm Candle Lighting 21 Tishri	28 Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor) 9:00am Shmini Atzeret Festival Service w/Yizkor 6:00pm Minchah 6:30pm Erev Simhat Torah Festival Service 7:21pm Candle Lighting 22 Tishri	29 Simchat Torah 9:00am Simhat Torah Festival Service 5:45pm Festival Service 23 Tishri	30 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 24 Tishri		

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	9:15 am Shaharit



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