



Congregation Emanu El

Bulletin

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Congregation Emanu El is currently offering three kinds of programs (in-person, digital and hybrid). For information on what these kinds of programs are, please visit page 4 of this *Bulletin*.

June 3, 2021 | 223 Sivan 5781

VOLUME 75 NUMBER 8

FROM RABBI HAYON



The arrival of June, and the accompanying end of the academic year, brings with it a flurry of activity.

Graduation ceremonies deliver celebratory opportunities for students and their families, while other families spend these steamy Houston days packing for summer camp and long-postponed vacations.

Even as we begin to embark on our summer travels, though, I hope we will also remember the importance of coming home – to our spiritual home, that is.

After more than a year during which we have been largely confined to our homes and our immediate surroundings, it feels refreshing and rewarding to begin exploring the world outside our front doors. Especially now that so many of us have benefited from the near-miraculous gift of the COVID vaccine, it is exhilarating to welcome the restoration of our freedom and the sense of comfort we have missed for so long.

Even as we begin to embark on our summer travels, though, I hope we will also remember the importance of coming home – to our spiritual home, that is.

Now that it is once again safe for us to gather in person for worship services and programs at temple, it is time for us to begin that vital journey back into community. We

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Havdalah on the Lawn with Emanu El & the Apollo Chamber Players (IN PERSON)

Saturday, June 5, 6:00 p.m.

Join Congregation Emanu El for a special Havdalah on the lawn to kick off the month of June!

All are welcome to bring their picnic dinner and blankets and join us at 6:00 p.m. for a socially distanced picnic on the front lawn. Havdalah led by a member of our clergy team will follow at 6:30 p.m. and then our evening will conclude with a one-hour performance by the Apollo Chamber Players.

To help us with COVID protocols, we are asking guests wear masks except when they are eating or drinking within the designated space marked off for their family or pod. To help us plan appropriately and limit capacity based upon space availability,

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Congregation Emanu El's Brotherhood Holding Annual Garage Sale

Pickups before Saturday, June 19; Event to Be Held Sundays, August 15 & 22, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Brotherhood of Congregation Emanu El will host its annual Garage Sale at a location to be announced in future communications.

The garage sale is open to all members of the community.

Pick-ups for this year's event are tentatively slated to begin on **Saturday, June 19** and continue through **Saturday, August 8**. To schedule a pick-up, arrange a drop off or to volunteer, please call or email Steve Moskowitz at moskose@swbell.net or 832.236.7307.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

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 Sh'lach L'cha **Friday, June 4**

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

Saturday, June 5

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

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

Bat Mitzvah of **Kathryn Balke**, daughter of Valerie & Bill Balke

6:00 p.m., Havdalah & Lawn Concert with the Apollo Chamber Players

Shabbat Korach **Friday, June 11**

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

Saturday, June 12

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

Bar Mitzvah of **Benjamin Weisman**, son of Amy McKinney and Joseph Weisman

Shabbat Chukat **Friday, June 18**

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

Saturday, June 19

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

Bat Mitzvah of **Lois Williams**, daughter of Sarah & Adam Williams

Shabbat Balak **Friday, June 25**

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

Saturday, June 26

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

Shabbat Pinchas **Friday, July 2**

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

Saturday, July 3

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

Shabbat Matot – Mas-ei **Friday, July 9**

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

Saturday, July 10

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

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

are very fortunate to have benefited from the myriad gifts of technology which have allowed us to participate in congregational life remotely. Now, however, it is time for us to immerse ourselves once again in the blessing of in-person congregational life.

I realize, of course, that all of us are readjusting and reconnecting to face-to-face encounters at our own pace. Our nation's youngest children are not yet eligible to be vaccinated yet, and some of us have medical limitations which will require that we remain prudently separated from groups of other people for a bit longer.

For the rest of us, however, it is important to remember how vital the experience of spiritual community and togetherness is for our mental and emotional well-being. As health protocols allow for us to resume in-person worship and study, we must return to the powerful experience of human community – a balm which cannot be replaced by technology, no matter how polished or immersive it may be.

As I have said many times over the past year, I am exceedingly proud of the work that Emanu El's clergy

and staff have done to keep our spiritual home safe and sustainable over the past year. But a synagogue does not belong to its employees: it belongs to its members. And so the time is now arriving for Emanu El's chief stakeholders – you, its members – to begin making your way back into its halls. And when you do, this holy place will once again live up to its potential as an oasis of community, culture, and conscience.

I cannot wait to welcome you back home.

CONGREGATION EMANU EL'S BROTHERHOOD **HOLDING ANNUAL GARAGE SALE**

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Any items left at the end of the sale are given to non-profit organizations within our community. Proceeds from the garage sale benefit the Brotherhood, enabling the organization to make a difference at Emanu El and in the community.

NOTE: There will be COVID protocols in place at the garage sale location and when the Brotherhood volunteers pick up items from the households of community members. The Brotherhood appreciates your support in following these protocols to enable the sale to take place.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

IN THE COMMUNITY

Daniel Cohen received the George & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation Scholarship and the Willbern Heritage Scholarship. Daniel will be studying business at the University of Kansas.

The late **Aubrey Meyer Farb** was named the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Houston's 2021 Alumna of the Year Award.

The Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center of Houston honored our past president **Raymond Kalmans** along with **Denis Braham** as the David H. White Memorial Award recipients. The award is named after the former publisher of the *Jewish Herald-Voice* and recognizes community members committed to the ideals of Jewish life who pursue service that reflects integrity and love for one's fellow man and are known for their active involvement in the Jewish community.

