



1500 Sunset Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77005

*An adventure of the spirit*

# Bulletin

June 7, 2016 / Sivan 1, 5776

Volume 70 Number 18

## From Rabbi Hayon



From its inception, our congregation has distinguished itself by the depth and strength of its connection with Israel and that commitment continues today. I was proud to have had Emanu El participate in our community's city-wide Shabbat of Unity event a couple of weeks ago, when congregations across the Houston Jewish community dedicated time to discuss from the bima during Shabbat services how they connect them-

selves with the Jewish state. The purpose of this event was to achieve a goal that was a high priority for our Jewish Federation and for the leadership of our congregations, as well: to demonstrate and emphasize that a commitment to Israel unites us all, and that connectedness with Israel supersedes the many healthy differences of opinion that run through the Jewish community.

For me, I was delighted that the Shabbat of Unity gave me the opportunity to express the reasons that I prioritize a congregational connection with Israel and to share publicly some of my personal experiences and feelings that bind me to Israel and to the principles of Zionism. On that night, I said, in part:

*I am a Zionist because I am convinced that Israel is in a*  
*continued on page 2*



## Community Shabbat Dinners

Our first of two community Shabbat dinners will be held on **Friday, June 17th**. Join us for our 6:00 p.m. Shabbat worship service and stay for dinner! Our June dinner will feature fajitas from Fajita Pete's. Veggie fajitas available. The cost is just \$5 though **RSVPs are required by Tuesday, June 14th**. RSVP online at [www.emanuelhouston.org](http://www.emanuelhouston.org) or pay by phone, contacting the Temple at (713) 529-5771.



Our July dinner will be held on **Friday, July 22nd**. Reservations will open following our June event.

## Special Shabbat on Friday, June 10th to Say Farewell to Cantor Perman; Send Off Barish Trip Participants

Kabbalat Shabbat services at **6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10th** at Congregation Emanu El's Barish Sanctuary will feature a farewell to our interim Cantor and an opportunity to give our blessings to a group of teens heading to Israel. A festive Oneg will follow the services.

The Shabbat service will serve first as an opportunity to allow members of our community to wish Cantor Mark Perman well as he heads off to become the spiritual leader at Congregation B'er Chayim in Cumberland, Md.

Cantor Perman has served as an interim Cantor at Congregation Emanu El since August 2014. During his time on Sunset Blvd., Cantor Perman has served with poise, professionalism, a huge smile and an open heart while becoming fully immersed in our community.

The cantor's love for animals brought Emanu El the first-ever "Blessing of the Pets" while his desire to fill a void in our community led to the Congregation spearheading the "Jewish Lone Stars" – the first Houston area singles group specifically for Jews in some years.



*continued on page 3*



## From the President

Twice each year, a Houston *Chronicle* columnist wrote about Houston's Open Window Day. Once in the spring and fall, for a day, we could air out our homes before switching from heat to air conditioning and back again. While a slight exaggeration of our seasonal shifts, it seems an optimistic take on transitions, seizing the opportunity to refresh and breathe.

At this time of year preschoolers are signed up for fall classes while Seniors graduate. One calendar heads for its midpoint while the other turns toward its



*continued on page 4*

## WORSHIP SERVICES

### Daily

6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday

### Shabbat B'midbar, Numbers 1:1-4:20

#### Friday, June 10th

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Barish Sanctuary

#### A Farewell to Cantor Perman & Sendoff of Barish Memorial Israel Experience Participants

#### Saturday, June 11th

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

6:00 p.m., Shavout Evening Service, Proler Chapel

#### Sunday, June 12th

10:30 a.m., Shavout Yizkor, Proler Chapel

### Shabbat Naso, Numbers 4:21-7:89

#### Friday, June 17th

5:45 p.m., Shabbat & Play

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

7:15 p.m., Community Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall

#### Saturday, June 18th

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

### Shabbat B'haalot'cha, Numbers 8:1- 12:16

#### Friday, June 24th

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

#### Cancer Survivor's Shabbat

#### Saturday, June 25th

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

### Shabbat Sh'lach L'cha, Numbers 13:1-15:41

#### Friday, July 1st

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

#### Saturday, July 2nd

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

### Shabbat Korach, Numbers 16:1-18:32

#### Friday, July 8th

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

#### Saturday, July 9th

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

**Reminder:** All Friday night Shabbat services are video streamed on EmanuElHouston.org. Saturday morning services featuring a B'nai Mitzvah are also streamed.

*continued from page 1*

### From Rabbi Hayon

*uniquely privileged position to offer inspiration to our world, to be a source of high moral and ethical standards in the region and across the globe. I'm connected to it because Israel itself is beautiful and inspiring, but because it is an incredibly powerful force that channels and inspires the creative impulses of artists and entrepreneurs and scientists toward moving, beautiful, powerful expression. I'm devoted to it because every time I go there, I find something that I have never seen before; every time, I learn something I never knew before; every time, I glean another Jewish spark to elevate my prayer and my writing and my connectedness to all of you. For me, it is crystal-clear that Israel's greatest gifts are accessible chiefly to those who spend time with her.*

It is indisputable that a lifelong relationship with Israel yields rich and transformative benefits. It connects one anew to one's synagogue, to one's faith, to one's history and one's people. This is, of course, not to disregard the fact that remaining in relationship with Israel may feel challenging at times. Her regional neighbors and her history of struggle and conflict mean that Israel can be a demanding partner to dance with at times, but I believe that it is foolish for us to allow these challenges to prevent us from forming and maintaining a thoughtful and comprehensive relationship with Israel. Deciding to stand aloof from this relationship means that one will miss out on all these powerful moments and extraordinary potential that Israel has to offer us and our real lives as American Jews.

