

BEKI BULLETIN

Monthly Newsletter of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, a Full-Service Synagogue for Greater New Haven Jewry
February 1996 Vol. 2 Issue 2 ק"ק בית אל-בתר ישראל Shevat-Adar 5756

Oppenheim Music Endowment Established

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel is proud to celebrate the establishment of the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Fund for Sacred Music at Beth El-Keser Israel. Endowed by Sara Oppenheim to perpetuate the knowledge of Jewish Sacred Music, a goal which she shared with her husband Morris Oppenheim of blessed memory and instilled in their children and grandchildren, the Fund will assure the continuity of this essential component of our heritage from one generation to the next. In addition to Sara Oppenheim's initial gift, generous additions have been made by her children Anita & Michael Malina, Joyce & Michael Bohnen.

Morris Oppenheim is remembered with love and respect by the BEKI community. His voice enriched our choir for many years and his beneficence helped the shul go from strength to strength. The endowment will fund continuing educational programs, such as workshops on haftara trope, shabbat and daily nusah (sacred melody), High Holy Day music workshops and other activities to perpetuate the knowledge of traditional melodies. In this way his name will always be for a blessing.

The establishment of the Oppenheim Endowment will be dedicated on "Shabbat Shira," the Sabbath of Song, coinciding with the observance of Morris's yahrzeit. On



Morris and Sara Oppenheim

Friday 2 February the Late Evening Service will honor the Oppenheim Family and will feature the music of Cantor Irving Weinstein and Music Director Kevin Mack. On Shabbat Morning 3 February the Song of Moses will be read from the Torah and the Song of

Debora will be read as the haftara. Amy Pincus and Rabbi Tilsen will teach about sacred music through their presentation "Name that Tune." A Qiddush honoring the Oppenheim Family will follow the service. On Saturday evening an informal "Erev Shira-Song Night" will be held at the Benson-Tilsen residence beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Morris & Sara Oppenheim Fund for Sacred Music at Beth El-Keser Israel will allow BEKI to continue serving the spiritual needs of the Greater New Haven Jewish Community for generations to come. This Endowment for the benefit of Beth El-Keser Israel is managed by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. Only the interest from the Endowment will be used so the programs will be funded in perpetuity. For information on endowment opportunities at Beth El-Keser Israel please call BEKI Treasurer Steve Wizner at 203-432-4800, Rabbi Tilsen at 203-389-2108, or Jewish Foundation Executive Director Deborah Kaplan Polivy at 203-387-2424 ext. 304.

Administrative Announcements

Synagogue Office Hours

Office hours are: Monday -Thursday: 9 am-3 pm and Friday: 9am-noon.

How to Contact the BEKI Bulletin

Responses to "A Message from Rabbi Tilsen," questions for "Dear Rabbi" and Letters to the Editor can be sent to: Editor, BEKI Bulletin, 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515 or by email to jjtilsen@aol.com.

Rabbi Tilsen's mail and e-mail are opened directly and exclusively by the Rabbi himself and are as secure and confidential as mail and e-mail can be.

Deadlines for Submitting Material for Publication

For the BEKI Bulletin, submit your material by the 1st of the month for the following month. Deadline for the April Bulletin is March 1st.

For mid-month flyer mailings, submit your material to the office by the 15th of the month. Deadline for the March mailing is February 15th. Please submit your material ON TIME.

Getting to Know You

Do you feel the way we do? You'd like to say



Shabbat Shalom, but you just don't know the names of the people sitting in front of you. You see them every week, you smile, you nod, but...BEKI Membership Committee to the rescue!

On 10 February 1996 the BEKI Membership Committee will sponsor a "Getting-To-Know-You-Shabbat." Be on the look out for a flyer reminder, and name tags to be worn to shul on this day. Look forward to seeing you, whoever you are.

Carol Elkies, Membership Chairperson

Friday Night Rotation

Call Steven Fraade or Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 if you would like to be added to list for daveners, Qiddush reciters or to make a commitment for regular attendance for the Qabbalat Shabbat Early Friday Evening Service.

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Myra Myers:	Synagogue Administrator

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, donations, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515. For information about advertising, call the synagogue office. Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the 1st of the month preceding publication. Annual subscription is \$36.00.

