



Congregation Emanu El

# Bulletin

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

Please note that any in-person opportunities to gather are subject to change based upon the synagogue's reopening plan, which can be found at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org). For more information or to verify the current status of a program, call 713.529.5771.

December 3, 2020 | 17 Kislev 5781

VOLUME 75 NUMBER 3

## FROM RABBI HAYON



*At times, the world around us can seem quite dark indeed. But each year, during the darkest days of winter, the festival of Chanukah reminds us of our great potential to bring brightness and hope to the places we live.*

When he assumed leadership of the renowned Ger dynasty at the age of 23, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Alter had already come to be widely recognized as one of Hasidic Judaism's most revered spiritual figures.

Despite his young age, however, he had known great sadness and loss, having been orphaned as a child and sent off to live with his grandfather. Nevertheless, his collected writings, which were published after his death in 1905, contain consistent themes of spiritual hope and yearning.

In his masterpiece publication, the *Sefat Emet* ["Holy Language"], Rabbi Alter draws a previously unexplored connection between the holidays of Chanukah and Passover. He points out that the Chanukah menorah may be compared to the candles which, in olden times, were traditionally used to search for crumbs of leaven as part of preparing one's home before Passover. Before Passover, the *Sefat Emet* points out, we search and purify our external environment; on Chanukah, we search and purify our inner selves. Specifically, the work of spiritual exploration should lead us to pay renewed attention to the moral and ethical commandments that guide and

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## Congregation Emanu El to Shine Bright During Chanukah

While we are unable to have a community-wide menorah lighting in person this year, we have found a way to share the many bright lights of our congregational community.

To help achieve this, we would like to invite you to send us your menorah lighting photos from your own personal observance on one of the first few nights of Chanukah to the email address [chanukah2020@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:chanukah2020@emanuelhouston.org) by **Sunday, December 13**.

A photo montage featuring these photos will be made available on our website, Facebook and YouTube pages on the final night of Chanukah, **Thursday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

More information on how to access this montage will be shared in our upcoming congregational communications.

## A Night with Comedian & Storyteller Pam Schuller

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.



Comedian Pam Schuller is relentlessly funny. Her observations on disability, mental illness and past misadventures have led to brutally honest confessions about what it's like being 4-foot-6 (and a half) and having a whole lot of Tourette Syndrome. You may know her from *Buzzfeed*, *Dr. Mike Videos*, or as one of the "36 under 36" who are changing the face of the Jewish community, this comedian is known for her use of storytelling, laughter and improvisation to inspire communities to a new understanding of inclusion. An opportunity to ask questions of our special guest will take place at the conclusion of her presentation.

Join us on Zoom for this night of inspiration. Please register in advance at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or by calling 713.529.5771 to obtain the Zoom link.

## WORSHIP SERVICES

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

Our services (with the exception of B'nei Mitzvah) are streamed to our website, Facebook page, Roku channel, and YouTube. Our Saturday morning B'nei Mitzvah services are available solely on our website.

### **Shabbat Vayishlach** **Friday, December 4**

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

### **Saturday, December 5**

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
Bar Mitzvah of **Braden Susman**, son of Pamela & Andrew Susman

### **Shabbat Vayeishev** **Friday, December 11**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat & Chanukah Service, Barish Sanctuary

### **Saturday, December 12**

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

### **Shabbat Mikeitz** **Friday, December 18**

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

### **Saturday, December 19**

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
Bar Mitzvah of **Noah Friedman**, son of Tara & Ben Friedman

### **Shabbat Vaiygash** **Friday, December 25**

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

### **Saturday, December 26**

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

### **Shabbat Va-y'chi** **Friday, January 1**

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

### **Saturday, January 2**

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

### **Shabbat Sh'mot** **Friday, January 8**

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

### **Saturday, January 9**

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
B'not Mitzvah of **Sophia Gurevich**, daughter of Kelly Gurevich & Alexander Gurevich and **Lucia Kovalik**, daughter of Kathryn & Edward Kovalik

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## **FROM RABBI HAYON** *continued from page 1*

strengthen our community.

Rabbi Alter suggests that the Hebrew word for candle, ner, might be understood as an acronym standing for the words *nefesh* (biological life-force) and *ruach* (soul or spirit). His point is that we ought to apply ourselves fully – body and soul – to our work of bringing holiness into the world. In that way, we help to illuminate a dark world in the same way a Chanukah menorah brightens a room.

