

Bulletin

November 5, 2019 | 7 Cheshvan 5780

VOLUME 74 NUMBER 2



FROM RABBI HAYON



By continually gathering information about the ways in which we serve our congregants and the larger community, then implementing incremental changes, and then tracking the results of our work, we can create a congregational culture of systematic, continual improvement.

Over the past month, our senior staff team, in concert with the lay leadership of our Board of Trustees and the members of the Ritual & Music Committee, have been reviewing the feedback you shared with us in this year's post-High Holy Day survey.

More than 400 of you took the time to share your feelings and experiences from the holidays, and all of us are very appreciative of your constructive input.

Processes like this one, by which we gather and analyze data about the way our congregation does its work, are a critical part of Emanu El's commitment to excellence. By continually gathering information about the ways in which we serve our congregants and the larger community, then implementing incremental changes, and then tracking the results of our work, we can create a congregational culture of systematic, continual improvement. Your feedback is vital to this work, and I am thankful for your partnership as we strive to build upon our many successes, year by year.

continued on page 2

Ever Forward: A Celebration of 75 Years Saturday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.

The entire community is invited to join us for a spectacular night, celebrating the congregation's past 75 years and all that is to come.

This elegant evening, chaired by Elyse Kalmans and Cheryl Levy, will begin with cocktails followed by an artfully crafted dinner. The night will include dancing and live entertainment by the David Caceres Big Band Swing Orchestra, the Divisi Strings and DJ Senega.

Attire: Cocktail

Tickets: \$175/person;
\$75/person for those 35 and younger

Guests planning to attend should know that there will be open seating

continued on page 2



Power Breakfast with Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo Wednesday, November 20, 8:00 a.m. (breakfast: 7:30 a.m.)

Rabbi Hayon will host a conversation with Houston's top officer, during which the duo will engage in a dialogue about the role Chief Acevedo serves in the city, his approach to policing and concerns about security at places of worship. A brief question and answer session will follow.

This event is open to the public and the cost of breakfast is \$10. Registration is now open, and the deadline is **Monday, November 18**.

The Emanu El Power Breakfast series launched during the summer of 2019 with Houston Astros beat writer Chandler Rome. The goal of the program is to bring in topical speakers of interest throughout the year to the congregation and community.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Shabbat Lech L'cha, Genesis 12:1 – 17:27

Friday, November 8

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

Saturday, November 9

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

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

Bar Mitzvah of **Rowan Freedson**, son of Jessica & Armyn Freedson

Shabbat Vayeira, Genesis 18:1 – 22:24

Friday, November 15

6:00 p.m., Evening Service, Barish Sanctuary

Saturday, November 16

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Board Room

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

B'not Mitzvah of **Alexis Burger & Elizabeth Burger**, daughters of Courtney & Charles Burger

Shabbat Chayei Sarah, Genesis 23:1 – 25:18

Friday, November 22

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

Saturday, November 23

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

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

B'nei Mitzvah of **Alexander Levi Credeur**, son of Corey & Brian Credeur and **Jacob Morgan Sacks**, son of Julie & Steven Sacks

Shabbat Tol'dot, Genesis 25:19 – 28:9

Friday, November 29

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

Saturday, November 30

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

Shabbat Vayetzei, Genesis 28:10 – 32:3

Friday, December 6

6:00 p.m., Evening Service, Barish Sanctuary

Heritage Shabbat; Recognition of Past Presidents & Founding Families

Saturday, December 7

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

Bar Mitzvah of **J.J. Silk**, son of Rabbi Pamela & Jeff Silk

Shabbat Vayishlach, Genesis 32:4 – 36:43

Friday, December 13

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner,

Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

6:00 p.m., Evening Service, Barish Sanctuary

6:30 p.m., Tot Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, December 14

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

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

B'nei Mitzvah of **Landon Lord**, son of Stacey & Jeremy Lord & **Ethan Mathew Taylor**, son of Kim & Gary Taylor

REMINDER: All Friday night Shabbat services are video streamed on our website as well as our Emanu El Facebook page and Roku channel. Saturday morning services featuring a B'nai Mitzvah are streamed on our website and Roku channel.

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

As evolutionary biologists and industrial consultants can confirm, positive feedback loops contribute strongly to the health and sustainability of individuals and systems alike. In order to prepare ourselves for a successful and sustainable future, we must examine our past with eyes that are both critical and loving.

Our celebrations of this 75th year of Congregation Emanu El's life has been a splendid example of this particular approach. We have spent 2019 looking back in gratitude, and looking forward with eagerness and optimism. It has been a great delight to share this anniversary year with you.

In that spirit, I am excitedly looking forward to our Ever Forward night of celebration on **November 16 at 7:00 pm.** It will be a fun-filled night of entertainment, food and friendship. I do hope that you are making plans to join us for this jubilant evening of celebration – it will be a night to remember for a very, very long time to come. See you there!

EVER FORWARD: A CELEBRATION OF 75 YEARS

continued from page 1

on the night of the event and that there is no need to arrange tables, as there will be ample seating available throughout the venue.

Emanu El is grateful for the support of our underwriters for the evening: Houston Catering Concepts, ADM Security, Houston Jewish Funerals, Insgroup, Origin Bank, Sterling Associates, Levy Funeral Directors, and Waldman Funeral Care.

To register, visit emanuelhouston.org or call 713.529.5771.

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

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Emanu El Makes Wager on Houston Astros' World Series

As of press time, the Houston Astros were currently in the World Series competing against the Washington Nationals.



Back in the World Series!

Two years ago, the Houston Astros hoisted the city's first ever World Series championship following a 4-3 series win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

In the synagogue world, Congregation Emanu El garnered attention following a friendly wager with Stephen Wise Synagogue in Los Angeles as the staff at Emanu El celebrated with Fractor's Famous Deli.

Wise synagogue made a donation to Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in Houston and in a show of tzedakah, Emanu El in turn made a donation to the recovery efforts at URJ's Camp Newman which was devastated by wildfires that year.

As part of the 2017 wager, Rabbi Oren Hayon of Emanu El and Rabbi Yoshi Zweiback of Wise synagogue traded videos back and forth in anticipation of the games and subsequent results.

Fast forward to the present and Emanu El is back at it! The Houston Astros are back in the World Series this year and challenging the Washington Nationals, who are making their very first appearance.

In conjunction with this year's World Series, Emanu El has made a friendly wager with Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church, Virginia, a suburb of Washington DC. Rabbi Hayon and members of the Rodef Shalom team led by Rabbi Amy Schwartzman have traded videos back and forth.

A taste of Torah has been highlighted throughout the series as Rabbi Schwartzman's take on Bereshit focused on a play of words "in the big inning" (instead of "in the beginning"), Rabbi Hayon looked forward to the following Torah portion, Noah as Noah certainly had a goat just as the Astros had their own G.O.A.T (greatest of all time) on their roster.

Who will win this series? And which Rabbi will have to wear the opposing team's jersey on the bimah? We don't know as a of press time, but we'll certainly share photos of the results in an upcoming *Bulletin*.