BEKI Bulletin

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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Editor	Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen
Production Editor	Mindi Englart
Advertisement Editor	Sheila Gardner
Photographer	Charles Ludwig
Printer	Goodcopy

Mitzva Indigestion:

Is it possible to do too much of a mitzva?

Halakha (Torah law) specifies minimums for some mitzvot (commandments). A person should give at least 10% of their wealth annually for tzedaqa (charity); leave at least 1/60th of their crops unpicked ("pe'a") for the poor to collect; drink at least 4 cups of wine or grape juice at the seder; recite the Shema` at least twice a day. But does halakha specify maximums?

Indeed it does. One should not give so much tzedaqa as to impoverish one's self or drink so much wine at the seder as to become inebriated. And while not a matter of law, there is a Midrash that has God complaining that someone was a nudge because he prayed too much.

Our shul community is ardent in providing mitzva-opportunities to its members. Members are constantly called and called upon to help make a minyan, read Torah on Shabbat, set up the oneg Shabbat or qiddush, contribute money, or in other words, give give give. It is no surprise that from time to time active members experience "burn-out" or what we might call "mitzva indigestion."

For many dedicated and caring BEKI members it is hard to say "no" to an invitation to do a mitzva. And so, for the benefit of the many new members who might not yet know what to expect, and for those already suffering mitzva indigestion, I want suggest the following perspective.

At BEKI you will be offered more mitzva opportunities than you can possibly accept. You will have to choose which calls you can answer. So please do not feel guilty that you can not do everything, and please do not feel annoyed that you are constantly asked. Those in charge of organizing dinners, services and fundraising show that they care about you by being sure to offer you the chance to participate, and they sometimes do so knowing that not everyone will be able to answer the call. It's like going to a great mitzva-feast. Eat! Eat! You will find performing most of the mitzvot to be fulfilling. Some people like to eat a lot of the same thing; others like to try a taste of many different dishes. Whatever your style, please be careful not to get mitzva indigestion.

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Dear Rabbi,

On the yahrzeit boards in the synagogue lobby there are orange lights and white lights. I can't figure out what it means. They are not correlated to cohen or levi, male or female. I give up. Why are some lights red and others white?

Signed, Seeking Enlightenment

Dear Enlightened,

We used to use orange bulbs but they stopped making them so now we use white bulbs. Thus the orange bulbs indicate that the bulb has been there for at least six or seven years and has not yet burned out. Now you know!

Dear Rabbi,

My neighbors put up a Christmas tree in their living room. I could see it clearly through the window. But they're Jewish! Should I say something to them?

Signed, Concerned Neighbor

Dear Concerned,

Christmas trees are originally a Jewish symbol. Centuries ago in Europe, before the advent of the Christmas tree, Jews put up trees on our festival of Shavuot (in mid-summer) and decorated them with the medieval equivalent of tinsel. Only later was a similar practice adopted among Christians. So you see, you don't have to be Jewish to be Jewish, but it helps.

As for your neighbors, invite them to your home every Friday night for a shabbat dinner with fresh halla. Have them over for a Tu BeShevat seder, the Jewish environmental holiday in February. Then bring them to the Megila reading and Purim extravaganza. Invite them to your seder, not one night but two. Bring them to an Israel Independence Day celebration at the JCC and the Holocaust Memorial observance at BEKI. Stay up all night with them at BEKI's Sweeter than Honey-Tiqun Leil Shavuot Adult Study Night, and stay to hear the Book of Ruth in the morning. Share Rosh HaShana with them, including festive meals both nights. Bring them to shul for Kol Nidre and all day of Yom Kippur, then take them with you to a break fast. Then get them to help you set up and decorate your sukka and let them shake your lulav and etrog each day. Give them a Torah to hold as they dance late into the night on Simhat Torah. Have them over for Hanuka candle lighting, play dreidel with them, and stuff them to the gizzard with latkes and sufganiyot. Believe me, by December they'll be too exhausted to put up a tree.

All letters to Dear Rabbi should be addressed to Rabbi J-J van Tilsen, care of this newsletter. Due to the volume of mail received, Dear Rabbi cannot answer all inquiries.