BIRTHS

Sly Ford Haufrect, son of Lisa Barrad Haufrect & Ian Haufrect; grandson of Dale Haufrect, Lyn Binder, Elaine Barrad

Kit Sarrins Rubin, son of Jenn & Paul Rubin; grandson of Marlene Rubin, Ellen & Tim Sosinski

WEDDINGS

Marissa Astrich & James Dean "JD" Meador

Emily Lunstroth & Michael Hammer

DEATHS

Betty Bagot, mother of Helen Dreyfus, Bettye & Michael Bagot, Jr; Dona & Eugene Bagot, III; Germaine Vorhoff, Elizabeth & Philip Hughes, Barbara & David Waller; grandmother of 16; great-grandmother of 13; sister of Ann & John Scharfenberg; sister-in-law of Anne Laville, Lois Laville

Robert Braunig, father of Ashly & Asher Braunig, Jasmine & Donald Avery; grandfather of Benjamin Braunig, Savannah and Grace Avery; brother of Helaine & Bill Braunig; brother-in-law of Davasha Stalarow

Renee Feinstein Maltz, mother of Melanie Maltz Diskin & Howard Diskin, Abbe Maltz; grandmother of Jacob Jennings; sister of Janet Feinstein

Kathryn Rauh Smolensky, mother of Leah Smolensky Tigner, Lin Mills & William Rauh Smolensky; grandmother of Lindsey Smolensky & Rhonda Rubin Smolensky, Adam Smolensky, Shannon Tigner, Tracy Tigner, Rachael & Larry Ayala, Drucilla Tigner & Chris Browne; great-grandmother of London Whitney, Reagan James, Noah Ayala

Marvin Speer, father of Sara Speer Selber, Lori & Stuart Speer, Janice & Mark Speer; grandfather of Audrey & Peter Selber, Jennifer & Eric Gustafson, Zack Speer, Matthew Speer, Jacob Speer; great-grandfather of George, Bridget, Reagan and Eleanor; brother-in-law of Sue Kaplan

Trina Underwood, husband of Phillip Underwood; step-mother of Tewlyn & Jesse Yoburn and Amanda & Kevin Musselwhite; mother of Carmen & DeMond Roberson and Tanya Holmes; and grandmother of Cayla, Evan and Maebyn Yoburn, Ryan and Matthew Musselwhite, Thomas and Nicholas Roberson and Elijah Holmes

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.

HAVDALAH ON THE LAWN WITH EMANU EL & THE APOLLO CHAMBER PLAYERS

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registration is required.

The Apollo Chamber Players are a string quartet that according to The Strad "performs with rhythmic flair and virtuosity" and per the Houston Chronicle has "found fruitful territory" through their innovative, globally inspired programming and multicultural new music commissions.

Recent winner of Chamber Music America's prestigious Residency Partnership Award, the quartet has twice performed for sold out audiences at Carnegie Hall and holds the distinction of being the first American

chamber ensemble to record and perform in Cuba since the embargo was relaxed.

Additionally, Apollo is featured frequently on American Public Media's nationally-syndicated program *Performance Today* and the group has collaborated with renowned ensembles and artists including the Houston Ballet and Houston Chamber Choir, Grammy/Emmy winner and Academy Award contributor Vanessa Vo, James Dunham, Ismail Lumanovski and Indian Classical musical star Chitravina N. Ravikiran, amongst others. For more information, please contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

This program is generously funded by the Shirley & Bernard Weingarten Fund and Julius & Harriet Zinn Fund.

Programming at Emanu El

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

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

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

If you have a suggestion for a program, or any questions about the details above, please contact Program Director Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713-535-6414.

Emanu El Running Club (IN-PERSON) Wednesdays, 7:45 a.m.

Calling all Emanu El runners and walkers!

Join us as we take off around the Rice University outer loop on **Wednesday mornings at 7:45 a.m.** (weather permitting). This group started in mid-April and meets weekly in the synagogue's west parking lot.

Join a member of the Emanu El clergy and staff team as we meet up together before heading out. All paces



The Emanu El Running Club continues to meet weekly in the west parking lot of Congregation Emanu El on Wednesdays at 7:45 a.m.

and levels of experience are welcome - runners will set their own pace and distance. Interested in walking? A walking group is part of the club as well and makes one loop of the Rice campus.

We are so excited to see you!

Zumba at Emanu El (IN-PERSON) Thursdays in June, 9:30 a.m.

Ready to dance and sweat?

Join us every Thursday in June for a class full of great energy, tons of great music and fun! From pop to reggaeton, from Bollywood to salsa! A fun workout that doesn't feel like one. Brought to you by one of the best fitness groups in Houston, FitMix Communities and their lead instructors, Yuri Amor and Jennie Rohrer. This is going to be an amazing opportunity to bring the community back together!

So we can plan accordingly, we ask that you register online at emanuelhouston.org. Your registration is good for the entirety of the series.

For more information, please contact Jason Plotkin at 713-535-6414.

Taste of Talmud (HYBRID) Thursdays, June 3 & July 1, 12:30 p.m.

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.

This class is taking place in a "hybrid" setting. A Zoom link will be provided and participants can also join in-person in the board room.

While no RSVP or pre-reading is necessary, if you'd like to receive the source sheet ahead of time, or if you are planning to attend in person, please contact Stefani Carlson at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org or 713-529-5771, ext. 251. Those seeking to engage via Zoom, can find the connection information on our website.

Work of Our Hands (IN-PERSON) Thursdays, June 10 & July 8, 10:00 am

Join us on the second Thursday of the month as we host a group that enjoys companionship while knitting and/or crocheting shawls, bonnets, booties, lap blankets etc. for patients in the Texas Medical Center. The beauty of

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this mitzvah covers neo-natal infants to patients at MD Anderson.

Please know that all attendees will have to check-in at the Rotunda, wear masks during their stay in the building and help us maintain social distancing in the board room. Due to limited space, we are requiring pre-event registration to Donnie Bundman at dbundman@gmail.com.

The Classics' Get Out the Grill (IN-PERSON) Saturday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.

The Classics – Congregation Emanu El's social group for those in their 50's and 60's – are all fired up and ready to party!

Join us to "Get Out the Grill!"

Our hosts, who live in the Meyerland area, will provide non-alcoholic drinks and traditional summer party fare and the rest of us will provide the fixings, sides and dessert. Space is limited, so please **RSVP by Saturday, June 5** by visiting emanuelhouston.org or by calling the synagogue at 713.529.5771. The address, directions, and choices for your potluck contribution will be sent to registrants after the close of registration.

For an update on the Classics and how you can contribute programming ideas and more, please visit page 7 of this edition of the *Bulletin*.

A Tie-Dye Family Event (IN-PERSON) Sunday, June 13 - 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Learn tie-dye like a champ! Bring your 100% cotton shirts, masks, or even a pair of shorts for some creative (and slightly messy) fun. Don't wear your favorite clothes but do bring your favorite people! Join our educator/artist friend Michelle Renfrow who will guide you through all the different patterns you can choose and help you make your one of kind tie-dye creation. Your projects go home that day with instructions on rinsing and washing in a special solution that we will send home with you.



This event will be held in the Gaylor Parking Facility and the playground will be open as several groups take their turn to tie-dye in a socially distanced manner. Please wear your masks and feel free to bring your own snacks and water.

This event is \$5 per family and limited to the first 15 families who register online at emanuelhouston.org. Due to space limitations, this event is open to Emanu El

members and Becker families only.