At times, the world around us can seem quite dark indeed. But each year, during the darkest days of winter, the festival of Chanukah reminds us of our great potential to bring brightness and hope to the places we live. Our task is to search continually for opportunities to apply ourselves to the spiritual obligations that guide us. This holiday of joyful rededication invites us to celebrate the opportunities, which present themselves even in dark days, to rededicate ourselves anew to serving God and each other.

Happy Chanukah!

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**As we get closer to the start of 2021, please make sure that if you need to update your contact information (email address, phone number or mailing address) that you contact the synagogue at 713.529.5771 or [elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org).**

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### **Get Social With Us!**

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

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

## LIFECYCLE EVENTS

### IN THE COMMUNITY

**Milton Boniuk** was honored with the 2020 Guardian of the Human Spirit Award by Holocaust Museum Houston for his commitment to service and building an open-minded society.

### BIRTHS

**Maisie Joy Brown**, daughter of Danielle & Eric Brown; granddaughter of Michael & Michael Brown, Joni & Richard Epstein; great-granddaughter of Doree Fromberg

**Annie Rachel Carlson**, daughter of Mallory & Alex Carlson; granddaughter of Stefani & Steve Carlson, Melinda & Michael Skoller

**Noah Spencer Moskowitz**, son of Katie & Geoffrey Moskowitz; grandson of Robbie & Stephen Moskowitz, Jordan Denton; great-grandson of Donna & Andy Link, Adele Denton

**Goldie Mila Putterman**, daughter of Lindsey & Matthew Putterman, granddaughter of Nanette & Barry Putterman, Renee & Brent Silber; great-granddaughter of Celine Kaplan, Lillian Putterman

### WEDDINGS

**Michelle Blumenthal & Elias Chajet**

**Carrie Ruby & Steven Wolf**

### DEATHS

**Neil Goldenberg**, husband of Georgeann Goldenberg; father of Stefani & Steve Carlson, Melinda & Kyle Shumard; grandfather of Mallory & Alexander Carlson, Evan Carlson; great-grandfather of Annie Rachel Carlson

**Lizzie Langkjaer**, wife of Eric Langkjaer; mother of Jennifer & Thomas Langkjaer, Anette & Anders Tange; grandmother of Jacob and Emma Langkjaer, Tobias and Daniel Tange; sister of Tom Nissen

**Joseph Pellenberg**, father of Sherry & Arthur Pellenberg, Alan Pellenberg, Keat Miller; grandfather of Abigail & Rod Pellenberg, Shannon & Blake Pellenberg, Tara Levy, Jessie & Daniel Liebman, Allie & Ben Satin; great-grandfather of Ben Levy and Grant, Nolan and Charlotte Pellenberg

**Gail Shapiro**, wife of Ephraim Shapiro; mother of Hilary Stalarow, Staci Stalarow; step-mother of Beverly Shapiro; grandmother of Joanna and Elizabeth Langston; sister of Melanie & Barry Shoss, Michelle & Larry Alexander

**Jarrell Speer**, brother of Susan & Richard Speer, Gayle & Brent Speer; father of Lisa & John Daughtery, Laurie Kahn; grandfather of several

**Stanley Tenenbaum**, father of Donna & Philip Tenenbaum; grandfather of Alan Tenenbaum, Robyn Tenenbaum; great-grandfather of James and Hazel

### 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.

## Roe v Wade – Jewish Faith, Jewish Action

Sunday, January 10, 7:00 p.m.



**Sheila Katz,**  
Chief Executive Officer  
of NCJW

January marks the 48th anniversary of the Supreme Court's historic *Roe v Wade* decision. To commemorate this anniversary, Congregation Emanu El will partner with the NCJW – Greater Houston Section for a program featuring NCJW chief executive officer Sheila Katz and our clergy.

Our clergy will teach what our Jewish text teaches about abortion and reproductive justice.

Katz will then share the work that NCJW is leading nationally on the subject, including their fight to protect reproductive rights in the newly constituted supreme court. She will also introduce NCJW's 2020 initiative, "Rabbis for Repro" which has engaged nearly 1,000 Jewish clergy and educators, including Rabbi Hayon, Rabbi Silk, Rabbi Fixler and Cantor Simmons.

This program will be held on Zoom. Registration is required and must be completed by **Saturday, January 9**. A Zoom link for the program will be sent out by mid-day on the day of the gathering to all registered participants.

For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at [jasonp@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jasonp@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.535.6414.

### Taste of Talmud

Thursdays, December 3 & January 7, 12:30 p.m.