The spotlight is on
Harold's
**for discriminating
men's formal wear.**

19 Elm Street, New Haven, Tel. 562-7433



Speakers in February

Daniel Zlotoff

As part of his Bar Mitzva celebration, Daniel Zlotoff will present a commentary on the Torah reading on Shabbat morning 17 February.

Lisa Marcus

Lisa Marcus is a Clinical Psychologist and a BEKI member who lives in Westville with her husband Ken and children Sara & Katie. She also serves as a consultant for BEKI's School of Judaism. Lisa will speak on "Searching for a Path to a Jewish Identity" at the Late Friday Evening Service of 9 February 1996 at 8:00 p.m.

Amy Pincus

Assistant Director of the Department of Jewish Education of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven (or ADDJEJFGNH for short) Amy Pincus will join with Rabbi Tilsen in "Name that Tune" on the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Sabbath of Song, Shabbat morning 3 February during the 9:15 a.m. service. Amy, known for her vocal abilities and mastery of nusach (sacred music), frequently teaches in BEKI's Torah for the Hungry Mind Adult Education program. Ms Pincus is a BEKI member who lives with her husband Stephen in Westville.

Jewish Genealogy Program

A special program in Jewish Genealogy will be held at BEKI sometime after the Breakfast on Sunday 18 February.

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Daniel Zlotoff Bar Mitzva

Join with the BEKI community in the Bar Mitzva observance for Daniel Zlotoff on Shabbat morning 17 February beginning at 9:15 a.m. Daniel will lead the Torah Service, read from the Torah, chant the Haftara, present a Torah commentary and serve as shaliah tsibur (prayer leader) for the Musaf service. Daniel has shown his commitment to study not only by preparing to read from the Torah on the day of his Bar Mitzva celebration, but also by planning to read on two subsequent shabbatot as well. Daniel is the son of Ronald Zlotoff & Donna Kemper, and of Beverly Zerwitz Zlotoff of blessed memory. He is the grandchild of Bob & Lila Zlotoff, Sydney & Isobel Kemper, and Irving & Miriam Zerwitz.



Daniel Zlotoff

Conservative Judaism--What is it?

Everything you wanted to know about Conservative Judaism: its origins, history, halakha (Torah law), founders and philosophy. BEKI will offer a three-part series taught jointly by Rabbi Murray Levine and Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen on three Wednesday evenings, 7, 14 and 21 February, at 7:30 pm in the BEKI library. To register call the BEKI office at 389-2108.

Congregational Breakfast

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Sunday 18 February

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Pinat Ivrit--Hebrew Corner



D-R-SH: The Hebrew root denoting inquiry, investigation, search. Formed from this root are the words midrash, commentary on a text (usually on the Bible) that does not adhere strictly to the linguistic, historical or social context of the text; derash or derasha, a sermon or homiletic exposition of a Biblical text; beit ha-midrash, house of study or worship; darshan (masculine) and darshanit (feminine), a person who presents a derash. The Arabic cognate madrasa means a school.