Any questions? Contact Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

This program made possible in part through the generous support of the Susman Fund for Family Programming.

Kids' Meals (IN-PERSON) Tuesdays, June 15 & July 13, 9:30 a.m.



Join us as we prepare close to 1,000 sack lunches as Kids Meals works to end hunger amongst children.

In accordance with the synagogue's COVID protocols, there will be no food preparation on-site, Kids Meals will be providing pre-made sandwiches and our volunteers will be paired up to work at their own socially distanced station to assemble the full sack lunch.

Space is limited and the way the event is being run is subject to change as our congregation navigates guidance from the COVID Task Force. We ask that guests RSVP to Donnie Bundman at dbundman@gmail.com. All participants are required to wear masks and check-in at the Rotunda.

Our gatherings take place on the third Tuesday of the month in June.

This program made possible in part through the generous support of the Ed Wayne Hunger Fund.

Snack Packs for SEARCH (IN-PERSON) Tuesdays, June 22 & July 27, 10:00 a.m.



The SEARCH volunteers are back in the business of meeting in the board room to assemble their snack kits for those living on the street experiencing homelessness.

SEARCH Houston's Mobile Outreach team is in need of snack packs to distribute to individuals living on the streets who are experiencing homelessness. Our team of

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volunteers will fill Ziploc bags with an assortment of non-perishable snack items. Often, the packs provide the only food our neighbors have that day, and they are truly grateful.

Please know that all attendees will have to check-in at the Rotunda, wear masks during their stay in the building and help us maintain social distancing in the board room while assembling their own bags with supplies we provide.

Due to limited space, we are requiring pre-event registration to Sandy Harris at sdharr@comcast.net.

30s and 40s Glass Fuse Mezzuzot Happy Hour & Havdalah (IN-PERSON) Saturday, June 26, 6 p.m.

Calling all 30-and 40-year-olds!

Bring your wine and snacks - we will socialize and have a clergy-led havdalah before embarking on a project.

Learn to score and cut glass while creating a beautiful mezzuzot. Each artist will design and create their very own work of art they will proudly hang in any doorway.

Join our educator/artist friend, Michelle Renfrow, as she provides the knowledge and inspiration, the guidance and all the supplies needed to make a 6" by 2" mezuzah. It's a beautiful and fun activity and is unlike anything you have done before.

The creations will go home with Michelle and be available for pickup several days later at the synagogue with a wooden mezuzah attachment and instructions/ blessings for hanging it in your home.

The cost is \$10 per mezzuzot and space is limited.

Any questions? Contact Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

Congregation Emanu El's Community Shabbat Dinners Return This Summer (IN-PERSON) Fridays, July 16 & August 13 following 6:00 p.m. Shabbat worship

A summer tradition returns!

Join us following Shabbat services for our 'community Shabbat dinners'. Our traditional 6:00 p.m. Shabbat service will be followed by dinner at Congregation Emanu El for \$5 per person.

To help us prepare, RSVPs are required on the Wednesday prior to the dinner. We will unfortunately not be able to take walk-ups or be able to handle late registration requests.

The meals will be prepared by Emanu El's preferred caterer Houston Catering Concepts and further information about the menus and COVID protocols will be shared in upcoming synagogue communications.

To RSVP, visit emanuelhouston.org or by calling 713.529.5771

This program made possible in part through the generous support of the Esther Shelby Fellowship Fund.

An Interactive Storytime with Jana Banana (IN-PERSON) Sunday, August 22, 4:00 p.m.



After the response to our last gathering, we're doing it again – calling all families with 4-7 year olds!

Join us in the Oshman Multi-Purpose Room for interactive storyteller Jana Banana. Jana promises to get our kids (and willing parents) moving around in their spots during this interactive experience.

The focus of this month's storytelling will be animals and children are invited to bring their favorite stuffed animals!

Please note that space is limited and pre-registration is a must. Due to space considerations, this event is open to Emanu El members and Becker families only. Register online below and join us!

If registration fills, please contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414 to get on a waiting list or priority notice of a second event with Jana.

This program made possible in part through the generous support of the Susman Fund for Family Programming.



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!

An Update from the Classics – Emanu El’s 50s & 60s Group

The Classics, Emanu El’s social group for congregants in their 50’s and 60’s, gathered on Saturday, April 24 for our first “in-person” event in over a year.

We brought blankets, chairs, and our own picnic dinners and celebrated Havdalah in the congregation’s beautiful sculpture garden. Rabbi Hayon led us in the Havdalah blessings, followed by reciting the Shehecheyanu; it was indeed a moment of blessing and gratitude.

Following this successful event, we met via Zoom to brainstorm for the next several month’s activities. Ideas such as a visit to the MFAH, a Spanish/Portuguese themed wine tasting, and an evening spent on the spacious patio of one of our congregants were popular and are currently in the planning stages. We are also talking about an overnight trip to see the famous Painted Churches in Schulerberg.

If you are interested in any of the program ideas mentioned above, or have any other ideas for programs, please email us at emanuelclassics@gmail.com

New Traditions Gift Shop Open by Appointment

In conjunction with Congregation Emanu El’s reopening plan, the New Traditions gift shop is open by appointment only on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Looking to make an appointment or have any questions? Please call the New Traditions gift shop at 713.529.5771, ext. 234.

Emanu El Seeks Camp Addresses for Children Planning to Attend Summer Camp

Everyone loves getting mail at summer camp! Please send us your children’s addresses for camp this summer (and the dates they’ll be there!) so we can send something to them. Please email information to Alisha Klapholz: alishak@emanuelhouston.org.

In Need of ASL Interpreter for High Holy Days? Let Us Know!

Please notify JoAnne Karnuth by **Friday, July 30** if you are in need of an ASL Interpreter.

If you or a loved one are in need of an ASL interpreter please contact JoAnne at the synagogue at 713.529.5771 or JoAnneK@emanuelhouston.org by the deadline date in order to insure the availability of these services.

To ensure those who are hard of hearing are able to enjoy and participate in our beautiful High Holy Day services, the Brotherhood will be generously providing closed captioning for most services in the Barish Sanctuary. Please watch for our High Holy Day service information mailing for more details.



Find Us On YouTube!

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

Over 700 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!

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.

Sisterhood News & Happenings

July 2021



BOOK REVIEW:

Becoming Eve: My Journey from Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman
(DIGITAL)

by Abby Chava Stein

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 7:00 PM

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

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. We are exploring moving to hybrid or in-person when our book review schedule begins anew in the fall.