Did your plans for the new year include establishing a new study practice? Do you want all the benefits of a book discussion group without the need to commit to extensive reading ahead of time? Are you curious about what this Daf Yomi thing you've heard people mention is? Do you want to connect with both your Judaism and a fun group of people?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then join us for A Taste of Talmud, our monthly study of rabbinic texts, led by Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson. No experience or Hebrew knowledge required: all texts are provided in translation. We are currently meeting on Zoom – all are welcome. We'd love to have you add your voice to our virtual beit midrash (house of study)!

Zoom information can be found on our website and for more information, contact Stefani Carlson at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 251.

### Congregation Emanu El Participating in Chanukah Heroes & Lights with ERJCC

Thursday, December 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El will be participating in the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center (ERJCC)'s Chanukah Heroes & Lights program. This new program will feature eight nights of virtual celebration with stories, candle-lighting, and the recognition of some local heroes who have brought light and healing into our community during the pandemic.

Emanu El's appearance amongst the eight nights will take place on the first night of Chanukah.

During the 30-minute program, our clergy will tell a holiday story or offer a meaningful holiday message. As part of the program, Emanu El will be recognizing and honoring a local MacCovid (read: Maccabee + Covid) hero from our community – someone who has gone above and beyond during the past nine months to help Houston battle the coronavirus pandemic. The program will then conclude with an opportunity for all on the Zoom to bring their own menorahs and light candles with our clergy as they lead the blessing.

During the eight days of *Chanukah Heroes & Lights*, Emanu El will be joined by Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Congregation Brith Shalom, Congregation Or Ami, Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism, Temple Sinai, and United Orthodox Synagogues. While open to everyone, the program is particularly designed for Houston adults to connect with their Jewish heritage

and with each other during the holiday. Participation will be free for all, with registration required. Register online by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org).

### Chanukah Service

Friday, December 11, 6:00 p.m.

Join us online or in person for our annual Chanukah service from the Barish Sanctuary featuring our clergy. Registration to join us in person will be similar to our Shabbat worship registration (pending the status of Emanu El within the reopening plan) and please note that registration will close on Thursday, December 10.

Due to our current protocols, there will not be an opportunity for individuals or families to light their Chanukah at the synagogue this year.

All congregants will receive a special Chanukah packet from the synagogue prior to the start of the holiday to usher in the Festival of Lights.

### Havdalah 4 Chanukah

Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Join our clergy for a spirited singalong to mark the end of Shabbat. The rituals of Havdalah help us to engage all of our senses as we come together to savor the last sweet moments of Shabbat and prepare for the week ahead. All ages welcome!

As part of this special Havdalah during Chanukah, our gathering will not only include the traditional lighting of the menorah, but also feature popular Chanukah songs! All are encouraged to light their Chanukah with us for this special edition of our Havdalah program. A song sheet will be made available on the Emanu El website prior to the program.

This gathering will take place on Zoom, and pre-registration is required to secure the Zoom link for the evening.

For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at [jasonp@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jasonp@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.535.6414.

### The Classics: Game Night

Friday, December 18, 7:30 p.m.

Tired of the same old Friday night non-events? Ready to try your hand at a fast-paced game of Quiplash or Guesspionage? These games were made for playing on Zoom and promise to provide lots of entertainment and audience participation.

Plan to join us for a fun filled hour or so. Bring your dinner, dessert or your favorite beverage and settle down

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in your most comfortable chair. Looking forward to seeing you!

Registration is limited to the first 25 screens, so don't delay! Register online at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org).

The Classics steering team is planning events for the next several months, including a virtual docent-led museum tour and a chance to bake or cook with a pro! We're always looking for new interactive events so please send an email to [emanuelclassics@gmail.com](mailto:emanuelclassics@gmail.com) with your ideas!

The Classics is Emanu El's social group for those in their 50s and 60s, open to both married and single members.

## Family & Fun: Online Trivia Night Sunday, December 20, 6:00 p.m.

Join Congregation Emanu El and PJ Library for a night of online trivia hosted by Game Time Adventures!

This month's edition will be a family-friendly night geared towards our families with elementary school age children and feature an earlier start time at 6:00 p.m.

The trivia will be based on puzzles and memory-based challenges.

The custom-built game nights are a fun and challenging experiences where players muse a variety of different skill sets and ways of thinking to win. It's an experience beyond your average game night.

Register by **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 15** at [www.gametimeadventures.com/emanu-el-houston](http://www.gametimeadventures.com/emanu-el-houston) to receive information about how to connect on the night of the event.

The information on how to connect will be sent roughly 60-90 minutes before the game. Individuals and teams are encouraged to join the trivia room at 5:30 p.m. for a pre-game schmooze or stay afterward. If this is your first time playing with Emanu El and Game Time Adventures, it is strongly encouraged that you show up no later than 6:45 p.m. to make sure your devices are working appropriately.

Previous winners include individuals or teams captained by the following individuals: Katherine Kardesch (November), Andrew Gass (October), Chip Ware (September), Fredi Bleeker Franks (August) and Jeff Silk (July).

For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at [jasonp@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jasonp@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.535.6414.

## Seeking Volunteers: Ronald McDonald House

Seeking Handmade Christmas Cards; Stocking Stuffing on **Monday, December 21**

This year would have been our fifth year to head over to the Ronald McDonald House on Christmas Eve to spread holiday cheer; due to the pandemic, however, we will have to help in a new way.

We will be sending boxed dinners from our preferred caterer Houston Catering Concepts for the families from who are currently living at the facility and seeking pediatric treatment at the Texas Medical Center for a variety of health issues as well as Christmas stocking filled with goodies! If you would like to help, we have two opportunities:

Make handmade Christmas cards to go inside each stocking, which can be dropped off at the synagogue during business hours.

On **Monday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m.**, we will need a few people for a socially distanced (and masked-up) stocking stuffing assembly. Please note that space is limited and walk-ups will not be allowed. Email Elizabeth Townsend at [elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org) or call 713.529.5771, ext. 222 to secure a spot!

## A Muslim-Jewish Christmas: Healing & Wholeness Through Faith Thursday, December 24 at 12:00 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El is proud to once again partner with houses of worship in the Houston Muslim and Jewish communities and take part in a Muslim-Jewish Christmas.

This year's theme of Healing & Wholeness Through Faith will feature a moderated conversation between faith leaders in both the Muslim and Jewish communities about how our beliefs can pull us through challenging times.

As we are unfortunately unable to gather as a community, this year's event will instead be made available across various digital platforms by our faith institutions, including the Proler Chapel video streaming and the Congregation Emanu El Facebook page.

*Please note as of press time, Emanu El and its partners were exploring other opportunities for broadcast and any changes will be shared in synagogue communications.*

For more information, please contact Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or [jasonp@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jasonp@emanuelhouston.org).

## Staff Members Vote at Election Day

Emanu El Program Director Jason Plotkin, Membership & Engagement Coordinator Elizabeth Townsend and Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson pictured outside of Congregation Emanu El after voting at the synagogue, which served as an Election Day polling locale.



## More Staff Members on Election Day

Facility team members Jose Perez and Dolly Montgomery not only arrived at Emanu El early to ensure the building could be open in time for poll workers on Election Day, they were amongst the first to vote at the synagogue - the only Jewish house of worship that served as a polling location on Election Day.

## Becker Votes

Our Becker School joined in the efforts with EE Votes to encourage their families and faculty to take part in the election. Thank you to all of our amazing Becker families and staff who exercised their right to vote during the election. Above is a picture of the Becker Votes! board. all Becker children received a *Becker Votes!* stress ball.





### Longtime Helfman Administrative Assistant Gail Shapiro Passes

In mid-November, we shared news with our congregation of the passing of Gail Shapiro, who for the last 25+ years has served as an administrative assistant for our Helfman Religious School at Congregation Emanu El.

Gail served as the face of Helfman and was always a steadfast and joyful supporter of our students, faculty, staff, and congregants. This loss is a painful one for all of us who knew and loved Gail. Our love and sincere condolences go to Gail's family during their days of mourning.

Gail's memory will be an enduring blessing for us all.

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## HELPMAN SCHOOL NEWS

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# Helfman Religious School

### GFC Camperships & Scholarship Opportunities

Are you planning to send your child to Greene Family Camp this summer? If so, this is a great Thanksgiving or winter break project. Campership awards for Helfman Religious School students are worth 1/2 of GFC tuition for one full session – encourage your child(ren) to apply! To aid in judging, please write names on the back of the projects. Grade-level projects are based on current grade enrollment. Campership applications are due to the religious school office by **Thursday, January 22, 2021**.

### 3rd & 4th Grade Drawing Contest

#### *“My Own Personal Enthusiasm for Judaism”*

This topic can mean many different things to people; therefore, the completed drawing must be accompanied with a short paragraph describing the drawing and its meaning.

### 5th Grade Essay

#### *“My Very Own Program for Greene Family Camp”*

Imagine developing a unique program of your very own for camp. What kind of program would it be? What would it involve and how would you involve others? (1-2 pages, double spaced)

### 6th & 7th Grade Essay

#### *“Why I Wish to Spend My Summer at GFC”*

A summer spent at GFC can be one full of excitement, friendship, and Judaism all rolled into one. What draws you to the camp atmosphere? One essay will be chosen from each grade. (2 pages, double spaced)

Camperships include: Brotherhood Camperships, Sisterhood Camperships, Chester Marcus Religious School Community Committee Campership, Connie Reischer Campership, Ricky Schnurr Campership.

Children who have previously won a campership are not eligible to win again.

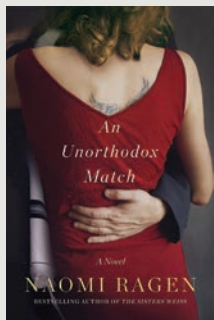
### Summer Camp Scholarship Opportunity

Congregation Emanu El is pleased to extend financial aid for Jewish summer camp in the form of need-based grants which allow our congregation's children - who would otherwise be unable to attend - to have Jewish summer camp experiences. Families in need of financial assistance should contact Lucy Mosbacher, [lucym@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:lucym@emanuelhouston.org), so that aid can be made accessible to all who are in need.



# Sisterhood News & Happenings

December 2020 –  
January 2021



## BOOK REVIEW:

### *An Unorthodox Match*

by Naomi Ragen; reviewed by Sandy Harris

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 7:00 PM

Sisterhood hosts bi-monthly book reviews throughout the year that are open to the public. January's book review will be led by our congregant, Sandy Harris.

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

A summary of our January book, *An Unorthodox Match*, by Naomi Ragen:

California girl Lola has planned her life: handsome fiancé, fast-track career . . . when everything implodes. After years of futile searching for love, marriage and children, she takes the radical step of seeking spirituality, meaning and love – far outside her comfort zone.

To help us plan and/or to receive communications about future book reviews, we ask that you kindly **RSVP by Wednesday, January 13**, either online by contacting the Sisterhood at [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

## How the COVID-19 Pandemic Could Change Our Cities

Sunday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.



Large cities the world over, including Houston, will be profoundly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. If continued home delivery of goods leads to more closed retail stores, what will happen to shopping centers? If the work-at-home trend leads to more empty office space, how will that space be repurposed? How will traf-

fic and commuting patterns change? Join Sisterhood as **Bill Fulton**, Director of Rice University's Kinder Institute for Urban Research, gives us a look into the future as he discusses these and other provocative questions related to the pandemic.

There is no charge for this Zoom program, however, registration is required to the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org). Log-in information will be sent prior to the program date.

## Jewish Women Artists

Thursday, December 17, 7:00 p.m.

Join Sisterhood as well-known local artist Ellen Orseck presents a virtual multi-media program about Jewish women artists. The list of artists that Orseck will focus on includes Helen Frankenthaler, Louise Nevelson, Lee Krasner, Charlotte Salomon, among others. Whether their work is representational or abstract, artwork by these Jewish artists ties them to Jewish life and identity.



Local artist Ellen Orseck.

Orseck, currently a practicing artist and art instructor, was a finalist for the coveted Hunting Prize and was awarded a mural grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. She earned a master's degree in painting from New York University and a master's degree in museum education at George Washington University. Presently, Orseck is a studio art instructor at Rice University's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies (GSCS) and at Watercolor Art Society, Houston (WASH). She shows her work at Carolyn Garcia Gallery, Flatland Gallery and Mother Dog Studios in Houston.

Please RSVP to the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org). There is no charge for this Zoom program, and log-in information will be sent prior to the program date.

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## Empañada Demonstration with Linda Hayon & Susana Paoloski Monday, January 11, 5:30 p.m.

Come down Argentina way – virtually, of course – and join Sisterhood as cookbook writer Linda Hayon teaches us the fine art of making empañadas, assisted by Sisterhood board member Susana Paoloski. Linda is the co-author of *Nada but Empañadas: History and Recipes* and has traveled extensively to learn the finer points of making this savory delicacy. Join us for this fun night without ever leaving your own kitchen!

There is no charge for this event, however, we do ask that you RSVP online at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or to the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org). Zoom information will be sent prior to the program.

An empañada recipe with preparation instructions will be emailed ahead of time to all who RSVP so they can cook along with Linda and Susana. A good Argentinian red wine will be the perfect accompaniment for this fun evening! Salud and Buen Provecho (Cheers and Bon appetit)!

## 2020-21 Mah Jongg Cards – Now on Sale by Sisterhood



Been playing online with your group . . . or with robots?  
Doesn't matter!

You will want the new card this spring! Make your checks and mail to Sylvia Brody, 2004 Vermont, Houston, TX 77019 by **Monday, January 25**. The cost of a card is \$9 for a regular card and \$10 for large print.