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Dates and Times to Remember

February Events

02 Fri	4:50 pm	Candle Lighting	10:45 am	Learners' Minyan	
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat	5:10 pm	Minha Afternoon Service	
	8:00 pm	Late Evening Service	5:35 pm	Pirque Avot Study	
		Oppenheim Dedication	5:59 pm	Maariv & Havdala	
03 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service	18 Sun	9:30 am	Sisterhood & Men's Club Breakfast
		Darshanim: Rabbi Tilsen & Amy Pincus: "Name That Tune"		TBA pm	Jewish Genealogy Lecture
		Oppenheim Dedication	19 Mon	7:00 am	Daily Morning Service
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura		7:45 am	Rashi Study Group
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation	21 Wed	2:00 pm	Dinner RSVP due
	10:45 am	Learner's Minyan		7:30 pm	Conservative Judaism 3
	4:50 pm	Minha Afternoon Service	23 Fri	5:16 pm	Candle Lighting
	5:20 pm	Pirque Avot Study		6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat ONLY
	5:41 pm	Maariv & Havdala		6:30 pm	Shabbat Dinner by RSVP
	7:30 pm	Song Night at Benson-Tilsens	24 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service
		Honoring Oppenheims		10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura
04 Sun	9:30 am	UHS TuBeShevat Program		10:45 am	Junior Congregation
05 Mon	7:45 am	Rashi Study Group		10:45 am	Jr-Jr Congregation
		Tu BeShevat		5:15 pm	Minha Afternoon Service
07 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS		5:40 pm	Pirque Avot Study
	7:30 pm	Conservative Judaism 1	25 Sun	6:05 pm	Maariv & Havdala
09 Fri	4:58 pm	Candle Lighting		9:30 am	UHS
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat	26 Mon	7:45 am	(No Rashi)
	8:00 pm	Late Evening Service	28 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS
		Guest Speaker: Lisa Marcus			
10 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service			
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura			
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation			
	10:45 am	Jr. Jr. Congregation			
	5:00 pm	Minha Afternoon Service			
	5:25 pm	Pirque Avot Study			
	5:50 pm	Maariv & Havdala			
11 Sun	9:30 am	UHS			
	9:40 am	Torah Pathways Workshop			
12 Mon	7:00 am	Daily Morning Service			
	7:45 am	Rashi Study Group			
14 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS			
	7:30 pm	Conservative Judaism 2			
16 Fri	5:07 pm	Candle Lighting			
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat			
	8:00 pm	Late Evening Service			
17 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service			
		Bar Mitzva: Daniel Zlotoff			
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura			
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation			

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Dates and Times to Remember


March Events

01 Fri	5:24 pm	Candle Lighting	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat Early Service	23 Shab	9:15 am
	8:00 pm	Late Evening Service		10:45 am
02 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service		10:45 am
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura		10:45 am
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation		5:45 pm
	10:45 am	Learners' Minyan	24 Sun	9:30 am
	5:30 pm	Minha Afternoon Service		9:40 am
	5:50 pm	Pirqe Avot Study	25 Mon	7:45 am
	6:15 pm	Maariv & Havdala	27 Wed	4:15 pm
03 Sun	9:30 am	UHS	29 Fri	5:55 pm
	9:40 am	Torah Reading Workshop		6:00 pm
04 Mon	7:45 am	Rashi Study Group		8:00 pm
		Fast of Esther	30 Shab	9:15 am
	6:30 pm	Purim Megila Reading		10:45 am
05 Tue	7:00 am	Purim Megila Reading		10:45 am
06 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS		10:45 am
08 Fri	5:32 pm	Candle Lighting		5:45 pm
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat	31 Sun	9:30 am
	8:00 pm	Late Evening Service		
09 Sha	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service		
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura		
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation		
	10:45 am	Jr. Jr. Congregation		
	5:35 pm	Minha Afternoon Service		
	5:55 pm	Pirqe Avot Study		
	6:22 pm	Maariv & Havdala		
10 Sun	9:30 am	UHS		
	9:40 am	Torah Reading Workshop		
11 Mon	7:45 am	Rashi Study Group		
13 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS		
15 Fri	5:40 pm	Candle Lighting		
	6:00 pm	Qabbalat Shabbat Early Service		
	8:00 pm	Men's Club Shabbat		
16 Shab	9:15 am	Shabbat Morning Service		
	10:45 am	Children's Shabbat Havura		
	10:45 am	Junior Congregation		
	10:45 am	Learners' Minyan		
	5:45 pm	Minha Afternoon Service		
	6:00 pm	Pirqe Avot Study		
	6:30 pm	Maariv & Havdala		
17 Sun	9:30 am	UHS		
	9:40 am	Torah Reading Workshop		
18 Mon	7:45 am	Rashi Study Group		
20 Wed	4:15 pm	UHS		
22 Fri	5:48 pm	Candle Lighting		

Daily morning services Sunday 9:00 a.m., Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. and daily evening service Sunday through Thursday 5:45 p.m. except as noted on calendar.