A summary of our July book selection, *Becoming Eve: My Journey from Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman*, by Abby Chava Stein:

Abby Stein was raised in a Hasidic Jewish community in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. She was isolated in a culture that lives according to laws and practices of eighteenth-century Eastern Europe and shuns most aspects of modern life. Stein was the first-born son in a dynastic rabbinical family – a direct descendant of the Baal Shem Tov – who was destined to become a leader of her Hasidic sect. Instead, she embarked on a courageous journey of self-affirmation, acknowledging to herself and to her family that she was born in the form of a male – with the mind, heart, soul, and body of a female.

To help us plan for our book reviews and to receive communications about future book reviews, we ask that you kindly **RSVP by Wednesday, July 7**, by contacting the Sisterhood at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Sisterhood Conducts Installation

Sisterhood installed its 2021-2022 officers and board members on Wednesday, May 19, via Zoom. The lovely installation service was led by Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pam Silk and Rabbi Josh Fixler. Cantor Rollin Simmons opened and closed the service with beautiful musical selections.

Sisterhood will be busy this summer gearing up for exciting, quality programs for the coming year. Whether we meet in person or via Zoom, Sisterhood will continue to support the congregation and the community through its many activities.

Sisterhood membership information was mailed recently to all women members of Congregation Emanu El. Please show your support of our congregation and Sisterhood by mailing your membership payment to the Sisterhood office or joining online.

Sisterhood's opening program will take place on Wednesday, August 25. We hope you'll join us then! Details will be announced closer to the event.

Sisterhood Holds Sidewalk Sale

In conjunction with the Helfman Religious School closing day activities, the Sisterhood held a 'Sidewalk Sale' for its New Traditions gift shop. Pictured are volunteers Claire Brooks and Judi Levy.





Helfman Religious School

Helfman Religious School Enrollment Remains Underway; Intention to Return to On-Campus Learning for Most Programs in 2021-22

If this year has taught us anything it is that nothing is certain; however, our intent is to return to on-campus learning for most of our programs in the 2021-2022 school year. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Enrollment will take place online using Emanu El's online portal.

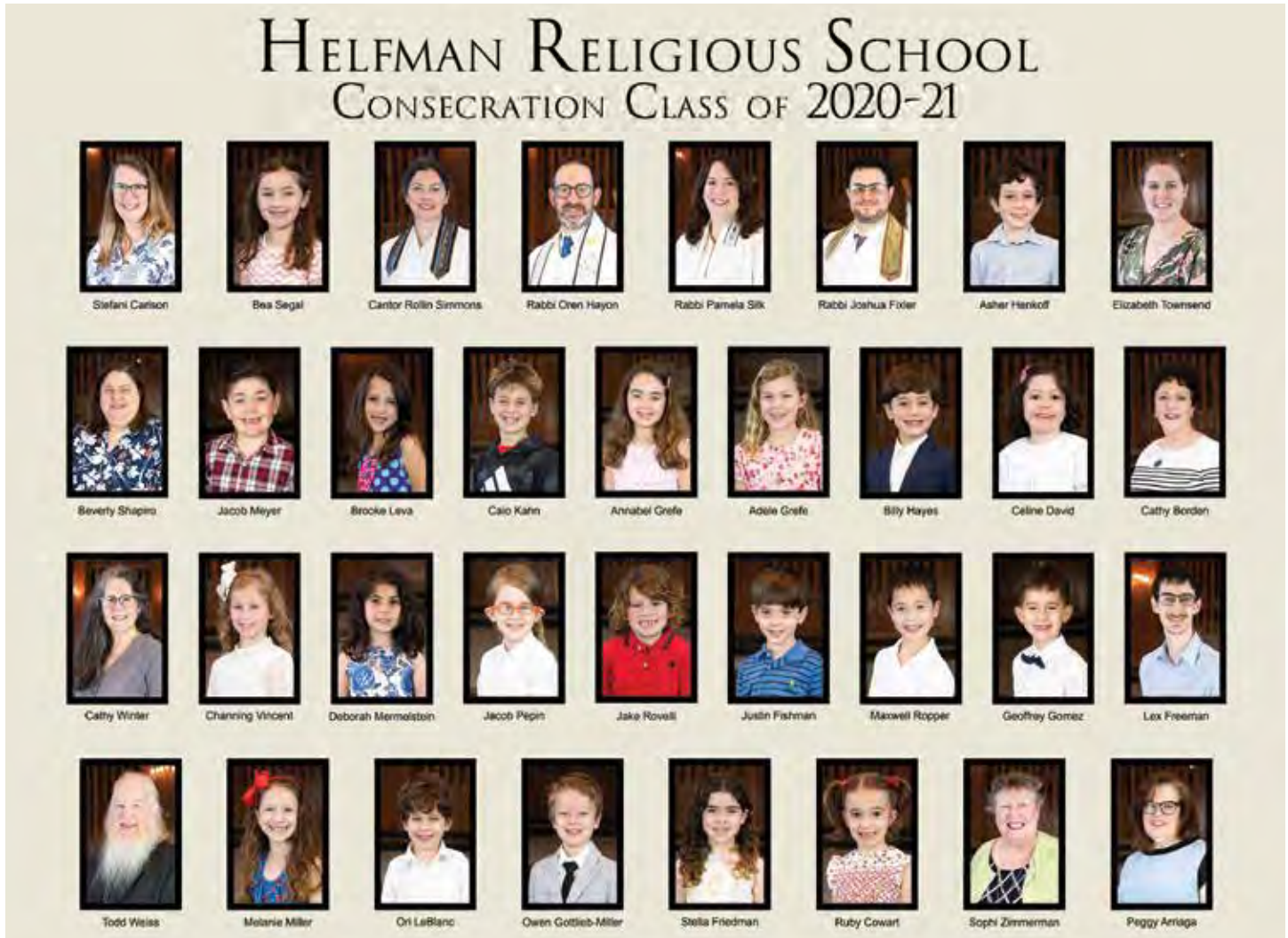
1. Visit emanuelhouston.org and log into your account (log-in is in the top right-hand corner of the page). Click MY ENROLLMENT.

2. Fill out all of the required information.
3. Payment of the \$100/child non-refundable registration fee is necessary to confirm your enrollment.
4. For your enrollment to be confirmed, your Temple account must be in good standing.
5. We will confirm enrollment(s) once the forms are complete, the registration fee is paid, and your Temple account has been reviewed. The balance of the tuition will then be added to your account, and is **due by Tuesday, August 31.**

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth at 713-535-6400 or ElizabethT@emanuelhouston.org.