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### 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.

**Lawrence & Karen Caulfield**  
**Alina & Richard Dovere, son Oliver**  
**Jame Fort**  
**Bethany Boucher & Jacob Gardner**  
**Erin Joyce**  
**Heather Lopez, Children Gael & Raymundo**  
**Ronald & Holly Medwick**  
**Mark Zeidman**

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 [elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:elizabetht@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 222.



## Find Us On YouTube!

Looking for a one-stop shop to catch the latest worship services, musical selections, High Holy Day highlights, videos from our schools and more?

Over 400 videos of new content created since the pandemic have been shared to Emanu El's YouTube page with dozens and dozens more from the archives also shared. YouTube also serves as a way to watch live services and other events.

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



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through November 16, 2020.

**ACCESS FOR ALL FUND**

*To ensure Emanu El is a welcoming, accessible and inclusive community*  
In Appreciation of  
**Shel Vedlitz**  
Madeline Lowitz

In Memory of  
**Harry Jaffee**  
Erla & Harry Zuber  
**Beverly Maisel Manne**  
Jeff & Karen Basen-Engquist  
Caren & David Cowan  
**Priscilla Schube**  
Nancy Peskin

**ALAN GAYLOR TEACHER ASSISTANT FUND**

*To support Helfman Religious School teacher assistants*  
**A Donation**  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Gaylor

**AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**

*To support small and emerging organizations that improve life for underserved Houstonians*  
In Memory of  
**Allen Leon**  
Eric & Carol Adatto Nelson

**BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMBERSHIP FUND**

*To provide scholarships to send Helfman Religious School students to Greene Family Camp*  
In Memory of  
**Beverly Maisel Manne**  
Gloria & Joe Pryzant

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

*To provide and enhance the Becker School*  
In Memory of  
**Neil Goldenberg**  
Kate Rose

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Becker School scholarships*  
In Memory of  
**Pax El-Khoury**  
Judy Lazor  
**Neil Goldenberg**  
fredi & Paul Franks  
Judy Lazor

**BEN NOBLE CAMBERSHIP FUND**

*To send an outstanding Confirmation year TEFTY member to a NFTY event*  
In Memory of  
**Linda Cohn Walter**  
Cyvia & Marvin Noble

**CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND**

*To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park*  
In Appreciation of  
**Shel Vedlitz**  
Jeanne & Matt Pasternak

In Honor of  
**Shel Vedlitz**  
Carol & Ronnie Rauch

**CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

*To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park*  
In Memory of  
**Harriet Zinn**  
Eileen Cersonsky

**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**  
Cindy & Howard Garoon

In Appreciation of  
**High Holy Day special recognition – Clergy & Staff**  
Linda Shenberg Mallet

**Rabbi Pamela Silk**  
Anonymous

In Honor of  
**Rabbi Joshua Fixler**  
Ellen & Martin Grabois  
**High Holy Day special recognition – Clergy & Staff**  
Nancy Ehrenkranz  
Leslie & Warren Simmons  
Linda Rauch Susman  
**The Bat Mitzvah of Avital "Avi" Hayon**  
Sylvia & Steven Brody  
**The Marriage of Kathryn Clary & Alex Bear**  
Linda & Richard Zoll

In Memory of  
**Max Brochstein & Orville Henderson**

Marie Brochstein  
**Arthur Daum**  
Linda & Richard Zoll  
**Janice Rudy Falick**  
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**Stanley Tenenbaum**

Jeff & Karen Basen-Engquist  
Julie & Robert Goodfriend  
**Emily Weingarten-Stein**  
Ellen & Martin Grabois  
**Harry Yoffee**  
Rita Blumenfeld

**EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND**  
*To provide programs for Emanu Elders*  
In Memory of  
**Allen Leon**

**Priscilla Schube**  
Sylvia & Steven Brody

**EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND**

*To feed the hungry of Houston*  
In Memory of  
**Jan Amundsen**  
Jennis Kauffman  
**Neil Goldenberg**  
Diane Puschett  
**Gloria Pepper Katz**  
Jennis Kauffman  
**Leonard Tatar**  
Sonia & Peter Benjamin  
**Stanley Tenenbaum**  
Diane Puschett

**ELLEN HURWITZ PENNER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

*To promote the spiritual growth of Helfman Religious School students*  
In Memory of  
**Neil Goldenberg**  
Aliza & Jason Plotkin