And so, as I have gotten to know the Emanu El community better and better over the course of my first year here, I have been thrilled to realize how deep our congregational commitment is to creating openings for individual temple members to forge and nurture ongoing connections with the Jewish state. I'm proud that dozens of our Helfman high school students will be returning for another trip to Israel with the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience this summer, and I am so excited to know that these young members of our congregation will return to us with a renewed sense of self, of history and of Jewish identity.

And for the rest of us, I am delighted to announce that plans are now well underway for our next congregational trip. This trip, an intergenerational opportunity for congregants of all ages, will enable us to experience Israel alongside our families – and to see ourselves in the worldwide family of Israel, as well. This will be an exceptional (and, for many of us, once-in-a-lifetime) opportunity to experience Israel alongside friends and family, in the company of temple clergy.

More information about this congregational trip to Israel, which will take place in early June of 2017, will be forthcoming as it develops. For now, if you're interested – and I sincerely hope you will be – I encourage you to begin saving time on your family's calendar and to keep your eyes open for updates in the Temple *Bulletin* and its website.

There is probably no experience as profound and formative to one's Jewish identity as the experience of getting to know Israel for oneself and forming a personal relationship with the place that has inspired countless generations of poets, sages and thinkers. I hope you will join us to spend time in Israel next summer – and to prepare yourself for a spiritual experience like no other.



LIKE US ON

facebook®

<http://www.facebook.com/emanuelhouston>

## OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

### IN THE COMMUNITY

**Dick Brooks** won a silver medal in the giant slalom and a bronze in the slalom in the NASTAR national skiing championships held earlier this year in Steamboat Springs, Colo. It was Brooks' first time earning that high of a rank since he started competing in 2006.

**Aubrey Farb** was honored by Phi Beta Kappa for being a member of the organization for 75 years. Aubrey was initiated into the Rice University chapter of the organization in 1941.

The trio of **Bari Fishel, Marlene Matzner** and **Jody Sweed** were selected as co-Presidents for the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)'s Greater Houston Section.

### WEDDING

**Monica Rae Mello & Daniel Louis Coorsh**

### BIRTHS

**David Boshernitzan**, son of Kristina & Yaniv Boshernitzan; grandson of Natalia & Michael Boshernitzan, Ruth & Tom Wade, Clare & John Sullivan

**Jacob Michael Darsky**, son of Adam & Carrie Darsky; grandson of Nancy Darsky, Ellen & Stephen Fischbein

**Penelope Rose Davey**, daughter of Starr Katz Davey and Steven Davey; granddaughter of Paula & Happy Katz, Debby Davey; great granddaughter of Seema Davis and Helen Moring

**Hunter Felix Donsky**, son of Kristine & Ilya Donsky; grandson of Sofiya Donskaya & Feliz Grinshteyn, Juanita & Rick Stewart; great grandson of Tomasita Hernandez

**Georgia Jane Lurie**, daughter of Sarah & Seth Luria; granddaughter of Roxann & David Grammer, Robert Lurie, Penney Lurie; great granddaughter of Joann Powell, William Grammer, Edith Ferguson

**Hadas Naomi Nataf**, daughter of Sarah Pashkoff Nataf & Yoel Nataf; great granddaughter of Mina Pashkoff and Perry Vann

**Blake Michelle Seff**, daughter of Jessica & Blake Seff; granddaughter of Margaret & Leslie Seff, Julie & Eric Myerla; great granddaughter of Michelle Cohen, Dorothy Seff, Harvey Lyerla

### DEATHS

**Norman Keen**, husband of Natalie Godlberg Keen; father of Diane & David Wadler, Barbara & William Drell, Brett & Cynthia Perlman; grandfather of Melissa & David Bloome, Lindsay & Jonathan Hyman, Elizabeth & Steven Bentley, Jarrett Wadler, Allison Drell, Laura Drell, Brian Perlman, Halle Perlman, Drew Perlman; great grandfather of Jackson Keen Bloome, Ashley Bloome, Conner Bloome, Kate Hyman, William Hyman, Caroline Bentley, Andrew Bentley

**Seymour 'Sy' Kwartler**, husband of Trudy; father of Andy & Mitch Kwartler, Blanca & Jeff Kwartler, Lisa & Jonathan Leva; grandfather of Callie & Eric Kwartler, Drew Kwartler, Ashley Kwartler, Jessica Kwartler, Cori & Daniel Morris, Rachel & Shaun Leva and Scott Leva; great grandfather of Brooke Leva and Josiah Kwartler.