2020 Consecration Class

Our 2020 Consecration class was recognized during a service held on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Not pictured in the photo is Ada Dickerman.



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The Unexpected Gifts of Sunday Morning Music on Zoom

Once we realized that Sunday School would be on Zoom all year long, we set out as a team to run a thirty-minute worship experience for our Pre-K-3rd grade students and to create a meaningful youth choir experience, all on Zoom. I want to share with you the unexpected gifts this year brought to our community and to me personally, as the cantor here at Emanu El.

In the pre-Covid times, I was assigned a high school student as my teaching assistant (TA) to help lead our morning t'filah (worship experience) and also to help with my youth choir sessions. I always wished I had more for these students to do. During our in-person t'filah, they would stand up in front and sing along with me. When we would meet in person for youth choir, my TAs would hand out the song sheets, sing along with the kids and help clean up when we were done. I hoped that their enthusiasm would be an inspiring example for the younger kids, but I found it challenging to coach them on their leadership skills, since I never had any time with them in a smaller group.

This year, I was given a gift. I was able to meet with my three TAs (Maya Credeur, Noah Friesen and Amanda Frankfort) for thirty minutes every Sunday, and this changed everything for the better! During this time, we would plan our t'filah for the following week, learn new repertoire, talk about leadership skills, debrief past t'filah and choir sessions, and also just get to know each other. Since we were not able to sing together for t'filah, I assigned solo parts to each TA. Each of their sweet voices rang out as we led the prayers for the pre-K-3rd graders. We took turns chanting the blessings for the miracles of the morning. We rapped as we warmed up for the Bar'chu. During our small group session, we talked about the strange phenomenon of having to watch yourself lead on Zoom – this encouraged the students to think

about how they were showing their enthusiasm on their faces. They talked about feeling excited to be there but then noticing on their own faces that they looked bored. Over the year, they worked on being more outwardly expressive. I was so impressed with their self-awareness and their willingness to be vulnerable.

The Music TAs also took on teaching new music to the youth choir. I presented them with choices of repertoire and they each picked a song that spoke to them. They proceeded to learn the song with recordings I sent home and made a plan to teach it. After they teach, we debriefed how it went, what went well, what could have been better, and what they might add when they reviewed the song the following week. It was an awesome experience to watch them take the reins and become teachers themselves.

Within the youth choir of 3rd-7th graders, I also witnessed blossoming leadership. Since we were not able to sing together in a way we could hear each other, I often led the music with everyone on mute. However, as time passed, I realized it might be fun to share the spotlight, and I asked for volunteers to take solos here and there. The students who wanted a solo would write their names in the chat, and we would switch off who sang the chorus or the verses. I was able to hear students' voices alone in a way I never had before when we met in person. I left every Sunday morning with a smile on my face.

We had our last youth choir session of the year on May 9, and I will certainly miss hearing those voices over the summer. I feel so grateful that this strange year surprised me with new opportunities for growth in our music program, which will influence our plans for next year as well. The future songleaders of Reform Judaism are here in Houston and they are an inspiration. I cannot wait to see what the future holds.

– Cantor Rollin Simmons



continued next page

Helfman Religious School Teacher Sophi Zimmerman Named Samuels Outstanding Teacher Award Winner



Sophi Zimmerman has been named as the 2021 Congregational School recipient of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Awards for Judaic Studies. The Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Awards for Judaic Studies are presented annually to two outstanding Jewish educators in the Greater Houston area whose current primary role is classroom

teaching in Judaic subject matter. This award comes with a gift from the Federation, \$1500 to use towards a Jewish educational experience of her choice and an additional \$300 to purchase educational materials for her classroom.

The Helfman Religious School of Congregation Emanu El will receive an engraved plaque to hang in the school to recognize this honor and Sophi's name also will be engraved on a perpetual plaque housed at the Jewish Federation. Sophi is sharing this honor with Gabi Gelman of the Robert M. Beren Academy, who is being recognized as the Outstanding Day School educator. These awards are made possible by proceeds from the Irving L. Samuels Outstanding Teacher Award Fund of the Houston Jewish Community Foundation established by the Samuels Family.

Irving L. Samuels z'l was a respected Jewish educator who taught at Congregation Emanu El for 21 years. His high standard of professionalism, vision and dedication to excellence in Jewish education, commitment to Jewish life and values, sense of warmth and sensitivity, and high expectations for his students make him the ideal role model for local teachers to aspire to emulate.

Prior recipients include: Blanche Abramovitz z'l, Diane Adler, Fran C. Brochstein, Rabbi Todd Doctor, Cantor Diane Dorf, Michael Duke, Eileen Elfezouaty, Rina Erlichman, Rivka Fishman, Vered Gadot, Ilana Giveon, Elisa Goldstein, Ellen Heffler, Hana Karny, Carrie Keith, Rabbi Eliezer Kessler, Carol Levin z'l, Laurie Levy, Elaine Lupovitch, Judy Maislos, Judy Ney, Rhoda Nichaman, Rabbi Dov Nimchinsky, Royee Phillips, Harris Pikus z'l, Mindeleah Pollak, Richard Preble, Pat Rose, Sharon Rosenthal, Charlotte Roth, Dr. Irving Rothman z'l, Alan Rusonik, Esther Saghian, Marsha Schneider z'l, Fiona Schicker, Dolph Simon, Judy Stein, Devora Urkowitz z'l, Todd Weiss, Fraydee Wender, David Wizig, Debbie Wizig, and Hava Wolf.

Sophi will be honored at the Jewish Federation's Community Leadership Awards program on **June 17 at 7:30 pm** – registration information will be coming soon.

Judy Stein Honored for 50 Years of Teaching at Emanu El

At Leadership Shabbat in May, Emanu El honored Judy Stein for 50 years of teaching in our Emanu El schools. Stein (right) is pictured with Stefani Carlson, our Director of Congregational Learning after the service. To see video of the recognition, please visit our congregation's YouTube channel.



Helfman Celebrates End of Year with Picnic, Festivities

The last day of the Helfman Religious School year included a picnic, games and more! Our Religious School team had to just to adjust due to the weather, but the joy of being together as a community more than made up for it.





ENDOWMENT FUND SERIES

The Connected Congregation: Livestreaming, Zoom and Multiple Points of Access

One of the strengths of our 76-year-old congregation is the way it strives to stay connected to its members and offer 24/7 spiritual support. This focus has never been tested more than over the last year and now, when the COVID pandemic forced the temple to pivot into the enormous digital world to maintain member communication. In addition to the Emanu El Bulletin and the dynamic temple website, the congregation's staff, lay leaders and a team of unsung heroes have enabled most of us who are looking for Emanu El connections to find them.