Update Your Addresses with the Synagogue

Have you recently moved? Are you not getting synagogue communications? Please remember to update your addresses – both mailing and email – with the synagogue so that you can stay up to date on all the happenings at Emanu El! Call us at 713.529.5771 or email Elizabeth Townsend at elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

IN THE COMMUNITY

Bruce Edison elected President of Retired Physicians of Harris County for 2019-2020, the largest retired physician organization member with over 650.

WEDDING

Sharon Kates & Zachary Kniebel

DEATHS

Diane Garber, daughter of David Garber; sister of Gary Garber

Naomi Ostrin, mother of Olivia & Arnold Ostrin, Greta Bernitz, Joanne & Peter Ostrin; grandmother of Lisa & Edwin Ostrin, Steven Bernitz, Sara & Gary Bernitz, Carrie & Paul Ostrin, Gilad Ostrin, Dylan Ostrin; great-grandmother of 10

Joseph B. Schenberg, father of Sandy & Michael Wexler

Dan Aaron Silvestain, husband of Carol Silvestain; father of Mark and Dan; grandfather of Chase, Sarah, Matthew, Kevin, Kayla, Tazman, Jennie, Vely, Hanny, Nelly, Rae & Camilo

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.

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.

EMANU EL AT A GLANCE THROUGH DECEMBER 17

The below information contains a listing of events at Emanu El exclusive of our worship and Shabbat schedule, which can be found monthly on page 2.

As a congregation, we communicate in many ways. This calendar is supplemented by information that can be found throughout this edition of the *Bulletin*, the weekly Shabbat program, the weekly eLetter, on our website, and on our Facebook page.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 11/5** – Emanu Elders, 11:30 a.m.
- 11/5** – Emanu El Mahj Night, 5:30 p.m.
(off-cycle due to Gloria Steinem event)
- 11/7** – Sisterhood Women's Day, 9:30 a.m.
- 11/7** – Gloria Steinem at Emanu El, 7:00 p.m.
- 11/8** – Warehouse Shabbat, 7:30 p.m. (doors open),
8:00 p.m. (service)
- 11/10** – Antisemitism Here & Now: A Conversation,
10:30 a.m.
- 11/11** – Gathering Place, 10:00 a.m.
- 11/14** – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.
- 11/14** – Sisterhood Book Review: *The Girl from Berlin*
by Ronald H. Balson, 12:30 p.m.
- 11/15** – Sisterhood Volunteer Opportunity:
Big Awesome Book Sort, 9:00 a.m.
- 11/16** – EE75: Ever Forward, 7:00 p.m.
- 11/19** – Kids Meals, 9:30 a.m.
- 11/20** – Power Breakfast with Houston Police Chief
Art Acevedo, 7:30 a.m.
- 11/21** – Taste of Talmud: Lunch Time Text Study,
12:00 p.m.
- 11/21** – Latkes & Vodka with Sisterhood, 6:30 p.m.
- 11/26** – Sack Lunches for SEARCH, 9:30 a.m.

DECEMBER

- 12/3** – Emanu Elders, 11:30 a.m.
- 12/4** – Sisterhood's Broadway Stories:
Behind the Stage, 6:30 p.m.
- 12/5** – Emanu El Mahj Night, 5:30 p.m.
- 12/6** – Emanu El Honors Past Presidents & Founding
Families at Shabbat, 6:00 p.m.
- 12/7** – Bar Mitzvah of JJ Silk, 10:30 a.m.
- 12/9** – Gathering Place, 10:00 a.m.
- 12/12** – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.
- 12/15** – Latke Making, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- 12/15** – *Back to Broadway: A Volunteer Choir Showcase*,
4:30 p.m.
- 12/17** – Kids' Meals, 9:30 a.m.

NEXT BULLETIN TO BE ISSUED: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

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 www.instagram.com/emanelhouston 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!

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.

Dawn Arouty, children Emonni and Soleil
Francine Barton
Arthur Brass
C.J. Cervantes
Harry Cherry
Sarah Cominsky
Adam Cowan & Joanna Smith, children Aurelia and Matthias
Marisa Engelhardt
Sloane Engelhardt
Rich & Vikki Evans
Gabriel Meyer & Angela Facciponte, children Jacob and Stewart
Jonathan Thrope & Sarah Gelles
Geraldine Gill
Bruce Grossman
Serena Harmon
Clay Hatcher
Pascal & Yael Helwaser, children Alexandre, Benjamin and Clara
Robert & Sabrina Horn
Roshan Joseph & Tracey Rosen, son Gavi
Eileen Krieger
Gordon & Judith Lentzner
Brian & Olga Lepow, sons Elliot, Malcolm
Jeremiah Leventhal
Marc & Mallory Littell
Sara Loewy & Paul Belin
Kyle Longhofer
Jillian Mallis
Lauren Newman
Angela & Evan Odensky, daughter Samantha
Mered Parnes & Fara Taheri
Stephen Proler
Seth Riklin
Kate Rose
Anna Rosenthal
Caroline & Nicholas Rufyikiri, son Shaka
Shelly & Jeff Schultz, daughter Haley
Harriet Schwarz
Marty & Amanda Snyder, son Selby
Jack Statfeld
Sydnee Lucas & Jose Velez, daughter Margot
Daphna & Jorge Zuniga, children Alexander, Andrew and Daniel

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 Elizabeth Townsend at 713.529.5771, ext. 222 or elizabeth@emanuelhouston.org.

Executive Committee, at N'ilah Services

A photo of members of some of our executive committee (and significant others) on the bimah during the N'ilah services. We're grateful for this group's leadership!



Scouts Lend a Hand to High Holy Day Ushering

This past High Holy Days, we were excited to have Emanu El's Girl Scouts troop join our Cub Scouts in serving as ushers for the Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur Children's services. Special thanks to our scout leadership team of Robert Rosenblum, Dennis Heinz, Leah Madof and Jody Sweed for spearheading this effort!



Axe Throwing with the Men of Emanu El

The men of Emanu El recently gathered at Houston Axe for a social evening while trying one of the newest craze's – axe throwing!



Rosh HaShanah Remarks from the President



Rodney Roth

The below remarks were delivered by Emanu El President Rodney Roth on Sunday, September 29 during Erev Rosh HaShanah services. A video of these remarks can be found on Emanu El's web site and its Facebook page.

Shana Tova,

I would like to welcome you to our 75th year celebrating the high holidays as Congregation Emanu El. I would like to personally welcome those families that are joining us for the first time as new members, our long-standing members, our guests, and those who may be joining us from distant places through our live-streaming broadcast – a special warm welcome to all.

I am humbled and honored to stand before you this evening as congregational president. After serving in this prestigious position for nearly 18 months, I have finally uncovered the secret to a successful High Holiday message: A good beginning, a good ending, and to have the two as close together as possible – I'll do my best.

But seriously, as I reflect on the significance of the holiday – Rosh Hashanah literally means “the head of the year.” It commemorates the day God created humanity. Yom Kippur is the heart of the year. It is the culmination of ten days of forgiveness and reconciliation in which we examine ourselves honestly and pledge to be better in the coming year.

Each year as our sticky and humid summer comes to an end and children return to school, we as Jews begin to reflect on the past year. We examine our behavior and think of how we can be better people by changing and growing in the year ahead. We commit to being more intentional and kinder. In Judaism, we call this process, *Teshuva*, the Jewish idea of return.