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND**

*To send Emanu El leadership to URJ Biennials and underwrite leadership programs and speakers*  
In Memory of  
**Diane Gaitz Dante**  
Jan & Richard Sander  
**Arthur Daum**  
Myra Lipper

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

*To enhance musical programming*  
**A Donation**  
Nathan K. Miller

In Appreciation of  
**Cantor Rollin Simmons**  
Anonymous  
Michaele & Michael Brown

*continued next page*

In Honor of  
**The Speedy Recovery of  
Kathy Parven**  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**GENERAL ENDOWMENT  
FUND**

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

In Memory of

**Arthur Daum**

Harriet Struminger  
Grossman

**Beverly Maisel Manne**

Jennifer & David Lamden

**Joan Spitz & Mildred Shaff**

William J. Spitz

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**MORGENSTERN ADULT**

**EDUCATION FUND**

*To provide adult Hebrew  
education programs*

In Memory of

**Allen Leon**

Susan & Ed Septimus

**HAROLD REINGOLD**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

*To enhance Helfman*

*Religious School*

In Memory of

**Neil Goldenberg**

Helen Dreyfus  
Barbara Loeser

**Alan Rauch**

Jan & Richard Sander

**JEAN & JULIAN GOLDBERG**

**CHILDREN'S FUND**

*To provide arts programs for  
children*

In Honor of

**The Bat Mitzvah of Avital**

**"Avi" Hayon**

Sondra Ross

**JEANETTE OSHMAN**

**BENEVOLENT FUND**

*To support the Rabbis'*

*Good Works fund*

In Appreciation of

**Rabbi Oren Hayon**

Anonymous

**JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS  
SCHOOL ENRICHMENT  
FUND**

*To enhance Helfman  
Religious School programs*

In Memory of

**Neil Goldenberg**

Jeff & Karen Basen-  
Engquist

**Leona & Louis Liedeker  
& Hannah & Sigmund  
Westheimer**

Lauren Epstein Scharf

**JULIUS & HARRIET ZINN  
FUND**

*To provide and enhance  
congregation programs*

In Memory of

**Gloria Pepper Katz**

Sharon & Harvey Zinn

**Harriet Zinn**

Sybil Balasco  
Rita Blumenfeld

Joanne Fisher

Lois Frankel

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

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FUND**

*To maintain and enhance  
the Kagan Rudy Chapel at  
Emanu El Memorial Park*

In Memory of

**Janice Rudy Falick**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**THE PROLER CHAPEL  
FUND**

*To maintain and enhance  
the Proler Chapel*

In Memory of

**Stanley Tenenbaum**

Gretchen Gemeinhardt

**RABBI ROY & LINDA  
WALTER ENRICHMENT  
FUND**

*To support spiritual and  
cultural enrichment*

In Honor of

**Freddie Croft for being**

**honored by the**

**Sisterhood**

Shirlee & Mark Rosenthal

**Rabbi Roy Walter – 50 years**

**of service in the**

**Rabbinate and at**

**Emanu El**

Betty Lou Blumrosen

Ellen & Martin Grabois

**The Speedy Recovery of**

**L. A. Train**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Claudia & Joel Selzer

In Memory of

**Arthur Daum**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**Janice Rudy Falick**

Betty Lou Blumrosen

**Beatrice Friedberg**

Carol & Larry Fradkin

**Louis Green**

Betty Lou Blumrosen

**Vicki Greenberg**

Dori & Adam Goldman

Pat Shuken's Book Club

**Ira Kaufman**

**Morris "Ike" Rosenthal**

Betty Lou Blumrosen

**Franklin Roth**

Linda Mosier Spielberg

**Marian Siegel**

Barbara & Martin Meyer

**Leonard Tatar**

Susie & Alvin Zimmerman

**Linda Cohn Walter**

Terry & Martin B.