When Jeri Amundsen was inducted as President of the Emanu El Board of Trustees in May 2020, she could never have imagined how her world would turn on its head. "As soon as we were locked down, everyone at Emanu El was thrown into the deep end, not knowing how to react, in a crisis and survival mode," she recalls. "I only had one in-person Board meeting before we went directly into a Zoom livestream box from that point forward. Emanu El became a kind of cruise ship, moving slowly and carefully, but having to make big decisions on a rapid-fire basis. It has taken us many months to look ahead, discuss and plan any non-pandemic-related topics and activities," she adds.

Executive Director David Lamden reflects and remembers how our congregation was well-positioned for dealing with other (i.e., hurricane) emergencies. "Emanu El has been a leader in thinking ahead of the curve, during a time when absolutely nothing has been predictable or certain," he explains. "In this case, we used money from our Endowment and temple funds to extend our reach through the purchase of three high-definition cameras and two large projection screens, which have enabled us to bring our clergy, B'nai Mitzvah students and myriad classes, presentations and musical performances to the comfort of our members' homes. The Temple's Endowment Funds have contributed significantly to helping us provide multiple points of access, and function without the debt and concerns confronted by other congregations. Moving forward, those of us on the front lines foresee the use of robust technology continuing to drive our worship and member engagement experiences. Although, to be honest, we would welcome the return of a world without limitations and protocols in a heartbeat," he concludes.

Program Director Jason Plotkin concurs. "People

connected to Emanu El who are not in town are now able to participate in services, classes and life-cycle events. Today, through continual innovation and experimentation, we can put the words of the prayerbook on-screen, share High Holy Day services on public access television and livestream funeral services from Emanu El Memorial Park. We have worked hard to find the right technology to provide the right experience, and are proud to have set the bar in many areas among our Reform congregational colleagues," he proclaims.

"The COVID pandemic has given us the opportunity to try things we wouldn't have tried, to reach out and connect," continues David. "We had to employ new thinking and be open to innovation to learn what works best. Ultimately, as our capabilities have evolved, we now offer no barriers to our spiritual community and its programs - a remarkable testament to a multi-access communication approach."

"We are so proud that our parents started the Max & Bertha Pasternak Publication Fund in memory of our grandparents. Thanks to the Fund, Emanu El has been able to publish and print creative worship materials: Better to be Better, A New Beginning, A Time to Pray, and A Confession for our Time. To stay current and relevant, the Fund's newest purpose will include digital media. We are thrilled to participate in these new endeavors."

JAN PASTERNAK

"This has been an extraordinary time, full of extraordinary accomplishments," proclaims Jeri Amundsen. "Beginning with Hurricane Harvey to the present day, our clergy and staff have stepped up in remarkable ways on behalf of our congregation. Moving forward, our leadership can no longer imagine member engagement without technology playing a major role. Although it will never replace the in-person experience, it has allowed us to do the work of the Board, our committees, our worship and more. With the help of our Endowment and special relief funds, we have been given the good fortune to make this happen. Members of Emanu El are more than lucky. We are blessed."

continued next page

Guidance from our past, growth for our future

Behind the Cameras: Emanu El's Spot-on Technology Team

In the spring of 2020, congregant and video production consultant David Tanner was considering retirement, and spending more time with his grandchildren. "Some years ago, Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss and Rabbi Roy Walter asked me to help behind the scenes to bring Emanu El services and programs online. In 2019, we were well on our way, with a simple, but effective live-streaming effort," he explains. "One week into the COVID pandemic, Rabbi Fixler and David Lamden explained that all services and activities were going onto Zoom, and I was brought back to guide the unanticipated 'short term' transition. Although Nathan Malek and I had been audio and live-streaming services for several years, we had no idea what was about to hit us."

For Emanu El's behind-the-scenes audio-video team, the changes, modifications, and "act like you know what you're doing" challenges were ongoing. The learning curve was ever-present and steep. Some highlights of David's eye-popping 2020-21 calendar include:

- Using PowerPoint online, adding slides to Zoom presentations, and learning new live-streaming software.
- Integrating separate podiums, plexiglass protection, a production computer and three (vs. one) cameras for live video, in the sanctuary.
- Adding Troy Valtierra, from Houston Community College, to help staff the expanding audio-video schedule.
- Integrating live captioning on a second website, as well as a teleprompter, so rabbis can speak directly to the camera without looking at notes.
- Learning two-camera editing and split-screen technology for simultaneous chanting and Torah-reading.
- Producing pre-recorded concerts, fundraisers, programs and services for real-time and on-demand viewing, during the year and holidays.
- Planning and coordinating the live broadcast of Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre services on Houston's cable access television channel.
- Live-streaming B'nai Mitzvah, weddings, baby namings and funerals; now all a regular part of the weekly audio-video schedule.

Whew. A huge undertaking – but all for the benefit of our congregation.

"Our goal has always been to make our temple's programming more accessible, maintain member connection and make everyone comfortable while we are doing it," explains David. "Knowing how many people were watching us online was daunting, and we learned that what we were doing mattered. We now know that hybrid services – both in-person, and live, on-line production – will likely be the new norm. It will never be the same-old, same-old, moving forward."

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Big Screen Televisions Installed in Sanctuary to Enhance Worship, Programmatic Experience

As part of Emanu El's efforts to enhance the technology in our primary worship and programmatic spaces, a pair of 86' televisions have been installed for the time being in our Barish Sanctuary. These screens made their debut during Helfman Religious School graduation in late April as a way to broadcast the reflections of our graduates to those who were attending in-person in the Sanctuary. A similar video was shown over the video stream for the evening.

"Emanu El has always offered multiple communications options to interact with our congregants. But the COVID pandemic challenged us to think outside the box to create simple, new access to the most meaningful spiritual experience possible. The integration of different platforms to engage our members has been nothing short of amazing and impressive. And thanks to the Wilkenfeld Fund, the Pasternak Fund, The Temple Fund and our COVID Relief Fund, we have been able to meet and exceed the needs of our new interactive reality."

RABBI OREN HAYON

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David Tanner (left) works with Troy Valtierra (right) at the audio desk. The audio desk operation ensures the quality of audio going out both in the Barish Sanctuary and to our viewers watching on the website, Facebook, YouTube and Roku is suitable.