Each Rosh HaShanah, I reminisce back to my childhood, sitting in shul with my parents, watching my father as he recited and chanted each prayer from his heart, praying for himself, our family and community to have a good, sweet year, and to be sealed for another year in the book of life. During the process of *Teshuva*, we return and renew our connection with Adonai; from my father's perspective, nothing was more important and meaningful.

Reflecting on Emanu El's amazing 75th anniversary trip to Eastern Europe, I am reminded of the continuous struggles of the Jewish people. It was startling to tour the remains of once thriving Jewish communities that are now nonexistent, and lavish synagogues demolished to piles of rubble. Even today, it seems impossible to get through a day without hearing about tragic events in our world, the rise of anti-Semitism, and the constant threat of senseless violence. More than ever, we need to support each other and come together as a community to redefine the current narrative and work towards a future we would be proud to hand to the next generation.

As I look out in front of me tonight, I see a community embodied in one congregation. Congregation Emanu El is a comforting, joyful, safe space, which is filled with kindness and goodness. As one community, we are hopeful that the year ahead will be better, that our world will be better, and that we will be better.

Our sacred community, Congregation Emanu El is nothing short of incredible!

Our long-standing foundation is based on strong Jewish values and traditions that continue to connect us to our heritage.

I am honored to have the opportunity to carry out the vision of our original 190 founding families and the thirty-nine past presidents that preceded me.

Look around the room; it is likely you will see some new faces. Our membership team has been working very hard to share the light of Congregation Emanu El with the community at large. To date, we have more than 78 new families that have joined our congregation during this past year. People in the larger community can feel the energy, spirit and joy, and appreciate what we have to offer here at Emanu El.

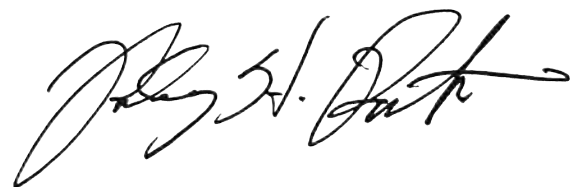
If you walk into the building on almost any day, you cannot help but notice the energy. Our Brotherhood and Sisterhood have programs to move you intellectually, socially and spiritually. Children and teens are actively engaged in meaningful programming. There is something here for everyone, and I encourage you to get involved.

It was 75 years ago that our congregation came together as a community dedicated to prayer, education and social action. It is heartening to see how far we have come in 75 years, and so exciting to think where we will be in the next 75 years. I am so proud to be a part of this exciting milestone in our history, celebrating 75 wonderful years and planning for our beloved congregation's future. From our Cantorial concert, to educational speakers, to our 75th birthday party, to our upcoming "Ever Forward" gala, the year has been one of reconnection and celebration. A year that has brought us even closer together as a community and has truly been "Ever Open."

I'm not sure how to find the right words to tell you how incredibly blessed I feel to have Rabbi Hayon, Rabbi Silk, Rabbi Fixler and Rabbi Walter, leading us in prayer, supporting us, teaching us, inspiring us and guiding us. Cantor Simmons, your beautiful gift of music touches the hearts and souls of everyone in the room. It is with heartfelt gratitude that on behalf of the congregation, I simply say thank you!

I would like to thank our educators led by Stefani Carlson and Paula Katz who diligently share their time and talents with us and our children; and our incredible staff including Executive Director David Lamden and Program Director Jason Plotkin who ensure that our sacred space is safe, pristine, and most importantly warm and welcoming. I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to our executive committee, board of directors, and the many volunteers who donate their time and talents to our sacred community. Because of your passion and hard work, the year has been very fruitful and fulfilling.

On behalf of my wife Robin, our children, Gavin and Cameron, and my parents, Evelyn and Franklin, may our synagogue shelter us from all of life's storms, those from within and external; may we be loving stewards to each other, embracing *Teshuva*; and may we all be inscribed in the book of life and enjoy health and happiness for another year of blessings. Amen.



Sisterhood News & Happenings

November - December
2019



BOOK REVIEW:

The Girl from Berlin,
by Ronald H. Balson

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14
12:30 PM

The next book review in the Sisterhood's series will feature *The Girl from Berlin*, as our congregant Shelly Cyprus serves as our book reviewer.

Synopsis: Ada Baumgarten, the girl from Berlin, is the daughter of the first violinist and concert-master of the prestigious Berlin Philharmonic; she is a gifted violinist in her own right. As a Jewish girl growing up in Berlin in the 1930s, Ada's extraordinary talent carries her family from one tenuous situation to another. Ultimately, the family flees to Bologna, Italy, where, years later, attorney Catherine Lockhart and her spouse, detective Liam Taggart, unravel and trace the validity of deed transfers to Ada's Italian property, culminating with an outcome that affirms the triumph of legal finesse over lingering evil.

Book reviews are free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring a lunch or bite to eat. Desserts are provided. To help us plan accordingly, please RSVP online at www.emmanuelhouston.org or by calling the Sisterhood at 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Sisterhood Women's Day

Thursday, November 7, 9:30 am. – 1:00 p.m.

Attend Women's Day at Emanu El to become informed about the dissemination of today's news, not only in the United States, but also worldwide.

OUR FEATURED SPEAKERS ARE:

RANDY CZARLINSKY, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee, Houston Region, created Houston's statement of principles and values on diversity and inclusiveness. He will speak about the importance of receiving news immediately through social media.

SUSAN CARROLL, an investigative/projects reporter at the *Houston Chronicle*, was part of a team that was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for coverage of Hurricane Harvey. She will speak about "Broken Trust," a series of articles she wrote about the mishandling of the trust that funds public education.

TOM KOCH, an anchor at the top-rated ABC 13 morning news for nearly 30 years, has traveled the world near and far – from Houston City Hall to Kazakhstan recording history. He will speak about the life of a television news anchor.

Come and be stimulated, educated and entertained. Enjoy a delicious lunch following the program.

Registration is at **9:30 a.m.** Program and lunch are from **10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Couvert is \$20 for Sisterhood members and \$25 for non-members. Please **RSVP by Friday, November 1** by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or via email at sishood@emmanuelhouston.org.

Vodka & Latkes

Thursday, November 21, 6:30 p.m.

Come celebrate Chanukah a little early with Sisterhood! We will enjoy a variety of latkes made by Sisterhood members, while a representative from Spec's Wines, Spirits and Finer Foods offers a tasting of various vodkas to pair with the latkes. In addition to the tasting, we will learn about the history of vodka, the difference between Russian vodkas and local vodkas, and the method for making a good vodka martini! The covert is \$10 for Sisterhood members and \$15 for non-members.

Please **RSVP by Friday, November 15** by contacting the Sisterhood office. Registration is also available at emmanuelhouston.org.

Broadway Stories: Behind the Stage

Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 p.m.

Sisterhood is thrilled to present a delightful musical evening and dinner featuring Debra Dickinson, actress and stage director, who will entertain us with great stories and film clips about Harold Prince, who many believe was the most influential person in the last half century of Broadway theater. Prince produced and/or directed many Broadway classics, including *West Side Story*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cabaret* and *Phantom of the Opera*. Prince's productions earned a record of 21 Tony awards.

Debra Dickinson was a professional actress in musical theater in New York prior to beginning her career as a stage director, and her numerous credits include performing opposite Richard Burton and Richard Harris

continued next page

in *Camelot*. Ms. Dickinson's directing career encompasses a wide range of projects, from stage director and acting teacher to choreographer.

For the past 25 years, she has worked in the opera department at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. In addition, she teaches the history of musical theater at Rice, as well as various lecture courses on musical theater for the Glasscock School of Continuing Education.

Couvert for the evening is \$15 for Sisterhood members and \$20 for non-members. Please **RSVP online by Friday, November 29** or by contacting the Sisterhood office.

Sisterhood Fundraiser: *Words Change the World*

Thursday, March 26, 2020

Sisterhood is excited to announce its annual fundraising event, *Words Change the World*. Invitations will be mailed in January. Until then, keep reading the *Bulletin* and our Facebook posts for hints about the special guest!

Mahj Cards for 2020 On Sale Now

The Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood has 2020 cards currently. A regular card is just \$8, and a large print card is \$9. To secure your card today, please mail your check to Sylvia Brody at 2004 Vermont, Houston, TX 77019, or bring your check by the Sisterhood office. The deadline to secure your card is **Wednesday, January 15**.

Volunteer Opportunity: Big Awesome Book Sort

Friday, November 15, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Region 4 Education Service Center, 7200 Northwest 100 Dr.

Sisterhood is proud to partner with the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation for its annual fundraising event, *Words Change the World*, to be held in March 2020 (watch for invitations in January). Join us in our effort to fight illiteracy in our community. Grab your friends to volunteer your time to help sort books at the Big Awesome Book Sort event. Come and be a part of getting new books in the hands of nearly 5,000 children across the Houston area!

The Big Awesome Book Sort is initiative of Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation's "My Home Library" program, which is aimed toward providing more children free access to books in the home.

At November's event, volunteers will sort and bag nearly 30,000 books selected by children at Houston-area schools. Volunteers will help to set up by unloading and sorting boxes of books. Please note volunteers must be willing and able to carry up to 15-25 lbs. during this shift. For more info and to register, please visit connect4literacy.org and find the event on the volunteer calendar.



Emanu El Sisterhood Lends Hand at Sukkot on Sunset

As they have in years prior, the Emanu El Sisterhood volunteered at Sukkot on Sunset. The Sisterhood was stationed in the Sunset foyer, helping young guests with art projects. Special thanks to the Sisterhood for continuing to help with this project year after year!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT EMANU EL



An Evening with Gloria Steinem Thursday, November 7, 7:00 p.m.

Presented by Brazos Bookstore, in partnership with Congregation Emanu El and the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center, author Gloria Steinem will be speaking about her latest book, *The Truth Will Set You Free*.

This event is sold out, and we will unfortunately be unable to accommodate additional walk-ins. Those who have tickets to the event will receive logistics correspondence in the days leading up to the event.

A collection of Steinem's lifetime of quotes – powerful and wise, funny and outrageous, beautifully illustrated – with a new introduction and essays by the feminist writer and activist herself. From Steinem's early days as a journalist and feminist activist, up to today, her words have helped generations to empower themselves and work together. The book covers topics from relationships to patriarchy and activism.

A renowned writer, lecturer, editor and feminist activist, Steinem co-founded *Ms. Magazine* in 1972 and she remained one of its editors for 15 years. In 1968, she helped found *New York Magazine*, for which she was a political columnist and wrote feature articles.

Her books include the bestsellers *Revolution from Within*, *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*, *Moving Beyond Words*, *Marilyn: Norma Jeane*, and *As if Women Matter*. Steinem has received the Penney-Missouri Journalism Award, the Front Page and Clarion awards, the National Magazine Award, the Women's Sports Journalism Award, the Lifetime Achievement in Journalism Award from the Society of Professional Journalists, the Society of Writers Award from the United Nations, the James Weldon Johnson Award for Journalism, and many others. In 2013, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama.

Message from Rabbi Pam and Jeff Silk

We feel deeply blessed to be part of such a warm and loving community that has watched our children grow through the years. We are thrilled to be celebrating JJ's Bar Mitzvah next month. Nothing will make our simcha sweeter than to share it with all of you, our amazing congregational family. We sincerely hope you will join us for Shabbat morning services and a celebratory luncheon in JJ's honor. To help ensure we have plenty of food and seating, please **RSVP by Friday, November 15** to let us know you plan to attend.

To RSVP, call the synagogue at 713.529.5771 or visit online at www.emanuelhouston.org/event/JJSILK2019.

WITH PRIDE, JOY AND LOVE, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS

JJ SILK

שמחה ירמיהו בן גרשון והרב חוה
IS CALLED TO THE TORAH AS A BAR MITZVAH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019
10:30 AM
KIDDUSH LUNCHEON IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
CONGREGATION EMANU EL
1500 SUNSET BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77005

KINDLY RSVP ONLINE BY NOVEMBER 15
EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/EVENT/JJSILK2019
PAM & JEFF



continued next page

Antisemitism Here and Now: A Conversation

Sunday, November 10, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Join Rabbi Fixler for a follow-up discussion to his Rosh Hashanah morning sermon (“*Do We Need a Golem?*”) about the rise of antisemitism in the U.S. and the ways in which our Jewish community can respond. Our discussion will be based upon Deborah Lipstadt’s new book *Antisemitism Here and Now*, which participants are encouraged to read before our conversation. Light breakfast will be served.

For more information, call the synagogue at 713.529.5771 or register online at emanuelhouston.org.

Taste of Talmud: Lunch Time Text Study First Class on Thursday, November 21 at 12:00 p.m.

Bring your lunch and join Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson for an introduction to rabbinic text study, beginning with Pirkei Avot: the Ethics of our Ancestors. No previous experience necessary: we will study with translation side-by-side the original text. This class is scheduled for the third Thursday of the month, beginning on **Thursday, November 21 at 12:00 p.m.**

Back to Broadway: A Volunteer Choir Showcase

Sunday, December 15, 4:30 p.m.

You will surely want to sing along as Emanu El’s volunteer choir presents musical numbers from the best of Broadway, including *Hello Dolly*, *Wicked*, *Damn Yankees*, *Cole Porter*, and *West Side Story*. Light bites will be provided after the show.

To help us plan accordingly, we kindly ask that you register online by visiting our web calendar or by calling the synagogue at 713.529. 5771. Please reserve your tickets now, as seats in the Proler Chapel are limited!

Calling All Latke-Makers!

Sunday, December 15, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Share your time and talent as we fry up the famous Emanu El latkes for our congregation’s annual Latke Supper and Chanukah celebration on **Friday, December 27**. Sign up for one of three shifts. There will be two 90-minute latke frying shift to begin at **9:00 a.m.** and **10:30 a.m.**

There will also be a **12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** counting, packing and close-out shift. Please contact Gail Shapiro in the religious school office to reserve your spot at 713.535.6400, ext. 261 or gails@emanuelhouston.org. You can also register online. Special thanks go to Sarah Levit for leading this effort.

Egg Foo Shabbos – Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 20, following 6:00 p.m. services

What’s the holiday season without some Chinese inspired dishes with your friends and family at Congregation Emanu El? Egg Foo Shabbos has become an Emanu El staple!

Over the years, our clergy have been known to give seasonal sermons that focus on the Jewish composers who have put together classical Christmas tunes, holiday marketing, and answered the age old question: Why do Jews eat Chinese food on Christmas? What will Rabbi Fixler’s sermon focus on this year?

At the conclusion of services, we’ll head to the Oshman Multi-Purpose for our annual Chinese-food inspired community Shabbat dinner. The cost of the meal is just \$5 per person as several of your favorite Chinese food staples will be offered along with fortune cookies and more.

Please register online or by calling the synagogue by **Wednesday, December 18** so that we can plan accordingly, as we will be unable to admit walk-ups.

Jewish-Muslim Christmas Conversations Tuesday, December 24, 2:00 p.m.

For a second straight year, Congregation Emanu El is excited to partner with Beth Israel and HCRJ to partake in a thoughtful conversation and exploration of commonalities between Jews and Muslims. The program, entitled 10th Annual Jewish/Muslim Christmas: Uniting Our Hearts in a Divided World, includes participants from Emanu El, Beth Israel, HCRJ, the River Oaks Islamic Center, and the Minaret Foundation. More information including location will be shared in upcoming synagogue communications.

Emanu El Announces Marlee Matlin as 2019-2020 Endowment Speaker

Congregation Emanu El in partnership with ReelAbilities Houston is excited to announce that Academy Award winning actress, author and activist Marlee Matlin will be our 2019-2020 Endowment Speaker.



The year 2020 represents the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Emanu El is excited to host Matlin as she presents *Nobody’s Perfect: Achieving Inclusion, Diversity and Access* on **Thursday, January 30 at 7:30 p.m.**

More information on this opportunity to learn with Matlin will be shared in the coming weeks.



75th Anniversary News

This year of programming features touches from social to education, social action to family gatherings. The full schedule of happenings can be found online at emanuelhouston.org/75thanniversary with EE75 Ever Forward Celebration featured throughout this *Bulletin*.

To contact the chairs, Cheryl Levy or Elyse Kalmans, email ee75@emanuelhouston.org. For all other inquiries, contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

Founding Families & Past Presidents Shabbat

Friday, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

Please note that we have combined Founding Families Shabbat with Past Presidents Shabbat. Chaired by Sue Baum, Sara Brook, Kathy & Garey Marks and Judy Sax, special recognition will be given to founding families and past presidents of the congregation during this Shabbat service, which will also double as our final Heritage Shabbat experience of the 2019 calendar year.

The post-Shabbat Demi Oneg will feature a mix of heavy appetizers but also include some of the familiar items served at Emanu El Oneg Shabbats, including the popular pull-apart cakes and sherbet floats.

To help us ensure that we do not miss any founding families or descendants, please reach out to ee75@emanuelhouston.org if you or a family member were among the founders of Congregation Emanu El.

Calling All Bakers! Delicious Treats Needed for December 6 Oneg

Please show your baking skills and creativity by

contributing goodies for a special Oneg Shabbat in honor of our past presidents and those families that helped establish our congregation. Delicious baked goods from our wonderful bakers are needed for the beautiful sweet tables at these momentous events.

If you are able to be part of this effort, please call or e-mail Diane Puschett at puschett@aol.com or 713.799.9334. Please deliver your goodies in a labeled container to the synagogue by **Wednesday, December 4** as desserts will be plated on **Thursday, December 5**.

Chanukah Celebration: 75 Menorahs for 75 Years

Friday, December 27

Chaired by Brooke and Jonathan Reichek, this Chanukah Celebration will be unlike any you have ever seen, and we need your help! We are hoping to light up our Barish Sanctuary with 75-plus menorahs to honor each year of the synagogue's impact within the community. Mark the date and make plans to join us for a Chanukah supper followed by a sweet Chanukah Shabbat service.

Additional information will become available later this month.

Volunteers Needed for 75th Anniversary Events

Are you interested in playing a role in the execution of our 75th anniversary events? Want to be a greeter or an usher? Address envelopes or volunteer at a station during one of the happenings throughout the 2019 calendar year as we celebrate the 75th anniversary? Please contact our volunteer coordinator Barbara Loeser at bloeser@sbcglobal.net.

Ever Forward

EMANUEL AT 75

CELEBRATE 75 YEARS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019

7:00 PM - MIDNIGHT

1500 SUNSET BOULEVARD

- DRINKS • DINNER • DESSERT • DANCING •
- DAVID CACERES BIG BAND SWING ORCHESTRA • DIVISI STRINGS • DJ SENEGA •

COCKTAIL ATTIRE

EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/EVENT/EVERFORWARD



UPCOMING PROGRAMMING OFFERINGS FOR AFFINITY GROUPS & SPECIAL INTERESTS AT EMANU EL

Congregation Emanu El is actively seeking to create groups within our community that serve various ages, stages and interests. Are you interested in forming a group like the offerings listed below?

Contact Elizabeth Townsend at 713.529.5771, ext. 222 or elizabethht@emanuelhouston.org; or Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

Monthly Mahj at Emanu El – Two Opportunities to Play First Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. & Third Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

Our next first-Thursday evening group of Mahj players in the Stillman-Lack Library takes place on **Tuesday, November 5**. The date was changed to accommodate the Gloria Steinem program.

A nominal \$5 fee covers drinks and dinner. Novice and advanced players welcome! The October gathering was skipped due to High Holy Days and we are slated to resume on our regular Thursdays on **Thursday, December 5**.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Elizabeth Townsend at elizabethht@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 222. RSVPs are also accepted online by visiting our website and finding Mahj on the calendar.

The third-Monday afternoon group of players resumes on **Monday, November 18** following a one-month hiatus due to the High Holy Days. The December gathering is slated for **Monday, December 16**. Please RSVP to the Sisterhood at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Emanu El Young Professionals: Warehouse Shabbat Friday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by our Young Professionals and The Middle social groups, we have designed this dynamic, lively and musical prayer experience to enliven your heart and uplift your spirit.

Join us for our next installment of this rocking, adults-only worship experience on **Friday, November 8** as we return to the Sawyer Yards Art District in Washington Heights and Love Dance Houston.

Enjoy local desserts and wine, or taste the great beers from Holler Brewery next door. RSVP online or call 713.529.5771.

This event is partially underwritten by funding from the Houston Jewish Community Foundation.



Classics Committee Plans Out 2019-19 Programming Schedule

The Classics – Emanu El's group for those in their 50s and 60s – recently convened a steering committee meeting to map out the programming for 2019-20.

Be on the lookout in future edition of the *Bulletin* for upcoming programs from this group.

The Classics Tour of the Cistern & Post-Tour Dinner Sunday, November 24, 4:00 p.m. (followed by dinner)

Join The Classics – Emanu El's social group for those in their 50's and 60's, singles and couples alike – for a Tour and a Taste.

We'll peek into Houston's history while embarking on a guided tour of the Buffalo Bayou Park Cistern (105 Sabine St), then enjoy a delicious Dutch-treat dinner at Black Walnut Café (5512 Memorial Drive). The Cistern is a former drinking water reservoir built in 1926. After being decommissioned in 2007, it was restored and repurposed into a magnificent public space.

Experience the beauty of its 221 columns spanning 87,500 square feet and the wonder of its 17-second echo. Meet at Emanu El at **3:30 p.m.** to caravan or at **4:00 p.m.** at the Cistern entrance prior to our tour at **4:30 p.m.**

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased online by visiting our website. Tickets are limited to the first 20 registrants. For questions, please email Susan and Syd Waldman at sgwaldman@gmail.com.

My Generation Tour of the Museum of Fine Arts Wednesday, December 11, 10:15 a.m. (followed by optional lunch at the MFAH Cafe)

My Generation – Emanu El's social group for those at least 65 – will enjoy a personal guided tour of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston's newest special exhibit, *Monet to Picasso: A Very Private Collection*, and *Berthe Morisot: Impressionist Original*. Morisot was one of the few

continued next page

women impressionist painters in the forefront of this movement, and she became an important member of the Parisian Avant Garde.

Houston will be the only U.S. museum to show this outstanding exhibit of *Monet to Picasso*.

The tour will be followed by an optional lunch at the MFAH Cafe. The cost for the tour is \$22 per person (whether you are a member or non-member of the museum). Please **RSVP by Wednesday, December 4** online or by calling the synagogue.

Members of the My Generation committee are Brenda Lind, chair, Susie Askanase, Lindy Dorn, Elaine Lowenstein, Rose Marie Wagman and Marilyn Waldman.

Young Professionals: Israel Cooking Class

Thursday, December 19, 6:30 p.m.

Join fellow Emanu El Young Professionals along with Rabbi Fixler for an intimate cooking class led by the community Shlichah, Hadas Levy.

Together we'll have a fun night of cooking Israeli dishes, getting to know each other and enjoying the fantastic dinner that we have made from scratch. Using different Israeli cuisine, we will explore various Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Mizrahi traditions with unique flavors you've never tasted before!

Space is limited, so please RSVP to Elizabeth Townsend at elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org.

My Generation's Bingo Blastoff

Sunday, January 12, 5:00 p.m.

Start 2020 off right by joining My Generation – Emanu El's social group for those 65 and older – for an evening of Bingo and schmoozing.

The evening will include light supper, wine, good company and Bingo! Prizes will be awarded to the winners, and a good time will be had by all. The cost for the evening is \$15 per person, and advance registration is required so we can plan accordingly.

RSVP today online or by calling the synagogue.

Emanu El Meditation Group

Saturday Mornings, 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Are you interested in reducing stress, enhancing your performance, and gaining insight and awareness of yourself and others? Consider joining Emanu El's

Mindfulness Meditation group on Shabbat mornings. Jewish values and influences are often incorporated, and many find that it enhances their own practice of Judaism.

Certified and experienced leaders include Jan Silver, Susan Berdinis and Martin Lindenberg. All levels from beginner to advanced meditators are welcome.

The first Saturday of each month is dedicated to beginners with an *Introduction to Mindfulness*. Experience a basic practice, discuss bringing mindfulness into your daily life and have your questions answered. Please consider joining us!

For more information, please contact Sandy Brochstein at sandybtx@sbcglobal.net or Heidi Kaplan at heidi.b.kaplan@gmail.com.

Emanu El Volunteer Choir

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Emanu El's Volunteer Choir has been an active group this year, performing at various venues across town and taking part in the congregation's Purim Schpiel. Following a busy fall, an active spring is on the docket!

All members of the congregation are invited to join the choir by contacting Richard Zoll at richard.zoll@yahoo.com. Please make sure to contact Richard to verify the rehearsal schedule for the month.

Emanu El Helfman Engagement Committee Hosts Event at Define: West University

In mid-October, our Helfman Religious School at Congregation Emanu El engagement committee hosted a spin social event at Define: West University.

This was a great opportunity to meet new people and connect with old friends. A "boot camp" and yoga gathering are slated for after the new year. Be on the lookout for details!



A Pair of Unveilings Held for Graves Lacking Permanent Marker

Hebrew Order of David Lodge Galil Chapter Coordinates Event



Rabbi Fixler pictured with the Houston chapter of the Hebrew Order of David at Emanu El Memorial Park (EEMP) in early October. HOD Lodge Galil attended the unveiling for eight permanent markers at four different Houston area Jewish cemeteries including EEMP. The group is working to place markers at graves that lack a permanent marker. Rabbi Fixler conducted an unveiling service attended by the HOD to honor the individuals who received a permanent marker. For more on this project, visit: <https://bit.ly/31xbxL5>.

Assistance Available with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Appointments Available through December 7, 2019

ATTENTION SENIORS: Your current PDP sponsor should provide you with an Annual Notice of Change about your current prescription drug plan. Review that Notice, which may describe changes in your Plan, including changes to the premium, co-pay, and the drugs covered. If you are satisfied with the changes and want to remain in that Drug Plan, you probably will be notified that you do not have to do anything to stay in that Plan for 2020. However, you might be advised that your current plan will be discontinued or merged with another plan for 2020. In such case, you may want to review your options before accepting that change.

If you want to change or are considering changing to another plan, Emanu El's Social Action Committee will provide a trained volunteer to assist your analysis of alternatives. To make an appointment, please call 713.529.5771, ext. 212, and leave your name, phone number, and the day(s) and time(s) you would like to meet. One of our volunteers will call to schedule an appointment. Do not wait until the last minute to make your call.

To change your Prescription Drug Plan, **you must sign up by December 7, 2019**. The change will be effective January 1, 2020.

When you come for your appointment, please bring:

- Your New Medicare Card
- Your drug list: name, dosage and frequency of each
- Benefit record from your current PDP Plan or a pharmacy print out of drugs purchased in 2019, if available

If you want to sign up for a Medicare PDP for the first time, follow the same procedure, and a volunteer will return your call to schedule an appointment.

Union for Reform Judaism Biennial Wednesday, December 11 - Sunday, December 15



URJ BIENNIAL 2019
DECEMBER 11 - 15
CHICAGO, IL

Join thousands of Jews from across North America and around the world to learn, pray, share ideas, dance and sing, hear from inspiring speakers and the leaders of our Movement, reunite with old friends, create new connections, and make decisions about the policies of the Reform Movement.

For a second straight Biennial, Congregation Emanu El's leadership will be on display as Executive Director David Lamden, Program Director Jason Plotkin, board member Fredi Bleeker Franks, and teen representative Madeline Canfield are amongst the presenters during the eight learning blocks offered.

Additional information on the Biennial can be found at urjbiennial.org. Funds are available to help leadership attend the Biennial. For more information, contact David Lamden at davidl@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 221.

Third Annual Interfaith Memorial Service for the Homeless Thursday, December 5, 6:00 p.m.

The community is invited to take part in the third annual Interfaith Memorial Service for the Homeless which will take place at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Boulevard.

St. Andrews is the third house of worship to host the event following the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (2017) and Congregation Emanu El (2018).

This year's memorial service is one of nearly 100 events being held across the country for which advocacy groups

continued next page

come together to honor the lives of the homeless people who have died in the last year.

