

Congregation Keneseth Israel
Policies, Practices & Guidelines

Policy, Practice & Guideline: Special Services

Source: Religious Practice Committee

Date Adopted: 4/1975

Date Revised: 1/2022

- I. Introduction: This policy provides for consistency in scheduling special services such as Baby Naming, Confirmation, Consecration, Havdalah B'nai Mitzvahs, the Passover Seder and other new initiatives.
- II. Policy Statement: It is the policy of KI to schedule special services that are consistent and mutually agreeable with all parties involved.
- III. History: Havdalah ceremonies were instituted in 1991 to accommodate two Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies on the same day. The class was large and there were not enough Friday or Saturday dates to accommodate the entire class. Routine Havdalah Service for Bar/Bat Mitzvah students was discontinued as of June 2000.
- As a result of the C-19 pandemic, Zoom Services began in March of 2020 and Live streaming occurred shortly thereafter.
- IV. Definition:
- V. Procedure:
- a. The Passover Seder, Conversions and Baby Naming ceremonies will be planned at the discretion of the Clergy and parties involved.
 - b. If the Rabbi and President agree that because of prevailing public health protocols no in person Service should be held, the decision to Zoom or live stream may be made.
 - c. Observation of Holiday Festivals will occur on the day it falls.
 - i. If Shavuot occurs during the week, the Confirmation Service will be on Erev Shavuot.
 - ii. All Bar/Bat Mitzvahs will be held on Saturday morning unless there are extenuating circumstances, as determined by the Clergy in consultation with the Religious Practice Committee.
 - d. Ideas for new Services are discussed collaboratively between the Rabbi and Religious Practice committee prior to advertising the event.

VI. Reference: