



Bulletin

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VOLUME 76 NUMBER 5

FROM RABBI HAYON



Those two heroines' portraits intersect with one another, speaking in a powerful new language about racism and antisemitism, and about the many forms that liberation has taken through the centuries.

In the art collection of New York's Jewish Museum is a small piece created by the artist Fred Wilson in 1992. It's a black-and-white print, done with ink on acetate, measuring about 14 inches by 10 inches. The name of the piece is "Queen Esther/Harriet Tubman."



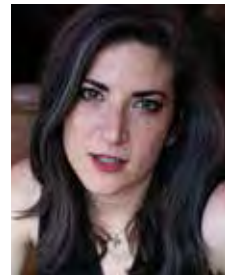
To create this unique print, Wilson superimposed an iconic photograph of Harriet Tubman atop a sixteenth-century Dutch engraving of Queen Esther, holding a royal scepter and draped in elaborate royal robes. Wilson has arranged the images of the two women in such a way that their faces are perfectly aligned, creating the illusion that

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How (and Why) Journalism Gets it Wrong with Batya Ungar-Sargon (in-person)

Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El will welcome Dr. Batya Ungar-Sargon to the Barish Sanctuary as part of its Endowment Speaker Series. Dr. Ungar-Sargon's remarks will be entitled "How (and Why) Journalism Gets it Wrong."



Ungar-Sargon is Deputy Opinion Editor of *Newsweek* and author of the recently released book *Bad News: How Woke Media Is Undermining Democracy*, which explores the recent ideological shifts in mainstream

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Music of the Night

Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.



Andrea McArdle



Adam Pascal



Seth Rudetsky

Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood will hold its annual fundraiser for all to enjoy – *Music of the Night* – a little bit of Purim, a lot of Broadway, a masked affair honoring Dolores Wilkenfeld.

The exciting event will feature Broadway stars, **Andrea McArdle** – the original "Annie" and **Adam Pascal**, star of "Rent." The event will be hosted and accompanied by SiriusXM's Broadway commentator **Seth Rudetsky**. The students from TUTS' *The River* will also perform as we shine the spotlight on inclusion in the theatre arts.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Locations are listed below for those seeking to use the streaming video portal on our website or for those attending in-person. Any changes will be shared via the regular synagogue communications.

Our Friday night services are streamed to our website, Facebook page, Roku channel, and YouTube. Our Saturday morning B'nei Mitzvah services are available solely on our website and our Saturday services offered in the Proler Chapel are offered as an in-person experience.

Shabbat T'rumah **Friday, February 4**

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner, Sculpture Garden
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:15 p.m., Tot Shabbat, Sculpture Garden

Saturday, February 5

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel

Shabbat T'tzaveh **Friday, February 11**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, February 12

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'not Mitzvah of **Lexie & Madison Rose**, daughters of Deborah & Myles Rose

Shabbat Ki Tisa **Friday, February 18**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, February 19

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Logan Mendelovitz**, son of Judi & Roger Mendelovitz & **Joshua Taylor**, son of Kim & Gary Taylor

Shabbat Vayak'heil **Friday, February 25**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, February 26

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Bryce Dunn-Kahn**, son of Jennifer & Karin Dunn-Kahn & **David Weber**, son of Monica & Michael Weber

Shabbat P'kudei **Friday, March 4**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, March 5

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel

Shabbat Vayikra **Friday, March 11**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, March 12

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel

REMINDER: All Friday night Shabbat services are video streamed on our website as well as our Emanu El Facebook page, YouTube channel and Roku channel. Our Saturday morning Proler Chapel service is not streamed. Saturday morning services featuring a B'nei Mitzvah are streamed on our website and Roku channel.

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

Queen Esther is wearing Tubman's face like a mask. Wilson's print of these two women, and the way in which he constructed the doubled images – Harriet Tubman's defiant expression over Queen Esther's regal bearing – has created a striking visual symbol that can speak to us in a new and inspiring way during Black History Month this year. The layering of the women's faces reminds us of the way that historical experiences of suffering and salvation continually resonate in complementary ways. Those two heroines' portraits intersect and interact with one another, speaking in a powerful new language about racism and antisemitism, and about the many forms that liberation has taken through the centuries.

Although it would be a mistake to conclude from it that the oppression of American slavery precisely resembles the stories of Jewish suffering from ancient days, this

piece of art offers us a helpful and inspiring reminder during Black History Month: that heroes arise in every generation, and the survival of those who are in peril is often due to the vision and faith of those who step forward, even at risk of their own lives, to preserve the future of their own threatened and persecuted communities. All of us – as Jews and as Americans – are the grateful beneficiaries of their courage and their strength.

EDITOR'S NOTE: You may also view the print on the Jewish Museum's website at www.thejewishmuseum.org/collection/3651-queen-esther-harriet-tubman.

Moved? New Email Address?

As a reminder, please let us know when you have moved or changed email addresses so we can make sure our records are up to date! Please call the synagogue at 713.529.5771 or contact jasonp@emanulhouston.org to submit an update.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

IN THE COMMUNITY

Elizabeth Greenfield Krohn recently won a major award from the Bigelow Institute for Consciousness Studies. Elizabeth was honored along with the other honorees at the Institute's gala in Las Vegas for her award-winning essay "The Eternal Life of Consciousness."

Sarah Lack was selected to play on the United States national women's U18 lacrosse team competing in this summer's Maccabiah Games in Israel. This coming summer is the first time that the sport of women's lacrosse has been included in the games.

Seth Riklin was elected as the president of B'nai Brith International during its Board of Governors meeting in December. Riklin immediately began a three-year term leading the world's oldest Jewish humanitarian, human rights and advocacy organization.

BIRTHS

Micah David de Sola Band, son of Hannah Moris & Gabriel Band; grandson of Susan Farb Morris & Davis Morris, Debra Band & Michael Diamond; great-grandson of Sylvia Farb, Arnold Band

Elaine Sarah Campbell, daughter of Linda & Rian Campbell, granddaughter of Anna Stool & Richard Prinz, Rhonda & Ronnie Campbell

Stevie Brielle Plocharski, daughter of Melanie & Peter Plocharski; granddaughter of Fannie Sherman and Bert Plocharski

Margot Rose Solera, daughter of Jessica & Josh Solera; granddaughter of Betsy & Ed Schreiber, Meg & Jose Solera

DEATHS

Betty Lou Blumrosen, mother of Tali & Eric Blumrosen, Tracey & Dean Blumrosen, Amy Blumrosen & Shari Heyen; grandmother of Kelli and Will Blumrosen, Jenna Blumrosen, Jake and Levi Blumrosen

Robert Arthur Carlson, father of Stephen & Stefani Carlson, Charlotte & Lee Carlson; grandfather of Mallory & Alex Carlson, Evan Carlson, Jack Carlson, Charlotte "CC" Carlson; great-grandfather of Annie Rachel Carlson

Margie Baldwin Carpenter, grandmother of Kathryn & Jonathan Paine; great-grandmother of Amelia, Beatrice and Josephine

Edward Feldman, husband of Robert Keppler; brother of Linda & Richard Zoll, Rita & Charlie Brown

Sharon L. Kann, mother of Rebecca Kamerling Cheskes; sister of Myra & Paul Lemson; stepmother of Stephanie Kann Tobor; grandmother of Dalia and Ilan Cheske, Zachary and Mackenzie Tobor

Alfred Levine, father of Paulette & Mel Levine; grandfather of Corinna & Andrew Levine, Ellen & Derek Levine; great-grandfather of Grady, Gabriel, Madelyn and Thomas

Sherman Markowitz, husband of Shirley Markowitz; brother of Joanie & Robert Markowitz; father of Jenessa & David Markowitz, Vicki & Larry Markowitz, Sherri & Steve Blatt; step-father of Karen & Lee Groves, David Groves; grandfather & great-grandfather of many

Rosa "Shoshana" Woloski, wife of Jose Woloski; mother of Sara Ostrofsky, Ilana & Ralph Miller, Dana & Mike Nisenfeld; step-mother of Zev & Frume Woloski; grandmother of many; great-grandmother of three; sister of Beile & Fabian Krajmalnik, Tamara & Leo Speckman, Salomon Krajmalnik

A Notice About Bereavement Communications

Bereavement notices for our Temple family are distributed with the permission of the deceased's family, and the timing of these notices is dictated by the family's request. Of course, each family grieves in its own way, and we are grateful for our congregation's patience and understanding with different families' preferences about how their loss is publicized.

HOW (AND WHY) JOURNALISM GETS IT WRONG WITH BATYA UNGAR-SARGON

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media and their effects across the broader landscape of American democracy.

A contributor to Rabbi Hayon's recent book *Inscribed: Encounters with the Ten Commandments*, Ungar-Sargon previously served as Opinion Editor of the *Jewish Forward*, the largest Jewish media outlet in America. She has written extensively for the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Policy* magazine, the *New York Review of Books*, and other publications. She has appeared numerous times on MSNBC, NBC, the Brian Lehrer Show, and NPR, amongst other media outlets.

To help us plan appropriately for the evening's events, we

ask that you register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or by calling 713-529-5771.

Emanu El has a longstanding and rich tradition of hosting significant public thinkers to reflect on current events through its Endowment Fund Speaker Series. Recent speakers have included Academy Award-winning actress Marlee Matlin, journalist Carl Bernstein and the Reverend William Barber.

Ungar-Sargon's appearance at Emanu El is generously funded by the Nathan Berg Lecture Series Fund, the Caplovitz Lectureship Fund, the Eleanor & Frank Freed Lectureship Fund, Helen & Harry Reich Lecture Fund, Shirley & Bernard Weingarten Fund, and the Julius Zinn Fund.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT EMANU EL

Programming at Emanu El

As Congregation Emanu El gradually migrates back to a robust program calendar, we are currently able to offer three kinds of programs to our community: in-person, digital and hybrid. The definitions of these categories are as follows:

- **IN-PERSON.** Available for in-person attendance only. These offerings will not be livestreamed or broadcast for online audiences.
- **DIGITAL.** Designed for viewing and participation on Zoom or on one of our digital platforms (Facebook, YouTube, etc.) only. Please note that, for privacy reasons and contractual considerations, some of our digital programs will be available for live viewing only and will not be accessible for re-broadcast after the event takes place.
- **HYBRID.** These programs include opportunities for attendees to participate in person or digitally, via Zoom or one of our live-streaming platforms.

When reviewing our program calendar, please make note of any registration requirements (RSVPs may be required), and whether the offering you wish to attend will be offered in-person, digitally, or in a hybrid format. Taking a few moments to confirm these details will help ensure the excellence of our programming and will help us to provide a positive experience for all participants.

If you have a suggestion for a program, or any questions about the details above, please contact Program Director Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

Is the Two-State Solution the Only Viable Option? A Conversation with Dr. Meron Medzini (digital) Thursday, February 10, 12:30 p.m.

There is a lot of talk about the “two-state solution,” often assumed to be the only viable option for peace in the Middle East.

In this Zoom conversation, live from Israel, Dr. Meron Medzini, Professor Emeritus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and former communications director for several of Israel’s prime ministers, suggests that there are several other possibilities for the resolution of the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

In a conversation moderated by his son, Mickey, who guided the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience trip in 2018, we will discuss some of them, including Federation, Confederation, and many more. Dr. Medzini will also provide a brief review of the components of the conflict and the parameters that must be addressed in each solution.

We ask that you register in advance by calling 713.529.5771 or visiting Emanu El’s website calendar (emanuelhouston.org/calendar). For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or Stefani Carlson at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org. The Zoom information will be sent prior to the conversation.

Warehouse Shabbat (in-person) Friday, February 18, 7:30 p.m.

Join Rabbi Fixler, Cantor Simmons and their live band for our next installment Warehouse Shabbat! This rocking, adults-only worship event has been designed to be a dynamic, lively and musical prayer experience to enliven your heart and uplift your spirit.

The next installment will be held at Love Dance Houston (2206 Edwards St) in the Sawyer Yards Art District in Washington Heights. Come enjoy local desserts and drinks during this exciting Shabbat experience!

Please help us plan accordingly by registering online through our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar.



Better Together: Cultural Impact of Music from the 60s (in-person) Saturday, February 19, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Calling all 50s and 60s Jewish singles in the Houston area!

“Better Together” – a community-wide Houston Jewish singles initiative for those in their 50s and 60s - is back at it for another fun, social evening.

Join us at Beth Israel (5600 North Braeswood Blvd.) for latest event to learn about the ‘Cultural Impact of Music from the 60s’ with Aaron Howard. The evening will also feature cocktails and food from the 60s as well as dancing.

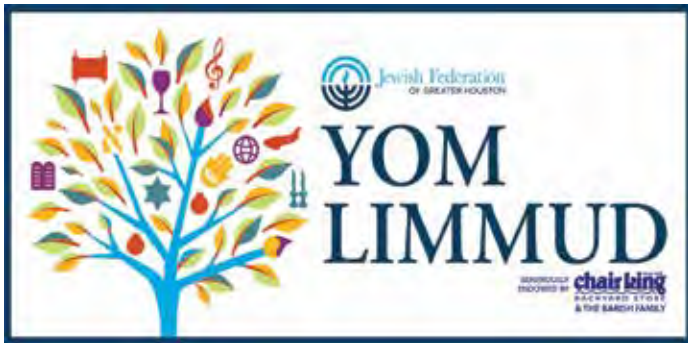
There is no cost for the event, but pre-registration is required. To register, visit the calendar on our emanuelhouston.org website.

To receive more information or suggest future programs

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for Better Together, please contact bettertogether@beth-israel.org. Prior programs have included a trip to Pinstripes, a Kids' Meals social action project and a "booze cruise."

The sponsoring organizations and synagogues include Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Beth Shalom of the Woodlands, Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Congregation Brith Shalom, Congregation Emanu El, Congregation Shma Koleinu, the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center, HCRJ, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston.



Yom Limmud 2022 (digital) Sunday, February 20

Yom Limmud (Day of Learning) provides a unique opportunity for Jews from all denominations and walks of life to connect with unique Jewish stories and culture from around the globe through music, art, cooking, and general education.