Reverend Jimmy Grace will preside over the service, which will include leaders from multiple faith communities including Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Protestant, Catholic, and Judaism. Each of these clergy members will share a brief reflection on their faith traditions' teaching on the sanctity of human life.

The names of those who passed over the last year will also be read aloud. A vegetarian meal will be served at the conclusion of the service.

This year's memorial service is sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Project, the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Office of Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs, St. Andrews Episcopal Church and Congregation Emanu El.

For more information, please email media@rememberthehomeless.org. The Emanu El contact is Jason Plotkin, who can be reached at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

Volunteers Help Sort Shoes for Emergency Aid Coalition



Volunteers gathered on Sunday, October 27 for the final of a series of social action projects that tied into the 75th anniversary. The highlights of the final project for the Emergency Aid Coalition (EAC) were sorting clothes and shoes donated from many points from across the city.

Founded in 1983, with Emanu El as one of its charter participants under the leadership of Rabbi Roy Walter, EAC is an interfaith organization that collaborates to provide temporary assistance in the form of clothing, food and other basic needs, with an emphasis on serving the working poor. Each year, they help more than 50,000

individuals living on the edge of poverty, serving those in need in Houston's inner city and Midtown neighborhoods.

Congregation Emanu El Collecting for Animeals

Congregation Emanu El is continually collecting items for Interfaith Ministries' Animeals, a program that provides local seniors with proper means to care for their pets. Canned dog and cat food, new flea collars, unused packaged toys, blankets, beds, bowls for eating are being accepted in the bin located in the Rotunda. For more information, contact Ellie Morse at eymorse@gmail.com.



New Traditions Gift Shop Announces November Sale

The month of November will be a jewelry extravaganza! All jewelry will be 25% off.

We have a remarkable selection of necklaces, bracelets and earrings. Your purchases at the New Traditions Gift Shop help Sisterhood in fulfilling its commitment to the support of our congregation and the community.

Start planning now: Chanukah begins **Sunday, December 22**. The gift shop is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. when Helfman Religious School is in session.

For more information, please call 713.529-5771, ext. 234.





Helfman Religious School

CONSECRATION 2019

On the evening of evening October 20, in front of their family and friends, our kindergarten students and our new students in first, second and third grades, were consecrated during Simchat Torah services.

The children sang together and were blessed by Rabbi Hayon while T-Torah and the Scrolls provided spirited music for dancing with the Torah. A festive oneg, graciously provided by our consecration families, was enjoyed by all following the service.



1st row: (l - r): Stewart Meyer, Piper Eisenbaum, Noah Kahle, David Garner, Noah Longo, Juniper Seff, Lucy Greenberg, Jonah Rose, Jackson Rockoff, Maxwell Balkin, Quinn Podolsky, Arthur Kramer and Piper Fraser; 2nd row: Geoffrey Friedman, Evan Yoburn, Wylie Pepper, Julia Heinz, Lillian Krohn, Leo Krohn, Rachel Ginsburg, Connor Anderson, Wesley Pinsky, Iris Wachs, Andrew Kruger, Isla Shaftel and Hannah Koestler; 3rd row: Alexander Zuniga, Alexa Clark, Lucas Bronstein, George Vincent III, Eli Gomez, Miccah Cabe, Shayna Blumberg, Charlie Rice, Benjamin Peskin, Ethan Gelfand and Ethan Blacher; 4th row: Jackson Dalton, Andrew Zuniga, Sophia Shaftel, Eliana Vayner, Oliver Horan, Oliver Stafford, Sydney Scherer, Kendall Rose, Allison Ansari, Asher Barrow and Max Fink; back row: Todd Weiss, Teacher, Beverly Shapiro, Teacher, Rabbi Josh Fixler, Cantor Rollin Simmons, Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pam Silk, Cathy Borden, Teacher and Stefani Carlson, Director of Congregational Learning.



Leo Baeck Ambassadors at Helfman

Noy and Lior, Israel Ambassadors from the Leo Baeck Education Center in Haifa had an opportunity to mingle and present to our Upper School students recently.

During the 2020 Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience, our teens will make a visit to the Leo Baeck Education Center while in Haifa.



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through October 15, 2019.

ABLON FUND FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

To provide for creative arts programs

In Honor of

Peter Benjamin's Birthday

Barbara Loeser

ACCESS FOR ALL

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

A Donation

Carl Josehart & Samuel Jacobson

In Memory of

Emily Freedman

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

ALAN GAYLOR TEACHER ASSISTANT FUND

To support Helfman Religious School teacher assistants

In Memory of

Joseph Schenberg

Joanie Murland

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Becker Early Childhood Center scholarships

A Donation

Steve Astrich

CANTOR-STONE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

To provide Helfman Religious School scholarships

In Memory of

Joseph Schenberg

Kathryn Kraitman

CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Appreciation of

Jan Pasternak & Renee

Tempe

Sandy & Andi Gaitz

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

A Donation

Natalie & Earl Littman

In Honor of

Barbara Miller's Birthday

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan
Bitsy Proler

Rabbi Oren Hayon

Susan & David Morris
Lorraine Wulfe and the Entire Wulfe Family

In Memory of

Marty Berman

Henry Bercutt

Joan Beth Brown

Donna & Bill Zhukovsky

Nancy Coben

Karen & Jeff Basen-Engquist
Henry Bercutt
Ronald Coben

Marvin Cohen

Renee Gugenheim

Bobby Goldstein

Julie & Robert
Goodfriend

Judy Gorewitz

Don Gorewitz

Marcia Shainock

Marianne & Larry
Greenfield

Tommy Roosth

Catherine Holste
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Edmond "Ed" Wulfe

Cynthia & Ben Klein

EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND

To feed the hungry of Houston

In Honor of

Howard Rubin's Birthday

Jennis Kauffman

Lorraine Wulfe's Birthday

Sara Astrich

In Memory of

Kathryn Elder

Linda & Paul Lynn

David S. Kaufman

Pamela Kaufman &

Dennis Keierleber

Edmond "Ed" Wulfe

Betsy & Fred Griffin

FREDELL LACK EICHHORN CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

To enhance musical programming

In Appreciation of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Michael Sailor

In Honor of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Michael & Paula Dvoskin
Sitzer