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BEKI Events February-Shevat-Adar

5756

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Daily Services: Mornings: Sun 9:00a Mon-Fri 7:00a Evenings: Sun-Thu 5:45p Fri & Sat see calendar	"When Adar begins we increase Joy."			11 Shevat 1	12 Shevat 2 Candles 4:50p 6:00p Early Service 8:00p Late Service Oppenheim Dedication	13 Shevat 3 9:15a Shaharit Oppenheim Dedication 10:45a Children's Havura, Jr Cong, Learners' Minyan 4:50p Minha 5:20p Pirqe Avot 5:41p Maariv 7:30p Song Night at Benson-Tilsens
14 Shevat 4 9:30a UHS Pre-Tu BeShevat Seder for Parents & Kids	15 Shevat 5 7:45a Rashi Study Group Tu BeShevat Jewish Environmental Awareness Day	16 Shevat 6	17 Shevat 7 4:15p UHS 7:45p "Conservative Judaism – What is it?" Part I With Rabbis Levine & Tilsen	18 Shevat 8	19 Shevat 9 Candles 4:58p 6:00p Early Service 8:00p Late Service Speaker: Lisa Marcus	20 Shevat 10 9:15a Shaharit Name Tag Day 10:45a Children's Havura, Jr Cong, Jr-Jr Cong. 5:00p Minha 5:25p Pirqe Avot 5:50p Maariv
21 Shevat 11 9:30a UHS 9:40 a Torah Pathways Study Group	22 Shevat 12 7:00a Daily Morning Service 7:45a Rashi Study Group	23 Shevat 13	24 Shevat 14 4:15p UHS 7:45p "Conservative Judaism – What is it?" Part II With Rabbis Levine & Tilsen	25 Shevat 15	26 Shevat 16 Candles 5:07p 6:00p Early Service 8:00p Late Service	27 Shevat 17 9:15a Shaharit Bar Mitzva: Daniel Zlotoff 10:45a CSH, Jr Cong, Learners' Minyan 5:10p Minha 5:35p Pirqe Avot 5:59p Maariv
28 Shevat 18 9:30a Sisterhood-Men's Club Joint Congregat'l Breakfast TBA Jewish Genealogy Program	29 Shevat 19 7:00a Shaharit 7:45a Rashi Study Group	30 Shevat 20 Rosh Hodesh	1 Adar 21 Rosh Hodesh 2:00p RSVP due for Shabbat Dinner 7:45p "Conservative Judaism – What is it?" Part III With R' Levine	2 Adar 22	3 Adar 23 Candles 5:16p 6:00p Early Service Only 6:30p Dinner by RSVP	4 Adar 24 9:15a Shaharit 10:45a Children's Havura, Jr Cong, Jr-Jr Cong. 5:15p Minha 5:40p Pirqe Avot 6:05p Maariv
5 Adar 25 9:30a UHS	6 Adar 26 7:00a Shaharit (No Rashi)	7 Adar 27	8 Adar 28	9 Adar 29		

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- In memory of mother, Rebecca Wovsaniker from Bernard & Diana Klatzkin
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- In memory of Abraham Goldberg from Shirley L. Chain
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SYNAGOGUE FUND

- A "Speedy recovery" to Stanley Saxe from Sylvia Zeid
- "Mazal Tov" to Barbara Cushen in her new home from Sylvia Zeid
- In memory of father David B. Zeid, mother Kaila Zeid, and brother Emanuel Zeid from Sylvia Zeid

- In honor of Bernard Godfrey's recognition as a "Silver Beaver" by the Boy Scouts of America from Jack & Laura Yakerson
- In memory of Hope Bell from Richard & Marcia Witten
- Richard & Helen Ross "Our thoughts are with you both" from David & Doris Sagerman
- Richard & Helen Ross "Wishing you both well and both a speedy recovery" from Inge, Leny and Gary Fish
- In memory of Hope Bell from Muriel Kaltman
- From Rabbi Murray & Marilyn Levine

PRAYER BOOK FUND



- In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Noel Barstein's 40th Wedding Anniversary from Adele Tyson
- In memory of Hope Bell from The Sisterhood

THE EDWARD HORWITZ FUND

- In memory of Estelle Grant from Mrs. Edward Horwitz & Family
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- In memory of Harold & Ida Ratner from Alan & Ruth Levitan
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THE BEKI BUILDING FUND