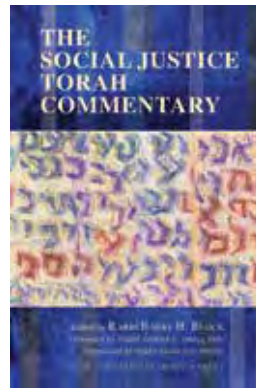
Yom Limmud is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston in partnership with the Barish Family/The Chair King.

Just prior to going to print of this edition of the *Bulletin*, it was shared that Yom Limmud will be an online experience only. All are encouraged to visit houstonjewish.org/yomlimmud for more information, including a schedule and an opportunity to pre-register.

Exploring The Social Justice Torah Commentary (digital) Tuesday, March 1, 6:30 p.m.

What does the Torah have to say about social justice? As the contributors to *The Social Justice Torah Commentary* demonstrate, a great deal.

Join Emanu El on Zoom as the publication's editor Rabbi Barry H. Block leads a panel discussion about this new commentary with three contributors – Rabbis Josh Fixler, David Segal and Emily Langowitz.



A native Houstonian and currently serving Congregation B'nai Israel in Little Rock, Arkansas, Block edited the commentary which features a diverse array of authors that delve deeply into each week's parashah, drawing lessons to inspire *tikkun olam*.

Chapters address key contemporary issues such as racism, climate change, mass incarceration, immigration, disability, women's rights, voting rights, and many more. The result is an indispensable resource for weekly Torah study and for anyone committed to repairing the world.

Classmates at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), our Reform Movement's seminary, Fixler and Langowitz co-authored *Stricken from the Text: Sacred Stories of Reproductive Justice* centered on parashah *Mishpatim*.

A member of our congregation, Segal penned the contribution, *The Abraham Bind: The Akeidah and Religious Freedom*, based on the Torah portion *Vayeira*.

As part of this program offering, all participants are invited to take advantage of a special 20% off discount off the retail price of *The Social Justice Torah Commentary* utilizing the promo code 20JUSTICE at check through **Tuesday, March 8.**

To register for this program, visit emanuelhouston.org or call 713.535.6414. A Zoom link will be sent ahead of the program.

For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

Rodeo Tot Shabbat Friday, March 4 (optional dinner at 5:45 p.m. followed by services at 6:15 p.m.)

Lasso up your family and come join us for our annual Rodeo Tot Shabbat!

Families with young children will join Congregation Emanu El for this monthly event to share a special Shabbat led by a member of our clergy, geared toward families with little ones ages 0-6.

Please note that due to capacity considerations in our outside spaces, advance registration is required and only open to Becker or Emanu El families. As of this communication, masks are required when not eating or drinking on our synagogue property regardless of vaccination status.

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Sisterhood News & Happenings

February – March 2022



BOOK REVIEW:

Concealed

by Esther Amini

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 7:00 PM (digital)

Sisterhood hosts bi-monthly book reviews throughout the year that are open to the public. March's book review will be led by our congregant, Rabbi Pam Silk.

PLEASE NOTE: This book review will be held by Zoom, and the information to access will be emailed ahead of time to those who register.

A summary of our March book selection can be found below:

Esther Amini grew up in Queens, New York, during the freewheeling 1960's. She also grew up in a Persian-Jewish household., the American-born daughter of parents who had fled Mashhad, Iran. In *Concealed*, she tells the story of being caught between these two worlds: the dutiful daughter of tradition-bound parents who hungers for more self-determination than tradition allows.

Exploring the root of her father's deep silences, and explosive temper, her mother's flamboyance and flights from home, and her own sense of indebtedness to her Iranian-born brothers, Amini uncovers the story of her parents' early years in Mashhad, Iran's holiest Muslim city; the little-known history of Mashhad's underground Jews; the incident that stole her mother's resolve to leave; and her parent's arduous journey to the U.S., where they faced a new threat to their traditions: the threat of freedom.

In this poignant, funny, entertaining, uplifting memoir, Amini documents how family members build, buoy, wound, and save one another across generations; how lives are shaped by the burdens of loyalty and legacy; and how she rose to the challenge of deciding what to keep and what to discard.

To help us plan for our book reviews and to receive communications about future book reviews, we ask that you kindly **RSVP by Wednesday, March 9**, by visiting our web calendar and completing the form online or by contacting the Sisterhood at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Cooking Like your Bubbe (digital) Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.

Join your sisters for a fun-filled Zoom evening as we cook along with two well-known Houston chefs.

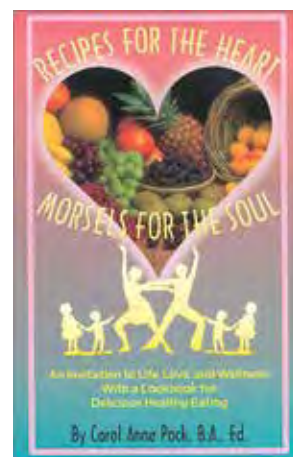


Chef Carol Pock



Cathy Jankovic

Chef Carol Pock, Director of the Rice Epicurean Cooking School, cookbook author, and *Food Network* competitor on *Guy's Grocery Games*, will prepare her signature (and healthy) entrée, Terra Potato Chip Chicken with Orange Pomegranate Sauce. Sisterhood chef Cathy Jankovic will demonstrate how to make "Hana's Strudel," a terrific Czechoslovakian dessert recipe taught to her by her Czech mother-in-law. Following the two cooking demonstrations, Carol and Cathy will be available to share cooking secrets your Bubbe never taught you and answer your questions.



There is no cost for this Zoom program. Please RSVP to the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org by **Monday, February 7**. Registration is also available on our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar. Information on how to access the Zoom event will be emailed to registrants ahead of the program.



CONGREGATION EMANU EL
SISTERHOOD

PRESENTS

Music

of the

NIGHT

A MASKED AFFAIR

Saturday, March 19

7:30 pm Showtime

RESERVED & GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS AVAILABLE
EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/MUSICOFTHENIGHT

FEATURING
Broadway Stars



ANDREA MCARDLE
STAR OF "ANNIE"



ADAM PASCAL
STAR OF "RENT"

SPOTLIGHTING
Students from The River

ACCOMPANIED AND HOSTED BY
Seth Rudetsky











New Traditions Sisterhood Gift Shop

New Traditions is currently open on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** or by appointment. The New Traditions gift shop has all your Judaica needs whether you are looking ahead to Passover in April or wanting to stock up on Chanukah goodies for the next Festival of Lights.

By supporting the New Traditions gift shop, you are enabling the Sisterhood to lend additional support to the synagogue.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 713.529.5771, ext. 234.



Get Social With Us!

Did you know Congregation Emanu El is on Instagram? In addition to our active Facebook pages, be sure to follow us on Instagram to catch snap shots of happenings around the synagogue. From camel sightings to social action, a thriving youth group to clergy in action and more!

Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/emanuelhouston](https://www.instagram.com/emanuelhouston) or if you are already a member, find us at @emanuelhouston. And yes, please feel free to "check-in" at Emanu El when you are here for events and happenings!