Lorraine Wulfe and the

Entire Wulfe Family

In Memory of

Beverly Lois Kovnat

Karen & Jeff Basen-Engquist

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND

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

In Honor of

Peter Benjamin's Birthday

Gastonia & Gordon
Goodman

In Memory of

Irene Tepper

William Spitz

JASON & DAVID MARCUS PLAYSPACE FUND

To maintain and enhance the playground

In Memory of

Sally Politzer Fuchs

Ruby Sondock

JULIE KRONOWITZ MEMORIAL FUND

To provide programs about religion

In Memory of

Julie Kronowitz

Bernice Slotnick

JULIUS ZINN FUND

To provide and enhance congregation programs

In Memory of

Sally Fuchs

Harriet Zinn

Tommy Roosth

Sharon & Harvey Zinn

NATHAN BERG LECTURE SERIES

To present programs and political issues

In Memory of

Edmond "Ed" Wulfe

Kathryn & David Berg

RABBI ROY WALTER ENRICHMENT FUND

To support spiritual and cultural enrichment

A Donation

Bernice Feld

In Honor of

Barbara Miller's Birthday

Dodie Gaber

Rabbi Roy Walter

Lorraine Wulfe and the
Entire Wulfe Family

In Memory of

Joseph Schenberg

Lauren & Alan Gordon

RICKY SCHNURR CAMBERSHIP FUND

To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

In Memory of

Joseph Schenberg

Cindy & David Senior

ROBERT I. KAHN GALLERY FUND

To maintain and enhance the Robert I. Kahn Art Gallery

In Honor of

Stefani Harris & Robert Tobor's Engagement
Libby & Buz Marvins

ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

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

In Memory of

Elaine Maas
Pamela Kaufman & Dennis Keierleber

ROZELLE & ROBERT I. KAHN LECTURESHIP FUND

To present annual lectures by Reform scholars

In Memory of

Joseph Schenberg
Tania & Rick Oshman

TEMPLE FUND

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

In Honor of

Barnett Irving Pesin's Birthday
Madgelyn & Richard Pesin

Rona & L.A. Train

Lou & Herb Mizis

In Memory of

Bobby Goldstein
Emily & Joey Spinner,
Andi & Brett Riesenfeld
Edmond "Ed" Wulfe
Lynne Lipsitz



Rabbi Oren Hayon Meets with Rep. Lizzie Fletcher

Rabbi Hayon makes it a priority to meet with government officials from the local to federal level (regardless of party affiliation) that represent our community.

As part of this engagement, Rabbi Hayon recently met with Rep. Lizzie Fletcher to discuss issues that concern the Houston Jewish community.

Do You Want to Hear the Shofar Blast?

Did you enjoy hearing the shofar blast during our Rosh HaShanah children's services? Members of our clergy team along with our youth engagement coordinator Becca Schwartzberg show off the signs that were designed to help our participants in the children's service with their shofar blasts!



Donations to the Sisterhood Flower Fund

For donations to the Sisterhood Flower Fund (for the Shabbat handout) please make checks payable to "Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood" and mail or drop off to Donna Fraley at the synagogue, 1500 Sunset Blvd, Houston, TX 77005. Donations can also be made online at www.EmanuElHouston.org. Please make sure to specify which Shabbat service(s) you would like your flower fund donation listed. **In order to ensure the donations are listed, we ask that they be at the synagogue no later than the Wednesday before Shabbat.**

FOUNDATION EMANUEL
SISTERHOOD

Women's Day 2019

BROADCAST NEWS

REPORTERS DON'T JUST WRITE STORIES,
THEY RECORD HISTORY.

11.07.2019

emanuelhouston.org

POWER BREAKFAST



WITH **ART ACEVEDO**
HOUSTON POLICE CHIEF

NOVEMBER 20 7:30 AM

RSVP ONLINE: EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG



Houston Jewish Funerals



The Houston Jewish Funerals story is not about us, it is about you. Our story is about the families who trust us, the caregivers who call us in the middle of the night, and the rabbis who recommend us to their congregation. Our philosophy is to treat your family as if it were our own.



*Thank you for your continued trust and support.
We will always do our best to ensure you and
your family have the best care possible.*

-Andrew Epstein, Antionette Prasit, Shawn Simon

713-666-0257

houstonjewishfunerals.com

grat-i-tude

/gradə,t(y)ʊd/ noun

Definition: the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

I want to thank everyone for the honor and privilege of serving families within the community. It is most humbling to be given your trust and the great responsibility of taking care of your loved ones.

We serve our families from our hearts.



WALDMAN FUNERAL CARE

Extraordinary Service. Compassionate Care.

713-875-4811

www.WaldmanFuneralCare.com

Affiliated with Hardin Family Funeral Home



CONGREGATION EMANUEL
THE CLASSICS

BUFFALO BAYOU PARK

CISTERN

TOUR & DINNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

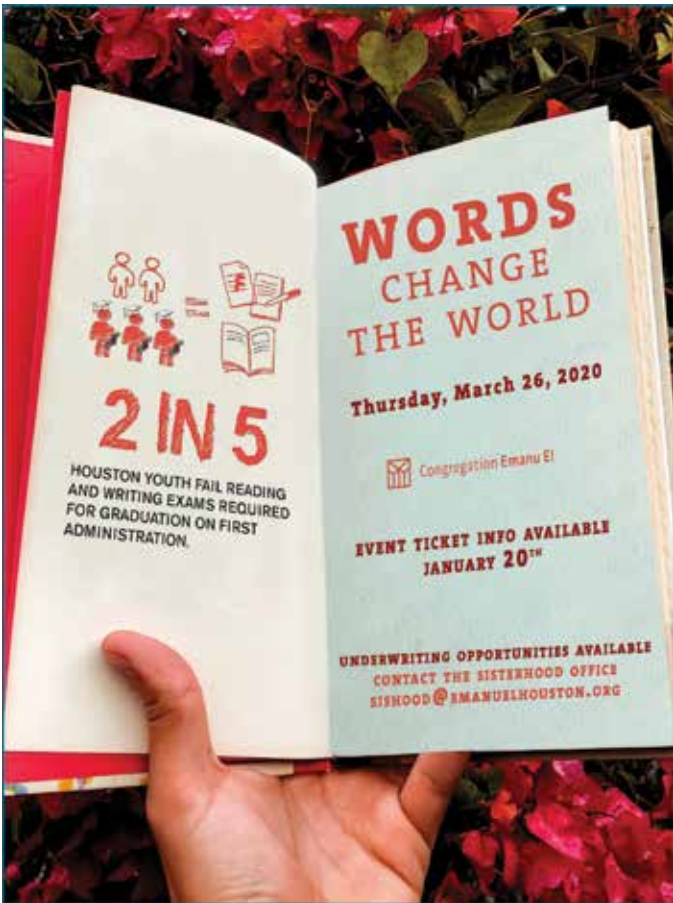
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 - Joshua R.S. Fixler, Assistant Rabbi
 - Roy A. Walter, Rabbi Emeritus
 - Rollin Simmons, Cantor
 - David Lamden, Executive Director
 - Jason Plotkin, Program Director
 - Paula Katz, Early Childhood Director
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 - Ben Miller, Vice President - Committees/
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 - Laura Mayer, Secretary
 - Jeff Basen-Engquist, Honorary President
 - Andrew Gass, Brotherhood President
 - Claire Brooks & Carol Sue Zions,
Sisterhood Presidents
- EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG

Emanu El Volunteer Opportunity at Ronald McDonald House

Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. (dinner: 6:00 p.m.)



For the fourth year in a row, members of the congregation will head over to the Ronald McDonald House, 1907 Holcombe, on Christmas Eve to spread holiday cheer. Join us as we serve a catered meal to families from all over who are currently living at the facility and seeking pediatric treatment in the medical center for a variety of health issues.

We will also engage children who are currently receiving treatment and their siblings in a fun craft. **Space is limited to the first 15 people who sign up**, as RMH limits the group number.

Email Elizabeth Townsend at elizabethht@emanuelhouston.org or call 713.529.5771 to secure a spot!



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