**Lois Rottersmann**, mother of Sherry Lewis and Chuck Rottersmann; grandmother of Terrence and Randolph Lewis, Rachel Max, Meredith & Charles Mackenzie, Stratton Rottersmann; great grandmother of Gabriel and Chloe Lewis

**Rabbi Robert (Bob) Samuels**, husband of Annette Colish Samuels; father of Ami & Ayala Samuels, David & Amy Samuels, Tamar & Igal Sroka; grandfather of Peleg, Amos, Gilad, Iris, Maya and Eli Samuels, Leor, Noam and Ido Sroka; brother of Vic and Bobbi Samuels, Mitch Samuels

*continued from page 1*

### Special Shabbat on Friday, June 10th . . .

In Maryland, Cantor Perman will be the spiritual leader – serving in both the rabbinic and cantorial roles. A Cantor for the last 19 years, Perman has desired an opportunity in which he could fulfill both roles and our Congregation wishes him all the best!

### Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience Send-Off

This special Shabbat will also serve as the official Congregational send-off for our participants in the 2nd Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience. A group of rising 11th and 12th graders in our Helfman Religious



School, these students will embark to Europe in mid-June before making their way to Israel.

Generously funded by the Barish family, this trip follows the 'once in a lifetime' experience had by the first participants in 2014. Congregants and community members alike are urged to stay tuned to the group's happenings by visiting the 'Shirley Barish Memorial Israel

Experience' Facebook page. Photos and testimonials will be posted often to the page once this group is on the ground in Israel. Occasional updates will also be shared on the Congregation Emanu El page.



The Board of Trustees met on May 10th and took part in an icebreaker to introduce new and continuing Board members to each other. Jeff Basen-Engquist asked new members of the Board to reach out to an existing member in order to have a mentor for the coming year.

The Executive Committee has begun implementing the Governance Plan that was approved by the Board last August. The Governance Plan is a set of recommendations that creates an efficient and effective governance structure in which lay volunteers are able to thrive and will further the mission of Congregation Emanu El. The Board will begin looking at their role in this Governance Plan at their June meeting.

One of the recommendations of the Governance Plan is the review and revamping of our bylaws. The Bylaws Task Force is progressing with the overhaul of our current bylaws and the Board will begin reviewing sections in June and continue throughout the summer. The goal is to have the revised final version of the bylaws presented to the congregation by the end of the calendar year for a congregational vote.

Rabbi Hayon announced the hiring of an Experiential Education Coordinator. Robert Goodfriend announced the Audit Committee held their first meeting of the fiscal year as part of the ongoing fiscal responsibility of the Board. Lauren Vines reported that the Youth Committee met four times this past year. The committee is rebuilding and growing. The Youth Committee is drafting questions to send out through Survey Monkey to guide the committee.

Jeff thanked Fredi Bleeker Franks and the Cantorial Search Committee for all of their thoughtful work.

*Rachel-Gutow Ellis, Secretary*



**Steve Friedman Resigns As Executive Director, Returning To Family In Ohio**

Executive Director Steve Friedman, resigned effective July 22nd to return to Ohio to be close to family, including his new grandchild. He will be serving as Executive Director of Congregation Tifereth Israel in Columbus.

Steve wrote, "I am truly grateful for the opportunity I was provided to serve as Emanu El's Executive Director the past three plus years. . [T]he memories of my time in Houston will be looked back on fondly and with deep appreciation for the opportunities the Temple has provided me."

I have convened a working group to find his successor. Please join me in congratulating Steve and wishing him continued success.

*Jeff Basen-Engquist  
President*

*continued from page 1*

**From the President**

conclusion. And we count the Omer as we move from Passover to Shavuot.

Large organizations experience change continuously. It can be jarring, acknowledging change is normal and to be expected, especially within a spiritual and social community such as ours. We greet new faces and sense the absence of old friends. We ask "Who is in that office down the hall now?" We take note of our response to the new lighting in the hallway, gift shop, and gallery.

The month of May brings in our new fiscal year with the installation of new leadership and shifting responsibilities. New personal and working relationships are forming and bonds are developing. Change will be on the agenda, as ever. In May, our Executive Committee began implementing the Governance Plan, a product of almost a year of task force and Board work. Adopted by the Board last August, it provides a blueprint for structure and accountability while recommending specific roles and training for Trustees and Chairs. It also endorses expanded and representative participation at all levels.

Additionally, the Bylaws Task Force is completing its draft for initial Board review. Their charge is to modernize our language and approach while keeping our actions in line with our traditions. Before this affects our operations, information will be shared, input sought, and a congregational vote taken as required by our bylaws. You will be hearing more.

Our music program continues to undergo a significant evolution. While many of us still easily recall Cantor Tunitsky's soaring tones, we bid adieu to Cantor Perman. I want to personally thank Cantor Perman, adding my thanks to those expressed by congregants who have described the joy he has brought to our worship and congregational life. And we will spend the coming year together in anticipation of Cantor Rollin Simmons' arrival in July 2017. I am excited about her authentic Jewish presence and broad musical skills. As any new clergy team member, but uniquely as Cantor, she can enhance our services and guide our learning. While we wait for her to arrive we will not lose a year, but will continue to worship and celebrate with song while we learn and prepare for the future.

Our staff moves ahead as well, with new positions and people. Having set a high bar for the position, Kristina Boshernitzan departs as Membership and Outreach Coordinator. Jill Patir has joined our staff will transition to full time duties in that role in August. Welcome, Jill! With a few modest shifts in responsibilities in our education program, we will bring aboard a Coordinator of Experiential Education to build strong relationships with our congregational youth and their families, assuming responsibility for a number of Helfman's longstanding informal educational programs while broadening an already successful initiative to engage Emanu El youth of all ages.

Our tradition teaches us to engage with our history and to learn from shared experience. We also recognize while new people and practices can be distressing, thoughtful and gradual change leads to growth and increased relevance. The late spring breeze moving through our open windows reminds us of the inevitability of change while encouraging us to savor each moment of it together.

## Congregation Emanu El Announces Selection of Rollin Simmons As Cantor



On Tuesday, May 10th, in an email (and subsequent letter) to the Congregation, Emanu El Board of Trustees President Jeff Basen-Engquist announced that following the completion of the Cantorial Search Committee's hard work, Rabbi Oren Hayon has selected **Cantor Rollin Simmons** as the Temple's new Cantor. Cantor Simmons will serve as a full mem-

ber of the clergy team in all aspects of worship, education and pastoral care.

Cantor Simmons has served as the Aspen Jewish Congregation's cantor since July 2010. Prior to that post, she served as Student Cantor at Hebrew Tabernacle Congregation in New York and at Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, where she worked with Rabbi Hayon during his tenure there. Cantor Simmons was ordained as Cantor and earned her Masters of Sacred Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's School of Sacred Music in New York in May 2010.

Due to her present contract status, Cantor Simmons will begin her tenure at Emanu El on July 1, 2017. She will spend three weekend visits with Emanu El over the coming year as a part of her transition to Houston, all of which will be announced ahead of time through the *Temple Bulletin* and other communications.

Rabbi Hayon is working with HUC-JIR's School of Sacred Music and the American Conference of Cantors to ensure that Emanu El's tradition of excellence in our music program will remain solidly in place until Cantor Simmons assumes her full-time duties next year. Additional information regarding musical leadership at Shabbat and High Holy Day services in the absence of a full-time Cantor will be announced soon. In addition to our regular schedule of worship accompanists, we expect that additional musicians will be enlisted to augment our programs and ensure continuity of service to our congregants. More information will be shared as schedules are confirmed.

Cantor Simmons' biography can be found in the original email and letter sent to the Congregation, as well as on the Emanu El website [www.EmanuElHouston.org](http://www.EmanuElHouston.org).



### **This Bulletin – First of Our Once-A-Month Bulletins**

This current *Bulletin* is the first of our "once a month" publications. Starting with this edition and going forward, the *Temple Bulletin* will only be printed once a month.

If you would like to receive the *Bulletin* via email or make sure your information is up-to-date, contact Bethany Boucher at [BethanyB@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:BethanyB@emanuelhouston.org) or (713) 529-5771.

Congregants are strongly encouraged to help us share information with our community. If you have information or photos to submit, please reach out to Jason Plotkin at (713) 535-6414 or [JasonP@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:JasonP@emanuelhouston.org).

NEXT BULLETIN TO BE ISSUED: TUESDAY, JULY 5th

## Wrap-Up and Thanks to the Cantor Search Committee

As you all are aware, the congregation has engaged Cantor Rollin Simmons as our Cantor beginning in July, 2017. As chair of the Cantor Search Committee, it has been my pleasure to serve with Alex Pliskin, Diane Puschett, Steven Canfield, Gloria Pryzant, Julie Sacks, Kathy Parven, Marisa Papell, Marvin Barish, Steve Fenberg, Steve Reiner, and Stewart Zuckerbrod on this very important task. Each member of the committee devoted countless hours to screening applicants, conducting Skype interviews, listening to audition tapes, and interviewing candidates in person. They were thoughtful, serious, and thorough in their work, always with the what was in the best interest of the congregation in mind. *Todah Rabah!*

– *fredi Bleeker Franks, Cantor Search Committee Chair*



### **New Traditions Announces Summer Hours**

Starting in June and continuing through the end of July, the New Traditions gift shop will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Regular operating hours will resume in August. Come see our BRIGHT new look and browse the new items! Proceeds from sales made in the New Traditions gift shop benefit the Sisterhood and the Temple.



### **Emanu El to Recognize Cancer Survivors, Families on Friday, June 24th at Shabbat Services**

Join us for our **6:00 p.m.** Kabbalat Shabbat service on **Friday, June 24th** where we will be offering a special blessing and recognition of cancer survivors within our Congregation and community. In commitment to our ongoing partnership as a CanCare congregation, a member of their team will be here before services enabling cancer survivors and their family members to receive a special designation to wear during the service.



### **Classic Connections Seeks Hosts for Summer Potlucks**

Classic Connections the social group for anyone in their 50's and 60's enjoyed the spiritual musical service of the Shabbatones in late May followed by a wonderful catered dinner. The evening was topped off by a show *Jews on Broadway* by Cantor Mark Perman. We met new people, enjoyed singing and laughter and getting to know each other.

If you are interested in hosting a pot luck dinner or event in your home for the group during the summer months please email Brenda Sherman at: [classicconnectionsemanuel@gmail.com](mailto:classicconnectionsemanuel@gmail.com)

Stay tuned for more events throughout 2016. If you are interested in meeting people in their 50's and 60's and want to be contacted by a representative from Classic Connections, please notify Jill Patir at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or Brenda Sherman at the email above.

## Shavout Never Tasted So Good: An Evening to Delight the Body, Mind & Spirit

Join us on **Saturday, June 11th at 6:00 p.m.** for an inspiringly beautiful service as we begin the holiday of Shavuot in the Proler Chapel. We will then enjoy a perfectly progressive dinner, rich with great food and captivating learning at some of our favorite neighborhood eateries.

Our meal will begin at the spectacular Star Pizza, 2111 Norfolk St., then make our way to the indulgent Chocolate Bar, 2521 University Blvd. for their fabulous homemade ice cream and then conclude with a night cap coffee at the cozy Salento, 2407 Rice Blvd. Space is extremely limited for this special Shavuot evening experience where we will indulge our body, minds, and spirit.

The cost for the evening is \$25 and you can register at [www.EmanuElHouston.org](http://www.EmanuElHouston.org) or by sending a check addressed to 'Congregation Emanu El' to the Temple, 1500 Sunset Blvd., Houston, TX, 77005; attn.: Jason Plotkin.



## 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.

**Raquel Dicoste** and **Michael Wachter**  
**Kristina** and **David Husid**  
**Rabbi Mathew Michaels**  
**Amanda Zimmerman** and **Marc Eichenbaum**

New members will be shared in the Temple *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 Jill Patir at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or [JillP@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:JillP@emanuelhouston.org).



## SAVE THE DATE: 2nd Annual Food Trucks & Fireworks: An Emanu El Fourth of July Celebration

Join us at Congregation Emanu El on **Monday, July 4th at 7:00 p.m.** for food and fun! Congregants and community members alike are invited to purchase dinner from The Lunch Box food truck and then enjoy a free ice cream social inside the Oshman Multi-Purpose Room. We'll show a kid-friendly movie and have popcorn in Feld Hall while the adults socialize.

Bring your lawn chairs and we'll then head upstairs to the fourth level of the Gaylor Parking Facility where as a community, we will enjoy the fireworks from Southwest Airlines *Freedom Over Texas* at Eleanor Tinsley Park which are anticipated to begin just after 9:30 p.m. before the 'main event' when the fireworks from the Houston Symphony's *Star-Spangled Salute* at Miller Outdoor Theatre light up the sky around 10:00 p.m.

## Rabbi Walter Serves As Scholar-in-Residence In New Mexico

Rabbi Emeritus Roy Walter served as the scholar-in-residence at Beit Tikva in Santa Fe, New Mexico in late May. During his time at Beit Tikva, Rabbi Walter spoke at Shabbat evening services, led Torah study on Shabbat morning and spoke on leadership Saturday evening.



## Cantor Perman Farewell Message

I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for making my time here at Congregation Emanu El rewarding and meaningful on so many levels.

Ever since I arrived here at Emanu El two years ago to meet with Rabbi Disick and the search committee for the interim cantor, I have felt the energy, the enthusiasm, and the sense of love that all of you have for your congregation. I hope I played a small role in helping you all to connect on an even more meaningful level to your Judaism, your spirituality, and to the joys of Jewish Music. Whether it was performances, Purim Schpiels, teaching sessions, or working with Junior or Adult Choir, I have enjoyed every aspect and every dimension of what it is to be a part of Congregation Emanu El and this sacred community.

Please do stay in touch and may this all be part of a journey we are making toward a future filled with music, prayer, and a sense of infinite possibilities. I look forward to staying connected and to continuing to build at a distance something that was clearly established among us when we were together. There are many people to thank I will be thanking them at my final service on June 10th.

Kol Hakavod and from "strength to strength". I look forward to hearing many good things about the congregation in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,  
Cantor Perman



**A Look Back at the 2016 Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year Dinner**

On Thursday, May 19th, over 225 members of the community showed up for the 2016 Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year dinner honoring Sandy Harris. The evening featured a fantastic dinner put on by the Sisterhood catering team, as well as recognition for Alford Bleeker, named the 2016 Sam Cohen Brotherhood Volunteer of the Year. Monies raised from the evening benefit the Brotherhood and its mission to assist the Temple, community partners.



2016 Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year Sandy Harris is presented with her award from 2015 recipient Marvin Barish and Brotherhood President Lewis Kalmans.

Alford Bleeker, alongside wife Marilynne, was the recipient of the Sam Cohen Brotherhood Volunteer of the Year for 2016. The award is named for Cohen, who was an active member of the Brotherhood and the Temple before his passing in 2013.



A team of Brotherhood volunteers helped to prepare the room, serve food and more to make sure the event was a success! Buz Marvins, Keith Solomon and Syd Waldman were part of the 'serving team' at one of the stations.



As we transition to a once-a-month Temple *Bulletin*, a new feature will be our 'quick glance' calendar of upcoming events (exclusive of our Temple worship and Shabbat schedule, which can be found monthly on page 2).

As a Congregation, we communicate in many different ways – this calendar is supplemented by information that can be found throughout this edition of the Temple *Bulletin*, in the weekly Shabbat program, available in your weekly Wednesday eLetter, on the Emanu El website: [www.emanuelhouston.org](http://www.emanuelhouston.org) and/or on our Facebook page.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – THROUGH JULY 14th**

**JUNE**

- 8th** – College Student Summer Gathering, 11:00 a.m. (at Menchie's)
- 9th** – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.  
Jewish Lonestars' Singles Mingle at Genesis Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 6:30 p.m.  
Welcoming Event with Rabbi Hayon (in the Heights), 7:00 p.m.
- 10th** – Farewell to Cantor Perman, Send Off of Barish Trip Participants, 6:00 p.m.
- 11th** – Shavout Never Tasted So Good: Progressive Dinner, 6:00 p.m. (services) followed by dinner off-site
- 16th** – Sisterhood Book Review: *The Far Side of the Sky*, 12:30 p.m.  
Young Professionals – HERO Panel & Reception, 6:30 p.m.
- 17th** – Community Shabbat Dinner, 7:15 p.m.  
21st – Kids' Meals, 9:30 a.m.
- 28th** – Sack Lunches for SEARCH, 9:30 a.m.

**JULY**

- 4th** – Food Trucks & Fireworks: An Emanu El Fourth of July, 7:00 p.m.
- 5th** – Emanu Elders, 11:30 a.m.
- 14th** – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.

**Jewish Lonestars – Singles Group for Boom-Xers to Host Singles' Mingle on June 9th at Genesis**

Are you between the ages of 45-65 and looking for fellow singles in the Houston Jewish community? Congregation Emanu El has taken the lead on the "Jewish Lonestars", a singles' group open to all Jewish members of our community and established with a goal of fostering supportive friendships and possible loving relationships within the Houston Jewish community.

This group's next official event will take place from **6:30 – 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 9th** at Genesis Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 5427 Bissonnet. Come with friends or by yourself to meet other Jewish single adults in a low-key, relaxed atmosphere! Genesis Steakhouse offers drinks, appetizers, and meals.

For more information on Jewish Lonestars and its programming offerings, find us on Facebook at "Jewish Lonestars" (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/JewishLoneStars/>) or contact Jill Patir at Congregation Emanu El at [JillP@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:JillP@emanuelhouston.org) or (713) 529-5771, ext. 262.

If you are a member of a congregation or organization you want to get involved, please contact Jill at the information listed above.

# HELFMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

## Helfman Celebrates End of School Year with Carnival

Our Helfman Religious School ended the 2015-16 academic year with a closing program and carnival on Sunday, May 20th. In addition to the joust – one of the major highlights was a photo booth! Props were handy for participants, who had plenty of options!

Helfman looks forward to seeing all of its students again in the fall when school continues!



## Helfman Third Grade Service

The 2016 3rd Grade class of Congregation Emanu El Helfman Religious School led a beautiful service for family and friends on Sunday, May 8th. The students presented their moms with a special gift for Mother's Day.



Row 1 (l-r): Julie Sacks, Music Teacher, Jonathan Curl, Amelia Perry, Camryn Kleiman, Amanda Frankfort, Caroline De Leef, Alex Mantel, Jacob Sacks, Sophie Kauffman, Raya Weinstock and Marna Meyer, Director. Row 2: Madeline Canfield, Teacher Assistant, Ethan Chaikin, Brayden Friedman, Lexi Robinson, Sam Rudin, Hayden Kramer, Daniella Barg, Margaret Barg, Emonni Caouette and Daniel Curl. Row 3: Rabbi Oren Hayon, Alexis Burger, Caroline Brynes, Carly Peleg, Sarah Lack, Hannah Turner, Addison Berger, Owen Ackerman, Caden Warren, Grey Warren and Eileen Elfezouaty, Teacher. Back Row: Sophi Zimmerman, Teacher, Max Gross, JJ Silk, Sammy Barron, Nathan Horn, Elizabeth Burger, Eli Freeman, Alexander Credeur, Landon Lord, Rowan Freedson, Aaron Feldman, Sam Ferber, Michelle Frankfort, Teacher and Jacob Brewer, Teacher Assistant.

Not pictured: Zachary Kopel, Lindsay Kronowitz, Benjamin Lewis, Zachary Paull, Jake Pinsky, Ashley Ringold and Harry Smith.



---

# Congregation Emanu El

## BOOK OF MEMORY – 2016

The *Book of Memory* is printed outside the Temple and all names memorialized must be submitted on the form below **by Wednesday, August 31st. Names submitted after that date will be published in a future *Bulletin*.** We suggest a minimum donation of \$15 per name.

Please print the names carefully below in spaces given  
as you wish them to appear in the book.

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:


### REMEMBERED BY:


Please complete and return this form with your check to:  
Congregation Emanu El, 1500 Sunset Boulevard, Houston, Texas, 77005.

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**ABLON FUND FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Rona Lesser

In Memory of  
**Rabbi Robert Samuels**  
Sara Speer Selber

**ACCESS FOR ALL**  
In Memory of  
**Muriel Folloder Phillips**  
Sandy & Sam Block  
Shelley Fleishman  
**Sylvia Oberstein**  
Barbara & Lennie Roth

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Todd Weiss – Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Award for Judaic Studies**  
Melissa, Daniel, Mickie  
May & Solomon

**CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Charles Hibbler**  
Jackie Hibbler, Bill Hibbler,  
Misty Khan  
**Bessie Jacobson**  
Rozelle & Herman Schultz

**DOLORES & BUDDY WILKENFELD COMMUNICATION FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Norman Keen**  
**Esther Schulman**  
**Betty Mae Cohen Stekin**  
Dolores Wilkenfeld

**EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND A Donation**  
Michael Brown

**EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Marilyn & Jay Albert  
Linda & Paul Lynn  
**Todd Weiss – Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Award for Judaic Studies**  
Linda & Paul Lynn

In Memory of  
**Maurine Genecov Mutz**  
Patsy & Steven Segal  
**Anna Belle McCaslin Rhodes**  
Linda & Paul Lynn  
**Esther Schulman**  
Thada Bornstein

**ENDOWMENT FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Vera Fischl Rush**  
William Spitz

**FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Seymour Kwartler**  
Linda & Harris Miller  
**Muriel Follodor Phillips**  
Shelly Cyprus  
**Betty Mae Cohen Stekin**  
Susie & David Askanase

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Jan & Rick Sander

In Memory of  
**Sari Motley**  
Jan & Rick Sander

**GERARD & PAULINE LECHENGER MORGENSTERN ADULT EDUCATION FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Ira Shepard**  
Susie & David Askanase

**GREENE FAMILY CAMP FUND**  
In Honor of  
**The Birth of Gus Axelrad Goldfarb**  
Barbara & Irv Levine

**JEAN & JULIAN GOLDBERG CHILDREN'S CREATIVE ARTS FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Seymour Kwartler**  
Dottie & Kurt Berk  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Roggen

**JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Jody & Howard Sweed  
**The Speedy Recovery of Celine Kaplan**  
Marilyn Caplovitz

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**  
In Honor of  
**The Birth of Gus Axelrad Goldfarb**  
Elizabeth & Matt Krohn

In Memory of  
**Anna Belle McCaslin Rhodes**  
Margaret Cohen  
**Ted Gehring**  
Sharon & Herb Cohn

**RABBI KAHN SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Rebecca Lunstroth's Leadership at Emanu El**  
Susan & Edward Kahn

In Memory of  
**Betty Mae Cohen Stekin**  
Carol & Bruce Appelbaum  
Rose Marie & Ron Wagman

**RABBI ROY WALTER LEGACY FUND FOR CREATIVE & SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Jennis Kauffman  
**Rabbi Roy Walter**  
Barbara Miller & Family  
**The Speedy Recovery of Celine Kaplan**  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

In Memory of  
**Zack Jacobs**  
Jackie Hibbler, Bill Hibbler,  
Misty Khan  
**Muriel Folloder Phillips**  
Fannette Blum  
**Doris Pryzant**  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**RABBIS' GOOD WORKS FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Adine Holland  
Libby & Buz Marvins  
Gloria & Ben Tobor  
Irene Weingarten  
**Rabbi Oren Hayon**  
Debbie Fuqua – Temple Emanu-El g2g  
The Estate of Cleo Laviage  
**Rabbi Pamela Silk**  
Dessert Gallery  
Commissary, LTD  
Mara & Scott Van Nostrand  
**Todd Weiss – Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Award for Judaic Studies**  
Beadie Lewis & Family

In Memory of  
**David Henderson**  
Katlyn & Jane Henderson & Marie Brochstein & Family  
**Norman Keen**  
Cynthia & Ben Klein  
**Herb Lesser**  
Bonnie & Shel Vedlitz  
**Betty Mae Cohen Stekin**  
Charlotte & Pete Berkowitz  
Sandy & Don Harris  
Gayle & Richard Rockoff

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**  
In Memory of  
**Rabbi Robert Samuels**  
Sara Astrich

**RICKY SCHNURR CAMBERSHIP FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Roggen

In Memory of  
**Sylvia Oberstein**  
Gayle Schnurr

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING CONGREGATION FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Phyllis & Bernie Berman  
Sandra Sheinberg  
Linda & Marvin Stein  
Adam Turkel  
Rose Marie & Ron Wagman  
**The Speedy Recovery of Celine Kaplan**  
**Myra Lipper**  
Sara Astrich

In Memory of  
**Libby Danziger**  
**Jack Wolf**  
Freddie & Paul Croft

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN PRE-SCHOOL AID FUND**  
In Honor of  
**Sandy Harris – Ernest Krautkopf Congregant of the Year**  
Sandy & Richard Brochstein  
Phyllis Turkel

In Memory of  
**Peggy Ashe**  
Roni & Bob Light  
**Muriel Folloder Phillips**  
Ann & Kenny Friedman  
**Lois Rottersman**  
**Ira Shepard**  
Phyllis Turkel



**SARAH & ADOLPH  
BLUMENFELD SACRED  
OBJECTS FUND**

In Memory of  
**Sarah Blumenfeld**  
Norman L. Blumenfeld

**SHIRLEY & MARVIN  
BARISH TEACHER  
ENRICHMENT FUND**

In Honor of  
**Todd Weiss - Irving L.  
Samuels Outstanding  
Teacher Award for Judaic  
Studies**  
Rona Lesser

**SUSMAN FAMILY  
PROGRAMMING FUND**

In Memory of  
**Doris Pryzant**  
Jody, Howard & Braelyn Sweed

**SISTERHOOD FUND**

In Honor of  
**Diane Puschett - Outgoing  
Sisterhood President**  
**Marci Weinstein - Incoming  
Sisterhood President**  
Dolores Wilkenfeld