- In honor of Betty Levy from April Christine Leffler

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- "Happy Birthday Mimi Kahn" from Evelyn Wechsler
- In memory of my brother, Gabe Lubov from Mimi Kahn
- In memory of beloved husband and father, Murray E. Kahn from Mimi, Richard & Michael Kahn

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- In memory of my husband, Fred Shure from Gertrude Shure

THE POSENER FAMILY FUND

- In blessed memory of my brother Morris M. Posener from George G. Posener

Thank You For Your Generous Donations

RABBI'S TZEDAQA FUND

- April Leffler in appreciation
- Rabbi Clifford & Deborah Miller in appreciation of Steve Fraade, Ellen Cohen, Miriam Benson, Rabbi Tilsen & BEKI

A special contribution has been made by the Claire Proctor family in memory of Maurice Proctor to the Building Fund. Mr. Proctor, of blessed memory, is a founder of Beth El-Keser Israel and his name is memorialized in the main entryway of our synagogue.

- Sylvia Zeid in memory of her sister Goldie Frances Zeid

LOUIS FRIEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- Daniel & Sharon Prober

HaMaqom Yinahem

We note with sorrow the passing of

Samuel Opotzner

husband of Beatrice Opotzner

May God Comfort Those Who Mourn

TORAH FUND

Send a beautiful, meaningful Torah Card. Call me (387 - 8743) for prompt service.

Rose Feen,
Chairman
12/1/95 thru
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DONATIONS

- Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- Mae & Herb Etkind
- Zelda Katz

TORAH CARDS MAZAL TOV

- To Helen & Richy Ross from Barbara Cushen
- To Giorgina Vitale from Barbara Cushen
- To Saul Ripps from Ruth & Morris Olmer

GET WELL

- To Stanley Saxe from Barbara Cushen
- To Helen Ross from Barbara Cushen, Adele Tyson, Vi and Charlie Ludwig
- To Zelda Katz from Barbara Cushen
- To Richard Ross from Barbara Cushen

ESPECALLY FOR YOU

- To Barbara Cushen from Bertha Fleisher
- To Elaine Braffman from Barbara Cushen
- To Harry Levine from Harriet & Noel Barstein
- To Helen Ross from Rose & George Feen
- To Zelda Katz from Rose & George Feen

- To Richard Ross from Rose & George Feen
- To Richy & Helen Ross from Vi & Charlie Ludwig

THANK YOU

- To Grace Geisinger from Rose Feen

ON THIS JOYOUS OCCASION

- To Sybil Richard & Hans Massaquoi from Rose & George Feen

REJOICING WITH YOU

- To Helen & Richy Ross from Rena & Sam Miller
- To Sara Oppenheim from Rose & George Feen
- To Sybil Richards & Hans Massaoui from Violet & Charlie Ludwig

SYMPATHY

- To Saul Bell & Family from Irving Weinstein, Lori, Natan, Beth & Justin Weinstein
- To Mrs. Betty Freedman & Family from Irving Weinstein
- To Mrs. Sylvia Rosen & Family from Evelyn & Ernie Fiedler
- To Dr. Alan Rosen from Eunice & Louis Rogoff, Shirley & Bernie Bober, Lori, Natan, Beth & Justin Weinstein
- To Lionel Meltzer & Family from Noel & Harriet Meltzer Barstein
- To Sonny Cobden & Family from Evelyn & Ernie Fiedler and Ruth & Morris Olmer
- To Mrs. Betty Lapidés & Family from Rogoff Family
- To Morris Family From Rose & George Feen
- To Mrs Anne Kimball from Evelyn & Erine Fiedler
- To Lebowitz Family from Jody & Jeff Dietch
- To Leila Goldberg & Family from Rose & George Feen
- To Melanie Wolf & Family from Lori, Natan, Beth & Justin Weinstein

Library Additions

We are pleased to announce the addition of the following books to the Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library at BEKI presented by Rabbi Murray & Malka Levine in honor of their parents Sol and Frieda Eisenberg of blessed memory. The books are available on a non-lending basis in the Goodwin Youth Room.