“The Endowment Fund plays an important role in funding the wide variety of activities of the temple. I take great pride in having established the Dolores & Buddy Wilkenfeld Communications Fund, which supports our mission to have open communication and helps underwrite special events.”

DOLORES WILKENFELD



Nathan Malek operates the OBS – Open Broadcast Software – that serves as our in-house production studio. This software makes the operator a “technical director” who can choose which cameras are seen, make the prayers available to the viewer and more.

Funds that support congregational communication include:

Temple/General Endowment Fund – offsetting the cost of video cameras and livestream technology, and capital enhancements to create an accessible space for worship and study during the isolation of COVID

Dolores & Buddy Wilkenfeld Communication Fund – for any communications with members, written and virtual

Max & Bertha Pasternak Publication Fund – underwriting the publication of our *Bulletin*, special holiday mailers and electronic communications with members in Houston and around the world. Also, for creative/unique liturgy for High Holidays and prayer



Be a Part of It

On any financial level, we all have the capacity to impact the future. For additional information on giving to these funds or to establish an Endowment Fund, please contact David Lamden at DavidL@emanuelhouston.org, or scan the QR code with your cell phone camera.



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through May 13, 2021.

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

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

In Appreciation of

Jason Plotkin

fredi & Paul Franks

In Honor of

Stuart Gaylor's Birthday

Gary W. Stein

ALAN GAYLOR TEACHER ASSISTANT FUND

To support Helfman Religious School teacher assistants

In Honor of

Cheri Grogin's Birthday

Joni & Gary Lewis & Lillian Gaylor

AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

To support small & emerging organizations that improve life for underserved Houstonians

In Honor of

Sylvia Farb's Birthday

Dorothy & Albert Krafcheck

Patricia & Mark Rauch

Rabbi Oren Hayon receiving

T'ruah's "Rabbinic Human Rights Hero Award"

Raymond Kalmans – ERJCC The David H.

White Memorial Award

Judy Stein – For 50 years of services to Emanu El schools

Carol Adatto Nelson & Eric Nelson

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Shelly Cyprus

BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMBERSHIP FUND

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

In Honor of

Sylvia Solomon

Michaele & Michael Brown

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To enhance the Becker School

In Honor of

Janet & Elton Lipnick's Wedding Anniversary

Linda & Joseph Pulaski

In Memory of

Sandy Ginsburg

Linda & Joseph Pulaski

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide scholarships to the Becker School

In Honor of

Judy Stein – For 50 years of services to Emanu El schools

Jean E Rosenbaum

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Stephanie & Todd Slobin

Kathryn Smolensky

Barbara Loeser

Trina Underwood

fredi Bleeker Franks

BILL & JOAN SPITZ PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP FUND

To strengthen the vision of Congregation Emanu El's leaders

In Memory of

William "Bill" Spitz

Marilynne & Alford Bleeker

CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

To beautify Emanu El Memorial Park

In Memory of

Charles Hibbler

Jackie Hibbler

CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS FUND

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

In Appreciation of

Classics Havdalah Service

fredi & Paul Franks

In Honor of

Rabbi Oren Hayon & Rabbi Joshua Fixler

Lindsey & Matthew Putterman

Rabbi Oren Hayon receiving T'ruah's "Rabbinic Human Rights Hero Award"

Sandy & Sam Block

Sylvia Farb

Family of Carol

Wasserstein

Garey Marks' Birthday

Fran D. Friedman

Rabbi Pamela Silk

Lori & Marc Gorewitz

Molly Silberman's Baby

Naming & Birthday

Sam, Rebecca, Charlie & Molly Silberman

In Memory of

Sybil Balasco

Sandy & Michael Wexler

Andra Winkelman Barr

Sandy & Richard

Brochstein

Caren & David Cowan

Lindy & Sam Dorn

Betty Duson & Al Kahn

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Rose Marie & Ron Wagman
Linda & Richard Zoll

Nevin Brown

Sherry, Keith, Debbie, Shepard & Beckie Harris

Mark Levey

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

David Seligman

Carol & Barry Goodfriend
Rozanne & Howard Rubin

COVID RELIEF FUND

To help the congregation navigate the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic

A Donation

Carol Laufer & Leo Boucher

Joan Morgenstern

EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND

To provide programs for the Emanu Elders

In Memory of

David Seligman

Mallory Robinson

EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND

To feed the hungry of Houston

In Appreciation of

Kate Fox Slater & Don Robins
fredi & Paul Franks

In Honor of

Claire & Dick Brooks

Wedding Anniversary

Susie & David Askanase

Carol Goodfriend's

Birthday

Punkin & Walter Hecht

The Speedy Recovery of

Sam Jacobson

Sara Astrich

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Sonia & Peter Benjamin

Kathy Eichenblatt

Paulette & Mel Levine

Bernard Farfel

Herbert Lesser

Linda Lesser

Michael Loeb

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Salomon Schein

Cecil & Eddie Wayne –
designated for Kids' Meals

Helaine Wayne Lane &

David Lane

Bobby Wayne

Tanja & Ed Wayne, Jr.

FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND

To send Emanu El leadership to URJ Biennials & underwrite leadership programs & speakers

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Mark Levey

Myra Lipper

FREDELL LACK EICHHORN CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

To enhance musical programming

In Memory of

Michael Loeb

Paula Stafford

Bree Novy Pugh

Anonymous

Valerie Novy Pugh

Linda & Richard Zoll

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND

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

In Memory of

David Applebaum

Marcia Forbes

Andra Winkelman Barr

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Jennifer & David Lamden

Kathy & Garey Marks

William "Billy" Schultz

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

GREENE FAMILY CAMP FUND

To support Greene Family Camp

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Hollis & Ronald Medwick

JASON & DAVID MARCUS PLAYSPACE FUND

To maintain & enhance the playground

In Honor of

Ruby Lee Sondock's
Birthday

Lila Rauch

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Mark Levey

David Seligman

Ruby Sondock

JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

To enhance Helfman Religious School programs

In Honor of

Judy Stein – For 50 years
of services to Emanu El
schools

Kathy & Garey Marks

In Memory of

David Seligman

Marilyn Caplovitz

Renee & Brent Silber

JULIUS & HARRIET ZINN FUND

To provide & enhance congregational programming

In Memory of

William "Billy" Schultz

Gloria & Larry Brenner

LILLIAN PASTERNAK MITZVAH FUND

To support mitzvah

projects that improve life for Houstonians

In Memory of

Joyce Cohan

Rose Sandler

PHILIP G. LUSKY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Helfman Religious School scholarships

In Honor of

Judy Stein – For 50 years
of services to Emanu El
schools

Linda & Marvin Stein

PRAYER BOOK FUND

To provide prayer books

for worship

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Bitsy Proler

RABBI ROY & LINDA WALTER ENRICHMENT FUND

To support spiritual & cultural enrichment

In Honor of

Raymond Kalmans –
ERJCC The David H.

White Memorial Award

fredi & Paul Franks

Rabbi Roy Walter

Eva Loeb & Family

In Memory of

Sybil Balasco

Judith & Keith Josephson

Andra Winkelman Barr

Lauren & Alan Gordon

Jack Jacobs

Jackie Hibbler

Michael Loeb

Judy & Richard Stein

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide scholarships for

Helfman Religious School

In Honor of

Judy Stein – For 50 years
of services to Emanu El
schools

Sara Astrich

Joanie Murland

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Kathy & Stephen Parven

Jack Samuel Helfman

Elaine Helfman

RICKY SCHNURR CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of
Rayna Laufman

The Speedy Recovery of
Trudy Kwartler

Gladys Schnurr

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

David Seligman

Gladys Schnurr

Marvin Speer

Mark, Janice & Jacob Speer

ROBERT I. KAHN GALLERY FUND

To maintain & enhance the

Robert I. Kahn Art Gallery

A Donation

Joan Morgenstern

In Memory of

David Amdur

Susan & Ed Septimus

Andra Winkelman Barr

Sandy & Richard Jackson

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

Michael Loeb

Betty Duson & Al Kahn

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

*To enhance preschool
education*

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Marilyn L Corn

Phyllis Turkel

Bernard "Bernie" Berman

Joyce Cohan

Diane Gaitz Dante

Michael Loeb

Leonard Tatar

Phyllis Turkel

SHIRLEY & MARVIN

BARISH TEACHER

ENRICHMENT FUND

*To provide training programs
for Emanu El teachers*

In Honor of

Orit Levy

The Silk Family

SHIRLEY BARISH

MEMORIAL ISRAEL

EXPERIENCE FUND

*To send Helfman Religious
School High School*

students to Israel

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Marlene A Rubin

**SISTERHOOD FLOWER
FUND**

*To provide flowers for
Emanu El's worship spaces*

In Honor of

**Judy Stein – For 50 years
of services to Emanu El
schools**

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

In Memory of

Nevin Brown

Claire & Dick Brooks

Bernard Farfel

The Family of Bernard
Farfel

SISTERHOOD FUND

*To enhance Sisterhood
programming*

In Honor of

Claire & Dick Brooks

Wedding Anniversary

Shelly Cyprus

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Renee & Alan Helfman

**SUSMAN FUND FOR
FAMILY PROGRAMMING**

*To support programs for
families*

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Diana Brackman &
Allen Becker

Ralph Levey

Lila Rauch

Mark Levey

Paula & Irving Pozmantier

Rozanne & Howard Rubin

Claudia & Joel Selzer

**SYBIL & RALPH BALASCO
FUND**

*For the benefit of the
congregation, as best*

determined by the

Endowment Fund

Committee

In Memory of

Sybil Balasco

Joan & Stanford

Alexander

Nancy & Scott Atlas

Shay & John Butterfras

Debbie Lippert

Regina Rogers

Joseph W. Royce

TEMPLE FUND

*To support the needs of
the temple & to fulfill the*

mission of Congregation

Emanu El

In Honor of

Rabbi Oren Hayon

receiving T'ruah's

"Rabbinic Human Rights

Hero Award"

Barbara & Raymond

Kalmans

**Judy Stein – For 50 years
of services to Emanu El
schools**

Sandy & Don Harris

Shel Vedlitz

Patricia & Andrew Kant

**The Speedy Recovery of
David Danburg**

Beadie Lewis

Barbara & Raymond

Kalmans

Diane Tudzin

Gloria & Ben Tobor

In Memory of

Andra Winkelman Barr

Barbara & Raymond

Kalmans

Linda & Paul Lynn

Donna & Philip

Tenenbaum

Rachael Tobor & Valerie

Turner

Michael Loeb

Barbara & Raymond

Kalmans

Judith Krull

Linda & Paul Lynn

Larry Riklin

Linda & Paul Lynn

David Seligman

Barbara & Raymond

Kalmans

Mark & Hy Warshaw

Shirley Warshaw

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.

Marissa Astrich & James Meador

Emily & Michael Hammer

Sandy Lorch & Stephanie Yurchyk

Adina Owen, children Willoughby, Herschel & Jocelyn

Mollie & Eugene Tunitsky, children Max & Lillian

Sandra Zalman, children Natalie & Samuel

Anna & David Zelitt, sons Greg & 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 Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.



Becker Parents Share Appreciation with Teachers and Staff

Thanks to our Becker Appreciation Luncheon Committee for recently throwing an appreciation luncheon for our Becker teachers and staff, as well as our Congregation Emanu El facilities & security team. The gesture was greatly appreciated!

Lighting the Lights of Shabbat

We have enjoyed seeing the photos sent to our Helfman Religious School staff from the various projects done throughout the school year. A recent project featured decorate-your-own Shabbat candles. Pictured is Evan Yoburn with her beautiful candles.

The purpose of this project was learning about the Jewish value of “Kehillah – community” and how the celebration of Shabbat connects us with our Jewish community. Just like each decorated candle light, we are all individuals and contribute our own light to the Jewish community.



Senior Staff Meetings Return to In-Person

Congregants are not the only members of the Emanu El family gathering in-person for the “first time”. In April, the Emanu El senior staff team met in-person for the first time in 13 months. The team’s weekly meetings were held on Zoom before resuming in recent weeks.

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- Strengthen and stretch our muscles
- Improve coordination and fine motor skills

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grat-i-tude

/gradə,t(y)ōōd/ 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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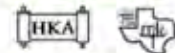
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EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG

SAVE THE DATE:

6th Annual Night at the Ballpark
Tuesday, August 10, 7:10 p.m.



Congregation Emanu El is excited to announce its sixth annual Night at the Ballpark! Following a one-year hiatus, come join your Emanu El family at Minute Maid Park as the Houston Astros welcome the Colorado Rockies to town. The cost of tickets are \$20 and are located in the Chevy Mezzanine section of Minute Maid Park (section 254 & 255). Due to limitations on the amount of

tickets available in the Emanu El section, this event is open to Emanu El members only and based on prior year participation is anticipated to sell out. Reserve your spot at emanuelhouston.org. For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at 713.535.6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.



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