Access and Inclusion for All

*“This is home. Where I belong. In this breath. In this heart.
This is home. Where I belong. In this voice. In this song.”*

Sacred Belonging. At Congregation Emanu El, this phrase is filled with purpose, value and meaning. At its core, it means recognizing and fully accepting every individual, no matter their ethnicity, race, age, gender, or physical ability.

“All of us should be welcomed and celebrated for who we are and who we are not. No one should ever feel marginalized. Sacred belonging means you are seen, heard, accepted and valued as you are. You can bring your whole self into our temple and its activities. You have equal access, opportunity, ownership in and responsibility for our shared spiritual community. You have a stake in the future of Emanu El and in our shared humanity. Through our differences, we complement each other, eliminate barriers and enrich our lives by who we represent and what we share.”

– **Oren Hayon, Senior Rabbi**

I see you. I recognize you. I honor your uniqueness.

Although we at Congregation Emanu El have long prided ourselves in valuing the uniqueness of each of our members, we recognize that we continue to learn, evolve and grow in our institutional embrace of diversity on many levels. Fortunately, there are a number of Endowment Funds which make it possible for Emanu El to more fully express our values of inclusion and diversity. We highlight some of the Endowment Fund categories below:

Services to Seniors

Emanu Elders is near and dear to many volunteers and members of Sisterhood, who have long supported its broad efforts. Founded with the simple idea of bringing seniors together over lunch, Emanu Elders has been in existence for over 40 years, and is the longest running program of its type in the Reform movement. Over the years, the temple has brought seniors to Greene Family Camp, the Bush Presidential Library and many other field trips. They have listened to special music performances



Prior to COVID, the Emanu Elders would have monthly gatherings including a volunteer cooked lunch and a program. Out of our archives, members of the Emanu Elders gather at their July 4th inspired program in 2013. The day included a hot lunch followed by a pianist playing popular patriotic music. It is our hope to see the Emanu Elders resume their active programming schedule later this year.

and guest lectures. “It has been an incredibly impactful program and touched so many people in remarkable ways,” claims Sylvia Brody, group advisor and volunteer for 26 years. “For those of us who organize, cook and create activities, it is absolutely joyous. It’s like getting together with friends and sharing new experiences, month after month.”

“After my father sold his successful business, he wanted to give back to the community. Interfaith relations were important to him and he wanted to create a lectureship whose format and work would help make the world a kinder and more inclusive place. He also dearly wanted to combat antisemitism, and became one of the founders of the Anti-Defamation League.”

Linda Popkin Payne, daughter of Milton Popkin

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Guidance from our past, growth for our future

“My dad was a big influence on me and was the sole reason I became involved in Emanu El. His spiritual leadership, devotion, wit and humor not only got me invested in the temple, but everyone he touched throughout the years. Emanu Elders continues to thrive in great part, because of him. The fund we established in his name ensures his legacy and purpose will live on.”

– *Vivian Cyprus, daughter of Dick Fox*

“My husband Marc and I wanted to establish endowments in my mother and father’s honor while they were still alive, so they could enjoy their benefits and impact. My mother chose to support programming for the Emanu Elders, which she was actively involved with from its beginning. Mom got great joy out of working with seniors and we are happy this effort continues in her memory.”

– *Dana Parkans Katz, daughter of Edis Parkans*

“Our family’s fund was the first lectureship of its kind at Emanu El. It was inspired by Rabbi Robert I. Kahn, who wanted us to involve the greater Houston community. We have been grateful to help enlighten the congregation and others over the years, and are so happy our family’s name can live on through this special legacy.”

Marilyn Caplovitz, daughter-in-law of Rose and Harry Caplovitz



In 2017, Rabbi Oren Hayon was joined by Helfman Religious School second graders as mezuzah were installed around the synagogue. Rabbi Hayon, the students and members of the Congregation Emanu El “Access for All” committee installed three mezuzot. Each was installed at a lower level so children, those in wheelchairs or others who may not be able to access the mezuzot posted at higher levels can kiss and/or touch the mezuzot upon entry to the synagogue.

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“We all have equity in God’s eyes. It is in faith communities where people learn many of their values. We must all belong, in a non-tangible way. At Emanu El, the board and clergy are actively working to make changes and establish new norms, as systemically as possible. I have seen a lot of organizations struggle in this process. But the clergy at this congregation is the clergy you want to have for sacred belonging to work – both above and below the surface.”

**LaTonya Wilkins
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant, Working with Emanu El**

Lowering and Eliminating Physical Barriers

Sacred belonging is about creating a place for everyone to feel comfortable and welcome. It’s about compassion, understanding and shared sense of community and



Be a Part of It

On any financial level, we all have the capacity to impact the future. For additional information on contributing to the Temple’s Endowment through planned giving and legacy gifts, please contact Anna Shabtay at annas@emanuelhouston.org, or scan the QR code with your cell phone camera.

memories. “Our differences – be they physical, economic, age or race – are a gift, not a liability,” shares Fredi Bleeker Franks, who has worked on improving access for many years. “You know it when you feel it. It is different for different people.”

“It has taken some time, but walking into Emanu El today is coming home,” adds Caren Cowen, who has made a difference helping the temple improve and enhance means of physical access. “We have a wheelchair lift in the sanctuary, enhanced bathrooms and a new ramp to the bimah in the Proler Chapel,” she explains. “To feel comfortable, to feel at home, it must start with access for all.”

The task of providing closed captioning at services to facilitate greater access for the hearing impaired “was an appreciated opportunity taken on by Brotherhood,” explains Steve Moskowitz, a former president. When it began 20 years ago, captioning was originally funded once a month. Emanu El was the first congregation in the

Endowment Funds Supporting Sacred Belonging include:

Sachs-Pesses Community Outreach Fund – to present programs on LGBTQ issues

Milton Popkin Endowment Fund – to promote an understanding of other religions and cultures

Caplovitz Lectureship Fund – to present programs on contemporary moral issues

Edis Parkans Emanu Elders Fund – to support programs for Emanu Elders

Dick Fox Emanu Elders Lectureship Fund – to provide programs for Emanu Elders

Brotherhood Fund – to underwrite captioning for the hearing impaired

Sisterhood Fund – to sponsor programs for Emanu Elders

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On Yom Kippur afternoon in 2021, we came together as a congregation to learn what it means to be part of a sacred community and how we can ensure that every person in our congregation is seen, included and valued. From left to right, Liz Davidson, Larry Barr-Meyer and Tewlyn Yoburn shared their testimonials as we explored and celebrated the holy diversity of Emanu El.

state to provide this, and one of just three or four in the country. “Congregants who are not hard of hearing love the captioning, and the Hebrew transliteration makes the service more personal and meaningful for many,” adds Syd Waldman, who has served as a Brotherhood liaison for 10 years.

Jews of Color and LGBTQ Jews

In addition to improving physical access, the temple has been diligently learning how to provide meaning and support to Jews of color and historically marginalized groups. “Meeting with individuals in small groups and one-on-one, the clergy and Board have identified needs and levels of understanding that we work on institutionalizing every day,” adds Associate Rabbi Joshua Fixler. “We have hard work to do. We have to learn to look at people and really see them. We must strive to affirm that which is holy in ourselves is also holy in others.” The temple’s Board began working with a

diversity consultant last year, and was asked to read *“The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl,”* during the pandemic lockdown in the spring of 2020.

The temple has likewise embraced the LGBTQ community through one-on-one interactions and support of city-wide efforts. “Our lives are enriched by sharing them with others who are or seem different than ourselves,” states Board President Jeri Amundsen. “Every gender deserves a seat at the table – we all need to feel like stakeholders at Emanu El. I am proud that our congregation is one of the only trans-positive synagogues in Houston.”

For a more complete understanding of those who contribute to our diversity and make Emanu El the inclusive spiritual community it has become, we invite you to watch this link to the insightful and inspiring 2021 Yom Kippur Afternoon Experience: bit.ly/YomKippurAfternoon.



Pictured from screen grabs of the Sisterhood's appearance in the video from the URJ General Assembly are Elizabeth Townsend (top left), Sarah Lurie (top right), Libby Marvins (middle) and Kendall Kalmans (bottom).

Sisterhood Featured in URJ General Assembly Highlight Video

The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) hosted its General Assembly on Sunday afternoon, January 9 featuring representatives from all across North America. This was the first GA held online in the 174-year history of the Reform Movement.

Attendees had an opportunity to hear from URJ President Rick Jacobs and keynote speaker Dr. Eboo Patel ("We Need to Build: How Religious Leaders and Institutions Create a Diverse and Vibrant Future"). The assembled audience also passed revisions to the bylaws that govern the Movement's leadership.

One of the highlights was a video showcasing how synagogues have remained connected with their communities since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A submission by our program director (and URJ North American Board member) Jason Plotkin spotlighting our Sisterhood's "All About the Cupcakes" program in-conjunction with Dessert Gallery Bakery & Cafe was amongst the featured congregational programs.

Yasher koach to our Sisterhood on this recognition!

Becker School Priority Registration

Becker School Priority Registration for members of Congregation Emanu El begins on **Monday, February 7.**

To be included in priority registration, be sure to submit an online application located on our website for children 15 months to 5 years of age. Members who have applied will receive an email with information about registering their child for the 2022-2023 school year. For questions regarding admissions or to schedule a tour, please contact Judy Lazor at 713.535.6400 or judy1@emanuelhouston.org.

Throwback Thursdays with Emanu El

Are you following Emanu El on Facebook? Most Thursdays throughout the year, Emanu El goes into the 'archives' of the Congregation to pull out pictures from the synagogue's past.



A recent photo from the archives featured Shir Magic (from left to right) Betsy Kutsin, David Rosen, Kathy Marks and Barbara Loeser. The post was made ahead of Barbara's final weekend on the bimah leading services as she stepped down at the conclusion of 2021, following 45 years at Emanu El.

Barbara was celebrated during Shabbat Shirah services on Friday, January 14. To watch the service and/or see some of the highlights from the worship, visit the congregation's YouTube channel or Facebook page.

HRSC Passover Chocolate Fundraiser Candy Ordering Open through Friday, March 18

The Helfman Religious School Committee is delighted to announce the return of their beloved annual fundraiser: the Miss Chocolate Passover candy sale! Get your sweet treats from Barton's Candy and other goodies for your Passover table here. Order now for shipment beginning in mid-February. Due to weather concerns, the last date for orders is **Friday, March 18**.

Proceeds from the candy sale support the activities of the Helfman Religious School Committee, including Greene Family Camp scholarships, parent and family education, and teacher and TA professional development.

To shop and benefit Helfman, visit shop.misschocolate.com/ and when prompted for a Seller ID on the page, enter **70031**. Thanks for your support of this fundraiser.

Sisterhood Seeks Former Students of Dolores Wilkenfeld to Participate in 'Flash Mob' at Donor Event

The Sisterhood of Emanu El is reaching out to all former Bar/Bat Mitzvah students of Dolores Wilkenfeld to participate in a "flash mob"-style song to honor Dolores during their annual donor event to be held the evening of **Saturday, March 19**. Participants will have an opportunity to sing a song written especially for her at the donor following their participation in a rehearsal held in the evening of **Thursday, March 17**. Please contact Donna Tenenbaum at gatorgal22@aol.com or 713.818.6350 for more information or to express your interest.

Celebrating Barbara Loeser – A Special Thank You to the Committee

On Friday, January 14, we celebrated Barbara Loeser's 45 years of service to Emanu El at Shabbat Shirah services. Cantor Simmons announced that the congregation had commissioned a song in Barbara's honor. Notable Jewish song writer and singer, Peri Smilow, introduced her new version of *Shalom Rav*. Members of the Shabbatoners, Shir Magic and Cantor Simmons led the congregation in singing the new arrangement. Barbara was then feted in a video by many of the Rabbis who have served at Emanu El in the past.

fredi Franks, Congregation Treasurer and Celebrating Barbara Committee member, presented Barbara with artistic renderings of the framed musical score of the new *Shalom Rav* and the keepsake book containing messages of love and gratitude for Barbara contributed by congregants and compiled by committee members.

Other members of the committee are Sandy Block, Caren Cowan, committee chair, Karen Kaplan, Elyssa Schnurr, Gladys Schnurr, Shel Vedlitz and Ronnie Winter. Committee arranged for special "musical note" treats that distributed as congregants left the service. Other members worked on framing the musical score and compiling the keepsake book and creating the presentation replicas.

We are grateful to all who were on the committee for everything they did to make the tribute a success.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A special 'Shabbat Shirah' playlist is available on the congregation's YouTube channel. The playlist includes the tributes, musical selections and more from this special evening honoring Barbara Loeser.

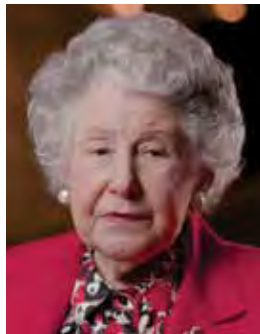
Celebrating with Barbara Loeser on her retirement are, from left to right: Betsy Kusin, Kathy Marks, Barbara Loeser and Dee Dee Dochen smiling for the camera ahead of a rehearsal for Shabbat Shirah: A Celebration in Song for Barbara Loeser. A full playlist of tributes, music and more can be found on the Emanu El YouTube channel.



MUSIC OF THE NIGHT

continued from page 1

This year's honoree, Dolores Wilkenfeld served as president of Emanu El's Sisterhood from 1961-1963, and as president of the congregation from 1983-1985. She was also president of what is now known as Women of Reform Judaism and the World Union for Progressive Judaism, as well as other organizations. She tutored hundreds of Bar and Bat Mitzvah students for over 50 years, making an indelible impression on students and parents alike. Dolores has been honored by many organizations, including the Houston Assembly of Delphian Chapters, Houston Joint Committee for Reform Judaism in Israel, Jewish National Fund, and many more. Emanu El's Sisterhood is honored to have this opportunity to salute her accomplishments.



Dolores Wilkenfeld

A portion of each ticket will be donated to TUTS' *The River* in Houston, and the Actors Fund. *The River* provides affordable, accessible arts education to individuals with disabilities and their siblings. It includes programming for young adults, an inclusive performance troupe that performs events across the city.

The Actors Fund is a national human services organization that fosters stability and resiliency and provides a safety net for performing arts and entertainment professionals. Since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, The Fund has helped more than 40,000 people in the performing arts community from performers, to backstage personnel to ushers!

Emanu El's Sisterhood is an active group with almost 400 members who host a variety of events and programs throughout the community. They are committed to community service and social action, including a partnership with *The River* to provide volunteer opportunities for members.

A fabulous dessert reception will follow the show along with a special cocktail party for "young-ish" congregants. Be sure to wear a fun Purim mask! Reserved and general admission tickets for Music of the Night are available through the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or by visiting Emanu El's website calendar (emanuelhouston.org/calendar).

Any purchased ticket can be transferred to a live-stream viewing option. Details sent upon request. For further information, including business sponsorships and underwriting opportunities, email sishooddonor@emanuelhouston.org.

Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear

(in-person)

First Saturday of the Month following
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning services

Join us for our warm, participatory and Hamish Shabbat morning Proler Chapel service, then stay for a chance to schmooze and enjoy a schmear.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend an engaging and spiritual prayer service on the first Shabbat morning of the month **starting Saturday, March 5** at 10:30 a.m. and stay after services for a nosh.

Try something new in 2022 with our Shabbat Schmooze & Schmears that will take place on the first Saturdays from February through May. The dates are **March 5, April 2** and **May 7**.

A Testimonial on our Saturday Shabbat Worship

The Emanu El Shabbat morning chapel service offers a meaningful way to experience Judaism in a spiritual and intimate space. The services, which start at 10:30 a.m. each Shabbat morning, are informal in dress, friendly in spirit, and help inform the meaning of Judaism in a more traditional sense to our modern world. They

are led weekly by one of our rabbis in conjunction with a cantor or other musical leader and are by definition participatory and inclusive. One of the great joys of this service is getting to know the clergy over time in a more personal and direct sense.

The weekly Torah portion, along with the teaching and discussion which follow, can be both thought-provoking and fun. The worship service itself has more Hebrew than do the other Emanu El services, but you do not need to know Hebrew to participate in or relate to the service. Over time, I have enhanced my appreciation of Hebrew beyond my original training for bar mitzvah, simply by absorbing the beauty of its cadence during this service.

Finally, at the service conclusion, I have found significant meaning in being able to mention aloud the names of my family or friends prior to reciting Kaddish during the week in which their Yahrzeit falls. Because the daily Emanu El Minyan service, which used to provide this opportunity, is no longer being held, the Shabbat chapel service on Saturday morning offers the opportunity to remember family and friends in a meaningful and personal setting. I would like to invite you to join this service on occasion to see whether this experience of Shabbat will resonate with you as much as it has with me over the years.

– Ronnie Winter

Our Tot Shabbat will begin with a picnic dinner outside in the Sculpture Garden at 5:45 p.m. (or, if weather dictates, the Gaylor Parking Facility). Families are encouraged to bring picnic blankets or something comfortable to sit on.

An optional dinner will be provided by Houston Catering Concepts and feature traditional BBQ including chicken and beef. Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available. The cost of the dinner is \$5 per person.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, March 2, or upon hitting our capacity number.

For more information on our Tot Shabbat programming, please contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

This program is generously underwritten by the Alex & Willie Mae Goldstein Children's Fund.

As If: A Hella 90's Purim Schpiel

Sunday, March 6

10:00 a.m. Purim Schpiel, followed by the Purim Carnival at 11:00 a.m

Come chillax on front lawn of Congregation Emanu El and check out the annual Purim Schpiel.

We're taking things back to the 90's and it is going to be all that and a bag of chips! We'll tell the story of Queen Esther while rockin' out to the music of Britney Spears, Ace of Base and the Spice Girls.

Following the schpiel, all are invited to head over to our Purim Carnival, sponsored by the Helfman Religious School Committee. The outdoor carnival will take place around the synagogue's campus and in the Gaylor Parking Facility. From games to inflatables, hamantaschen to arts & crafts, and of course confetti eggs, there will be something for everyone. More information on the carnival will be available in forthcoming synagogue and Helfman communications.

The day's festivities are generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming, the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund, the Julia Kaplan Religious School Enrichment Fund, and the Michael Spolane Education Fund.

Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World with Roberta Kwall (digital)

Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.

Join us when Congregation Emanu El hosts Roberta Kwall as she discusses the thesis of her widely acclaimed new book, *Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World*, and how it applies to individuals, parents and grandparents seeking to deepen their connection to Jewish tradition outside of strict compliance with the rules of Jewish law.

Her book demonstrates how developing a richer set of culturally religious norms in the home can provide a foundation for transmissible Jewish tradition and invites readers to construct their own Jewish journeys with greater mindfulness and intentionality.

To register for this program, visit our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar.

7th Annual Second Night Seder (in-person) Saturday, April, 6:00 p.m.

Following a two-year break, we are thrilled to invite the congregation and community to our 7th Annual Second Night Seder.

A Passover Seder led by our clergy, our seder features a fully catered meal that includes all the staples from matzoh ball soup to gefilte fish! The meal is catered by Houston Catering Concepts, the preferred caterer of Congregation Emanu El.

Registration will open in February, and the deadline for registration is **Wednesday, April 6**. The cost of attending Seder will be shared upon the opening of registration.

Those members of our Congregation seeking financial assistance or interested in making a donation to make seder accessible for members of our community are encouraged to reach out to program director Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

Second Night Seder is generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming and the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund.



Find Us On YouTube!

Looking for a one-stop shop to catch the latest worship services, musical selections, videos from our schools and more while we are separated during COVID-19?

More than 900 videos of new content created since the pandemic have been posted to Emanu El's YouTube page with dozens and dozens more from the archives also shared.

Find us on YouTube by searching "Emanu El Houston Video" and subscribe today!



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through January 13, 2022.