- *Classical Bible Stories for Jewish Children*
by Kolatch
- *The Diamond Tree*
by Schwartz and Rush
- *Grandma's Latkes*
by Drucker
- *Great Miracle Happened There*
by Ruskin
- *Honi's Circle of Trees*
by Phyllis Gershator
- *Jerusalem 3000*
- *Jewish Holiday ABC*
by Drucker
- *Joshua's Dream*
by Sheila Segal
- *Latkes and Applesauce*
by Fran Manushkin
- *Miniature Wooden Shabbat Shalom Set*
- *Papa's Latkes*
by Zalben
- *Shabbat Can Be*
by Zwerin
- *Shrewd Todie & Lyzer the Miser*
by Isaac Bashevis Singer
- *The Tattooed Torah*
by Marvel Ginsburg
- *The Wise Shoemaker*
by Syd Lieberman
- *Thank You God*
by Groner and Wikler



Letters

Dear Rabbi Tilsen,

The High Holidays were very special for me at BEKI. I loved being part of your congregation, which seems to have some pretty remarkable people in it. I loved singing with my father. Thank you for making me feel so welcome; I really felt part of something warm and holy.

Sincerely,
Rachel Lovins

Dear Miriam Benson & Jon-Jay,

In the midst of Yamim Noraim [High Holy Days], I, a stranger to you, called and asked a favor of you, and you came through with flying colors. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate it.

I have served congregations for some thirty years, so I am familiar with the hectic hours of frantic last-minute arrangements before major services. We would not have blamed you in the slightest had you not found time to help out. But you did. God bless you!

Our daughter Adinah Miller entered graduate studies in early modern Jewish History and women's studies and religion at Yale this autumn. She was home with us for Rosh ha-Shanah but felt it made no sense to rush home for Yom ha-Kippurim.

At virtually the last minute, you found a seat in your sanctuary, and a Yale faculty member in her area of studies, Steven Fraade & Ellen Cohen, made it possible for her to enjoy a vegetarian seudah mafseket and break-the-fast, and a near-by home where she could rest during the day, if the fast left her too weak to walk all the way to her apartment and back. Steve Fraade took the trouble to provide all this warmth and nurturing to a stranger despite his being on leave for this semester.

According to our tradition, Sarah & Abraham distinguished themselves through their hospitality, and thereby founded the Jewish People. Judging by your sterling performance at the onset of 5756, our matriarchs and patriarchs must be very proud of you and of the congregation whom you guide and for whom you set examples.

May your household and your community be blessed.

Sincerely,
(Rabbi) Clifford Miller, Associate Rabbi,
Temple Emanu-El (NJ) and Rabbis Cataloger,
Jewish Theological Seminary Library



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Torah Pathways

Torah Pathways is a discussion and study group for adults seeking wholeness and holiness through Judaism. It is an open non-judgemental forum for those exploring their relationship with traditional egalitarian Judaism as part of their spiritual journey. For meeting times check the events calendar in this issue.

Who are the New Members?

Sixty-one adults and children, representing twenty-two households, have joined BEKI in the past six months. Eleven of the households are in the City of New Haven, three in Naugatuck, two in Hamden, and one each in Ansonia, Branford, Derby, North Branford, Seymour and Woodbridge. This is very much in keeping with the situation before this influx of new members. Figures from last year indicated that half of all BEKI members lived in the City of New Haven and half lived in 26 other towns and cities.

**Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel
85 Harrison Street
New Haven, CT 06515**

DATED MATERIAL

Food Gift Certificate Program

**WE NEED YOU
TO MAKE THIS
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Why should you do this? Because BEKI needs your financial support. It takes the efforts of every member

to make this fund raising program, (which costs you absolutely nothing) successful and earn needed income for the Synagogue.

When you shop with these gift certificates, you will purchase their value in groceries, stamps, prescriptions, flowers etc. If you use store coupons or manufacturer's coupons they will be honored as usual. Certificates are available for Stop & Shop, Shop-Rite, Waldbaum's and Westville Kosher Meat Market. Call Mimi and Mikki at 387-7882 or the Synagogue office at 389-2108.



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