Cominsky

**Harriet Zinn**

Bernice Feld

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Helfman*

*Religious School*

*scholarships*

In Memory of

**Beverly Maisel Manne**

Stefani & Steve Carlson

**RICKY SCHNURR  
CAMBERSHIP FUND**

*To provide Greene Family*

*Camp scholarships*

In Memory of

**Charles Atteberry**

**Arthur Daum**

**Dean Teh-An-Cheng**

**Penelope Ross Warga**

Don & Larry Barr-Meyer

& Family

**Frances Roseman**

Cindy & David Senior

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING  
CONGREGATION FUND**

*To support programs*

*that assist people in the  
community*

In Honor of

**Freddie & Paul Croft – for**

**their years of service**

Sara Astrich

In Memory of

**Diane Gaitz Dante**

Sara Astrich

**Arthur Daum**

Nancy Peskin

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL  
JUSTICE FUND**

*To send congregants*

*to the Consultation on*

*Conscience at the Religious*

*Action Center*

In Appreciation of

**Rabbi Joshua Fixler**

Sienna Ranch Church



In Memory of  
**Lizzie Langkjaer**  
Sherry Harris

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
FUND**

*To enhance preschool  
education*

In Memory of  
**Joshua Nathan Roberts**  
Jan & Richard Sander

**ROSE GOODFRIEND  
ISRAEL PILGRIMAGE**

*To help send Confirmation  
students to Israel*

In Memory of  
**Arthur Daum**  
Terry & Martin B.  
Cominsky

**SISTERHOOD FUND**

*To support and enhance  
the Sisterhood*

In Honor of  
**Pat Fradkin**  
Joyce Nimetz

In Memory of  
**Priscilla Schube**  
Sylvia & Steven Brody

**STILLMAN-LACK  
MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
FUND**

*To maintain and enhance  
the Stillman-Lack  
Memorial Library*

In Memory of  
**Lizzie Langkjaer**  
Marilyn K Nathan

**SUSMAN FUND FOR  
FAMILY PROGRAMMING**

*To support programs for  
families*

In Honor of  
**The Speedy Recovery of  
Al Osborn**  
Claudia & Joel Selzer

**TEMPLE FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**Benjamin Nathan Kessler's  
Birthday**  
**Mariana & Isaac Pesin's  
Wedding Anniversary**  
Madgelyn & Richard Pesin  
**Jason Plotkin**  
Ellen & Martin Grabois

In Memory of  
**Esther Schultz Barvin**  
Herman J Schultz  
**Diane Gaitz Dante**  
Ellen & Martin Grabois  
**Yehiel Hayon**  
Miriam & Bernard Yenkin  
**Lizzie Langkjaer**  
Barbara Feldman  
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Jeri Amundsen  
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Jani & Eric Lestin  
& Family  
**Harry Yoffee**  
Reneé Gerber, Andrea  
Gerber, Teri & Howie  
Gerber and Gail &  
Norman Stalarow

**Emanu El Covid Relief Fund**

Consider making a donation to Congregation Emanu El's Covid Relief Fund, which will help maintain the operations of our synagogue.

Visit [emanuhouston.org/covidrelief](http://emanuhouston.org/covidrelief) to learn more and make a contribution.

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**HIGH HOLY DAY HUNGER FUND APPEAL**

Congregation Emanu El is committed to fighting hunger and has a longstanding tradition of collecting donations for our neighbors and social justice partners during the High Holy Day period.

This year, as part of a week of activities surrounding World Homeless Day in early October, our congregation will be directing a portion of Edward Wayne Hunger Fund donations during the High Holy Day period to the SEARCH Homeless Services' Emergency Foods Fund.

SEARCH is a longtime agency dedicated to moving individuals and families from homelessness into permanent housing. These donations will be used to provide travel-friendly, shelf-stable foods for the SEARCH team members to distribute to clients as they work to move them from the streets.

The below listing includes donations made during our High Holy Day Hunger Fund appeal. This is a second grouping of donations following a prior listing that ran in our November *Bulletin*.

**A Donation**

Judith & Stan Arouty  
Susie & David Askanase  
Sara Astrich  
Sylvia & Steven Brody  
Barbara & Mark  
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Jeannette Nestvold  
Susana Paoloski  
Jeanne & Matt Pasternak  
Nancy Pincus  
Eric Pulaski  
Beverly & Howard  
Robinson  
Jessica Segal &

Daniel Miller  
Rollin Simmons &  
David Segal  
Stephanie & Todd Slobin  
Eileen & Richard  
Westerman  
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In Memory of  
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Kate & Don Robins

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**grat·i·tude**  
/gradə,t(y)ōd/ 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.

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- Pamela B. Silk, Associate Rabbi
- Joshua R.S. Fixler, Associate Rabbi
- Roy A. Walter, Rabbi Emeritus
- Rollin Simmons, Cantor
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- Jason Plotkin, Program Director
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- Stefani Carlson, Director of Congregational Learning
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EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG

# NEW TRADITIONS

## SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP

CONGREGATION EMANU EL

### New Traditions – the Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood gift shop – back in operation!

Here is your opportunity to support your congregation. The gift shop is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays (when the synagogue is open) from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. by appointment only.

To make an appointment, call 713.529.5771, ext. 234. Please leave your name and numbers so that Sylvia Brody or Donnie Bundman can return your call. The team will do all they can to accommodate you!



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