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

To ensure Emanu El is a welcoming, accessible and inclusive community

In Honor of

Carl Josehart – for his work at JFS

Ellen & Martin Grabois

In Memory of

Ruth Peaceman

Caren & David Cowan

ALAN GAYLOR TEACHER ASSISTANT FUND

To support Helfman Religious School teacher assistants

A Donation

Cynthia & Marvin Pleason

BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide scholarships to send Helfman Religious School students to Greene Family Camp

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of Ava Silk

Linda & Richard Zoll

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To provide for and enhance the Becker School

In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's Retirement

The Millers
Stephanie & Todd Slobin

The 90th Birthday of Celine Kaplan

Renee & Brent Silber

In Memory of

Alfred Bernard Levine

Emily Welcher
Richard Wolf

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Becker School scholarships

In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's Retirement

Marlene Slobin
Susan & Syd Waldman

Sybil Pulaski

Ellen Kalish

In Memory of

Betty Lou Blumrosen

Judy & Allan Lazor

Robert Arthur Carlson

Susana Paoloski

Bessie Greenfield

Ronald H. Greenfield

Marianne & Larry Greenfield

Alfred Bernard Levine

Madelyn & Ed Bernstein

Laurie & Jeff Bricker

Jean & Alan Robin

Barbara & Arthur

Schonwald

Francine Greenfield

Rosenthal

Marianne & Larry Greenfield

CANTOR-STONE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

To provide Helfman Religious School scholarships

A Donation

Melvin Ray

CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Honor of

Peter Philipps

Darlene P. Campos

In Memory of

Sidney & Micky Nagar

Brad Nagar & Reid Sutton

CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

A Donation

Shirley Warshaw

CHESTER MARCUS CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

In Memory of

Rachel Lavine

Cookie & Salomon Schein

CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS FUND

To provide Emanu El's clergy with funds to help individuals in need and to support organizations that benefit the community

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Pamela Silk

Michaele & Michael Brown

In Honor of

Our amazing clergy during the 2021 year

Nancy Ehrenkranz

Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pamela Silk, Rabbi Josh

Fixler & Cantor Rollin

Simmons

Ivy & Steven Frank

Allen Leon

Anna Leon

Barbara Loeser's Retirement

Jennis Kauffman

Rabbi Joshua Fixler

Holocaust Museum

Houston

Ed Septimus – Recipient of Congregation Beth

Israel's Patrick Colbert

Volunteer of the Year

Award

Ellen & Martin Grabois

The Bat Mitzvah of

Ava Silk

Miriam Feldman

Carol & Larry Fradkin

Richard Gruen

Donald Reiser & Gay

Yellen

Susan & Syd Waldman

The Birth of Aaron

David Weingast

Francene & Jeremy

Weingast

Melissa & Jay Weingast

In Memory of

Andra Winkleman Barr

Ellen & Martin Grabois

David Bowden

June & Julian Silverblatt

Nevin Brown

Ellen & Martin Grabois

Robert Grossman

Heidi Kaplan & Peter

Christie

Ellen & Martin Grabois

Dorothy Jacobs

June & Julian Silverblatt

Alfred Bernard Levine

Phyllis Cohn

Marilyn & Randy Evans

Arlene & Marshall

Hoffman

Karen & Bill Rubinsky

Joel & Duane Zimmerman

DICK FOX EMANU ELDERS LECTURESHIP FUND

To provide programs for Emanu Elders

In Memory of

Charlotte Fine Frucht

Sylvia Solomon

EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND

To provide programs for Emanu Elders

In Memory of

Charlotte Fine Frucht

Hy Penn & Lynn Gordon

EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND

To feed the hungry of Houston

A Donation

Anita & Robbin Hodgkins

Carol & Michael Wilk

Sharon & Mark Wise

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of Ava Silk

Sondra Ross

Lorraine Wulfe

In Memory of

Betty Lou Blumrosen

Linda & Paul Lynn

Lorraine Wulfe

Alfred S. Goodman

Joyce Goodman

Rachel Lavine

Linda & Paul Lynn

Alfred Bernard Levine

Marilyn Waldman

Linda Colbe Stein

Jennis Kauffman

continued next page

**AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB
COMMUNITY SERVICE
FUND**

*To support small and
emerging organizations
that improve life for
Houstonians*

A Donation

Anonymous
Raymond Kalmans
New Traditions/
Sisterhood
Becky Proler &
Gretchen Gemeinhardt
Helen Savitzky

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM
LEADERSHIP FUND**

*To send Emanu El
leadership to URJ Biennials
and underwrite leadership
programs and speakers*

In Memory of
Hersh Levitt

Myra Lipper

**FREDELL LACK EICHHORN
CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND**

*To enhance musical
programming*
In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's

Retirement

Bitsy Proler
Diane Puschet
Lorraine Wulfe

**The Anniversary of Rose
Marie & Ron Wagman**

Paulette & Mel Levine

**GENERAL ENDOWMENT
FUND**

*To provide for the general
needs of Emanu El and its
facilities*

A Donation

Sue T. Bentsch
Courtney & Charles
Burger
Myra Lipper

In Honor of

Mark Brookner

Joy & Joe Kaplan

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Robin & Billy Ladin

The 90th Birthday of

Celine Kaplan

Suzanne Miller

Maralyn Cohen

Tonya Johnson

**GREENE FAMILY CAMP
FUND**

*To support Greene Family
Camp*

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of

Ava Silk

Lisa Damen
Madeline Lowitz
Devyn, Jeoff &
Leighton Wolens

**MILTON POPKIN
ENDOWMENT FUND**

*To promote an
understanding of other
religious and cultures*

In Memory of

Margie Carpenter

Paula & Irving Pozmantier

**PHILIP G. LUSKY
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Helfman
Religious School
scholarships*

In Memory of

Franklin Roth &

Michelle Roth Glauben

Susan & Sandy Baum

PRAYER BOOK FUND

*To provide prayer books for
worship*

In Honor of

The 90th Birthday of

Celine Kaplan

Bitsy Proler

**THE PROLER CHAPEL
FUND**

*To maintain and enhance
the Proler Chapel*

In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's

Retirement

Josh, Ali, Mia,
and Noah Septimus

**RABBI ROY & LINDA
WALTER ENRICHMENT
FUND**

*To support spiritual and
cultural enrichment*

A Donation

Leslie & Scott Bormaster
Carolyn Altman &
Keith Solomon

In Appreciation of

Barbara Loeser's

Retirement

Shirlee & Mark Rosenthal

In Honor of

Rabbi Roy Walter

Morton Cohn

**The Bat Mitzvah of
Ava Silk**

The Pulaski Family

**The Marriage of Aaron
Walter & Michael**

Kingsley

Lorraine Wulfe

In Memory of

Alfred Bernard Levine

Paulette & Mel Levine

Irene Weingarten

Donald Reiser & Gay

Yellen

Priscilla Schube

Sarit & Scott Schube

Linda Colbe Stein

Judy & Richard Stein

and Family

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Helfman
Religious School*

scholarships

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of

Avery Pollock

Ellen & Martin Grabois

Ava Silk

Sara Astrich

**RICKY SCHNURR
CAMBERSHIP FUND**

*To provide Greene Family
Camp scholarships*

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of

Ava Silk

Jennis Kauffman

The Birthday of

Elyssa Schnurr

Gayle Schnurr

Gladys Schnurr

The Marriage of Aaron

Walter & Michael

Kingsley

Gladys Schnurr

In Memory of

Charlotte Fine Frucht

Gladys Schnurr

Alfred Bernard Levine

Allen Becker & Diana

Brackman

Ricky Schnurr

Bertie Simmons

Emily Weingarten Stein

Linda Colbe Stein

Gladys Schnurr

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL
JUSTICE FUND**

*To send congregants
to the Consultation on
Conscience at the Religious
Action Center*