In Memory of

**Lois Rottersman**  
Dolores Wilkenfeld  
**Alan M. Aaron & Fred  
M. Gerson**  
Paula G. & Irving Pozmancier

**TEMPLE FUND**

**A Donation**  
Laurie Reiskind

In Honor of

**Jeff Basen-Engquist as  
President**  
Barbara & Allen Pauly  
**Sandy Harris - Ernest  
Krautkopf**  
**Congregant of the Year**  
Carol & Larry Fradkin  
Carol Lee Seliger

In Memory of

**Philip Flowers**  
Fannette Blum  
**Muriel Folloder Phillips**  
Karen & Jeff Basen-Engquist  
Robin Fleishman Ortega  
Lila Rauch  
**Rabbi Robert Samuels**  
Karen & Jeff Basen-Engquist  
**Benjamin Aaron Schultz**  
Rozelle & Herman Schultz  
**Betty Mae Cohen Stekin**  
Joy & Harris Jacobs  
Roberta & Mel Kleiman  
Lynette Allen & Larry  
Rothenberg  
Jon Stern  
**John Veta**  
Sharon Veta Snyder & Family

## SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

### NEXT BOOK REVIEW:

**Thursday, June 16th, at 12:30 p.m.**  
***The Far Side of the Sky*, by Daniel Kalla**  
**Reviewed by Caren Cowan**

On November 9, 1938, known as Kristallnacht, the Nazis unleashed a night of terror for Jews all across Germany. At the same time, the Japanese Imperial Army rampaged through China, tightening its stranglehold on Shanghai, a city that becomes the last haven for thousands of desperate European Jews. Dr. Franz Adler, a renowned surgeon, is swept up in the wave of anti-Semitic violence and flees to Shanghai with his daughter. At a refugee hospital, Franz meets an enigmatic nurse, Soon Yi "Sunny" Mah. The danger escalates for Shanghai's Jews as the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. *The Far Side of the Sky* focuses on a short – but extraordinary – period of Chinese, Japanese, and Jewish history when cultures converged and heroic sacrifices were part of the everyday quest for survival.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Next Book Review – *Boys in the Boat* on **Thursday, August 11th at 6:45 p.m.**, reviewed by Rabbi Oren Hayon and featuring light hors d'oeuvres and wine. Please note the time change for this book review.



### Sisterhood Volunteers at Undies for Everyone

A group of Sisterhood volunteers recently assisted at Undies for Everyone. This great non-profit in our community is singularly committed to the self-esteem, dignity, hygiene, and success of Houston area disadvantaged students by providing them underwear at the beginning of each school year. Thanks to those who helped out!



## EMANU EL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

### ADL's Young Leaders & Emanu El's Young Professionals to Host HERO Discussion



The Anti-Defamation League's Young Leaders & Professionals (YLP) and Congregation Emanu El's Young Professionals are pleased to co-sponsor a community-wide discussion on Houston's Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) at a special program on **Thursday, June 16th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at Congregation Emanu El.

What is HERO? Why is HERO important for Houston? Why did efforts to enact HERO fail at the ballot box this past November?

What is the future of HERO? What is the impact of HERO's failure on Houston? What can Houston area young professionals do to help enact HERO in the future? These and other questions will be discussed by a distinguished panel moderated by ADL Board Chair George Gibson. Panelists included: City Councilmember Ellen Cohen; Dr. James T. Douglas, NAACP; Rabbi Samantha Kahn, Congregation Emanu El; Lou Weaver, Equality Texas, Transgender Programs Coordinator

Wine, beer and light Hors d'oeuvres will be served. The cost to attend is a \$5.00 donation.

RSVPs are required to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/adl-ylp-hero-tickets-25130055673>.



1500 Sunset Blvd.

Houston, Texas 77005

*An adventure of the spirit*



This *Bulletin* is being printed on recycled paper.

**Congregation Emanu El**

Phone: (713) 529-5771

Fax: (713) 529-0703

[www.emanuelhouston.org](http://www.emanuelhouston.org)

Senior Rabbi . . . . . Oren J. Hayon  
 Associate Rabbi . . . . . Pamela B. Silk  
 Assistant Rabbi . . . . . Samantha O. Kahn  
 Rabbi Emeritus . . . . . Roy A. Walter  
 Cantor . . . . . Mark J. Perman  
 Executive Director . . . . . Steven Friedman  
 Program Director . . . . . Jason Plotkin  
 Religious School Director . . . . Marna Meyer  
 Early Childhood Director . . . . . Paula Katz

President . . . . . Jeff Basen-Engquist  
 Senior Vice President . . . . . Rodney Roth  
 Vice President . . . . . Stuart Gaylor  
 Vice President . . . . . Bruce Lessey  
 Vice President . . . . . Greta Pliskin  
 Vice President . . . . . Rachael Tobor  
 Treasurer . . . . . Richard Schechter  
 Secretary . . . . . Rachel Gutow-Ellis  
 Honorary President . . . . . Rebecca Lunstroth  
 Brotherhood President . . . . . Lewis Kalmans  
 Sisterhood President . . . . . Marci Weinstein  
 TEFTY President . . . . . Marisa Papell



**Congregation Emanu El Heads to Israel in June 2017**

At Israel Unity Shabbat in May, Rabbi Oren Hayon announced a Congregational trip to Israel. A meeting for prospective families will be held in August or September with a formal information meeting in November. More information is forthcoming!

**Follow Emanu El on Facebook**  
<http://www.facebook.com/emanuelhouston>