In Memory of

Doris Nagar

Dr. & Mrs. Marc Shabot

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

*To enhance preschool
education*

In Honor of

The Birthday of

Raymond Kalmans

Michael Wilk

**The Speedy Recovery of
Andi Gaitz**

Phyllis Turkel

In Memory of

Rachel Lavine

Carol Sue & Michael

Zionts

Rhoda Priesman

Sara Astrich

Sharon & Herb Cohn

Carol Sue & Michael

Zionts

Elaine Tatar

Randy Waldman

Phyllis Turkel

**ROSE GOODFRIEND
ISRAEL PILGRIMAGE**

*To help send Confirmation
students to Israel*

In Memory of

Ed Goodfriend

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

**SARAH & ADOLPH
BLUMENFELD KLEI
KODESH SACRED OBJECTS
FUND**

*To purchase and maintain
Emanu El's sacred objects*

A Donation

Norman L. Blumenfeld

**SHIRLEY & MARVIN
BARISH TEACHER
ENRICHMENT FUND**

*To provide training
programs for Emanu El
teachers*

A Donation To the

Barish Family

Katherine Wildman

In Memory of

Robert Arthur Carlson

Dee Dee Dohen

continued next page

**SHIRLEY BARISH
MEMORIAL ISRAEL
EXPERIENCE FUND**
*To send Helfman Religious
School high school students
to Israel*
A Donation
Amy & Brian Brewer

**SISTERHOOD FLOWER
FUND**
*To provide flowers in our
worship spaces*
A Donation
Rabbi Pamela Silk

In Honor of
**Rabbis, Cantor, Teachers
& Religious School Staff**
The Zamberk Family
**Barbara Loeser's
Retirement**
Sarah & Lawrence Kass,
Becky & Justin
Blumberg & Linda
Hayon

**The Bar Mitzvah of
Dylan Kramer**
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen
Kramer

Dr. & Mrs. Harry
Rosenthal
**The B'nei Mitzvah of
Simon Zamberk**
The Zamberk Family

In Memory of
Edward Feldman
Susan Garber
Louis B. Getz
Philip Getz
Alfred Bernard Levine
Barbara & Allen Pauly

SISTERHOOD FUND
*To provide for and enhance
Sisterhood programming*
A Donation
Susie Askanase
Lulu Kamin
Brenda Lind
Madeline Lowitz
Nancy Peskin
Irene Weingarten
Carol Sue Zions

In Honor of
**The Birthday of Judy
Simon**
Libby & Buz Marvins

In Memory of
Charlotte Fine Frucht
Susie & David Askanase
Phyllis S. Hengst
& Family
Shirley Schnoll
Dorothy Jacobs
Hilda Herzfeld

**SUSMAN FUND FOR
FAMILY PROGRAMMING**
*To support programs for
families*
In Honor of
**Barbara Loeser's
Retirement**
Jody & Howard Sweed

In Memory of
Richard Susman
Linda Rauch Susman

TEMPLE FUND
*To support the needs of the
Temple and to fulfill the
mission of Congregation
Emanu El*

In Honor of
**Barbara Loeser's
Retirement**
Cheryl & Haran Levy
Family
Donna & Philip
Tenenbaum

**Linda & Richard Zoll –
Receiving the 2021
Governor's Volunteers
Award for the Volunteer
Family of the Year**

Sandy & Don Harris
**The Bar Mitzvah of
Levi Brooks**
Ellen & Martin Grabois

**The Birthday of
Susie Askanase**
Claire & Dick Brooks

Rosa Esther Fulop
Madgelyn & Richard Pesin

**The Speedy Recovery of
Sara Astrich**
Sandy & Don Harris

In Memory of
Betty Lou Blumrosen
Barbara Harberg
Elyse, Lewis, Aerin,
Kendall & Tali Kalmans

Robert Arthur Carlson
Donna & Philip
Tenenbaum
Linda & Richard Zoll

Margie Carpenter
Donna & Philip
Tenenbaum

Edward Feldman
Claire & Dick Brooks

Mark Kalish
Ellen & Martin Grabois

**Josephine Ruth Kaplan &
Irvin Kaplan**
Joy & Joe Kaplan

Stephen Keeler
Ellen & Martin Grabois

Alfred Bernard Levine
Claire & Dick Brooks
Barbara Drell
Marcia & Bruce Friedman
Evelyn Roth

Jack Selber
Ellen & Martin Grabois

Linda Colbe Stein
Reneé Gerber
Elaine & Melvin Kapell

Our clergy want to know . . .

If you or a loved one is sick or hospitalized please let us know.

Contact the synagogue at 713.529.5771, so that our rabbis can reach out and visit and be a source of strength and support.

Visiting the sick and praying for those who are ill are important and meaningful mitzvot.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome Our Newest Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest members to our congregational family. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

**Kathryn & Adam Gottlieb, daughter Eliana
Gary Grossman
Ilana Rotmensch & Joshua Shapiro, son Zachary
Deborah Ziegler**

New members will be shared in the *Bulletin* regularly. Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town or looking to find a way to connect with Emanu El? Contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.



Emanu El Runners Highlighted in the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Jewish Herald-Voice*

The group of congregants and community members that meets on Wednesdays at 7:45 a.m. in Emanu El's west lot before taking off for a run or walk around Rice University was featured in a pair of articles in early January. The group was also featured on the front page of the *Jewish Herald-Voice* and included in the Zest section of the *Houston Chronicle*. In mid-January, several members of the group were slated to participate in the Houston marathon or half-marathon with the Holocaust Museum of Houston picked as the beneficiary of those efforts.



Hayon, Faith Leaders Meet with Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner

Mayor Sylvester Turner (fifth from left) convened a gathering of Houston faith leaders in mid-January to discuss the spikes in COVID and the city's response. Rabbi Oren Hayon (second from left) was one of those who joined the Mayor for the discussion.

continued next page



Rabbi Hayon, Other Members of Emanu El Family Complete Half Marathon, Marathon

Congratulations to Rabbi Oren Hayon (pictured) on completing the half marathon in mid-January!

Mazel Tov is also in order for our other Emanu El family members who participated in the marathon or half marathon: Brad Brookner, Lisa Brooks, Lisseth de Masi, Bari Fishel, Stephanie Gabelnick, David Kaufman, Evan Mendelovitz, Steve Moskowitz, Ezra Serebrin, Rabbi Kenny Weiss and Tewlyn Yoburn.

If you participated and are not listed above, please drop an email to Jason Plotkin at jason@emanuelhouston.org so we can recognize you as well. The names listed available were known as of presstime.

Exciting Happenings at Bear's Garden

Exciting things are happening in Bear's Garden! Becker students have enjoyed watching the construction of a new garden fence and a home for our newest feathered friends coming soon! Bear's Garden is named in honor of Emanu El past president Haran 'Bear' Levy by his loving family and resides on the northernmost side of the Becker west playground.





Congregation Emanu El

How (and Why) Journalism Gets it Wrong

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SAVE THE DATE:

Kahn Scholar in Residence Weekend
Friday, April 22 – Sunday, April 24



Save the Date and make plans to join our congregation on the weekend of **April 22-24** as Cantor Josh Breitzer of Beth Elohim (Brooklyn, NY) and Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) serves as our Rabbi Robert & Rozelle Kahn Scholar-in-Residence. We hope you will join us as we pray, sing and learn with Cantor Breitzer.

Stay tuned for more updates!



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