



Congregation Emanu El

Bulletin

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Please note that due to print deadlines and the constantly changing environment, that information in this edition of the *Bulletin* may not reflect the current status of events and worship. If you have any questions about the status of a happening at our synagogue, please visit our website at emanuelhouston.org, or contact us directly at 713.529.5771. Updates will also be shared in email communications. If you are not receiving emails from the synagogue, please call us and we will assist you.

December 2, 2021 | 28 Kislev 5782

VOLUME 76 NUMBER 3

FROM RABBI HAYON



Jewish life has always been enriched by our immersion in the larger patterns of culture in which we live.

Several years ago, the online blog of *Bon Appetit* magazine produced a special article written to highlight the special foods and customs of Chanukah. As part of the article, the authors presented a number of variations on the traditional foods of the holiday, as a way of putting an innovative, modern spin on some familiar recipes.

The blog post triggered an enormous response from *Bon Appetit's* online readership: hundreds of people posted on social media to share their feelings about the article and its list of updated Chanukah recipes. What triggered such a dramatic outpouring of replies? The inclusion of one recipe in particular: Latkes topped with caramelized onion, sour cream, and crispy bacon.

Many of those who wrote in to respond to the recipe were outraged. Even if one doesn't observe Jewish dietary laws, they reasoned, it was insulting for *Bon Appetit* to propose a recipe for Chanukah which blatantly contaminates a traditional Jewish food by pairing it with a pork product. Other readers objected to the entire premise of the article, suggesting that the point of traditional holiday

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Jewish/Muslim Christmas: Creating Sacred Allyships

Friday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. (followed by 6:00 p.m. service)

Congregation Emanu El is excited to partner with several Jewish and Muslim institutions and organizations throughout the Houston community for the 12th annual Jewish/Muslim Christmas.

With Christmas Eve falling on Shabbat this year, each of the partner synagogues will host it's own simultaneous gathering starting one hour before their respective evening worship is to begin.

The theme of this year's program is *sacred allyship*.

The term was used by Rabbi Rick Jacobs of the Union for Reform Judaism during an interfaith rally in New York City following a series of hate-filled incidents in the community. The term

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Emanu El Synagogue Offices Closed During Final Week of 2021

It is no secret that our Temple staff has worked extremely hard under unprecedented circumstances this year. In recognition of their amazing contributions this year, our congregational leadership has decided to close the Temple offices for during a typically quiet week between two national holidays, in order to provide some much-needed respite and renewal to the staff.

Our offices will be closed from **Monday, December 27 through Friday, December 31**. During this time, our staff will not be checking email or voicemail. As always, in case of administrative or pastoral emergency, please call the synagogue office at 713.529.5771 and follow the prompts.

Shabbat services will be available both in-person and online on **Friday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Proler Chapel. Our in-person Shabbat morning service will occur on **Saturday, January 1 at 10:30 a.m.**, also in the Proler Chapel.

Thank you for your understanding and your support of our amazing Temple staff team!

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

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

Shabbat Mikeitz **Friday, December 3**

6:00 p.m., Chanukah Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall
7:00 p.m., Chanukah Shabbat, Barish Sanctuary

Saturday, December 4

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

Shabbat Viyigash **Friday, December 10**

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

Saturday, December 11

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Quinn Fischer**, child of Sarah Fischer & Gregg Kalba and **Eden Sussman**, daughter of Kelly Nealon & John Sussman

Shabbat Va-y'chi

Friday, December 17

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

Heritage Shabbat

Saturday, December 18

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bar Mizvah of **Simon Zamberk**, son of Denise & Andres Zamberk

Shabbat Sh'mot **Friday, December 24**

5:00 p.m., Jewish/Muslim Christmas, Oshman Multi-Purpose Room
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, December 25

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

Shabbat Va-eira **Friday, December 31**

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

Saturday, January 1

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

Shabbat Bo

Friday, January 7

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

Saturday, January 8

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah of **Ava Silk**, daughter of Rabbi Pam & Jeff Silk

Shabbat B'shalach

Friday, January 14

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Barish Sanctuary
Shabbat Shirah: A Sabbath of Song Celebrating Barbara Loeser

Saturday, January 15

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

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

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

foods is that they are best enjoyed in their purest, most normative form, without the addition of unusual ingredients like the ones that *Bon Appetit* proposed adding to latkes – including mango chutney, orange marmalade, and wasabi roe. A third group of respondents argued that this editorial decision was upsetting specifically because it focused on foods for Chanukah: the Jewish holiday which specifically commemorates our ancestors' refusal to assimilate to the dominant culture around them.

As for me, I'm not so sure. On one hand, I too felt shaken by the photo of a delicious latke topped with bacon strips. Given the amazing diversity of traditional Jewish food from all around the world, throughout all the centuries of Jewish existence, couldn't *Bon Appetit* have come up with some other innovative twists to update the holiday tables of its readers who observe Jewish dietary restrictions?

On the other hand, however, Jewish life has always been enriched by our immersion in the larger patterns of culture in which we live. Our music, clothing, art, and food have always been influenced – in many beautiful and inspiring ways – from the neighbors we've lived alongside in countless nations throughout the years. Even Chanukah, which does indeed memorialize the heroic Maccabees' resistance to Greek culture and paganism, has benefited from regional patterns of culture and aesthetics throughout the Jewish world.

At times, the Maccabees have been held up as heroes of piety and strength; at others, they have been idealized as proto-Zionists fighting for their autonomy and self-determination; and today, in predominantly Christian America, Chanukah has helped transform the month of December into a time when Jews join with our Christian neighbors to express our gratitude for the universal gifts of family, hope and faith.

In any case, this month I will be wishing you a very happy Chanukah and praying for peace and joy to you and your loved ones – regardless of the choice of toppings you enjoy on your latkes!

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

BIRTHS

Iliya Benjamin Irby, son of Elnaz & Robert Irby; grandson of Cathy & Buster Irby

Zander Coda Robinson, son of Deborah Robinson; grandson of Robert Robinson; great-grandson of Janice & Michael Curry

Mazie Rae Sumrow, daughter of Stacey & Steven Sumrow; granddaughter of Kathy & Stephen Parven, Dolly & Steve Sumrow; great-granddaughter of Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

WEDDING

Marlene Montelongo & Jake Robinson

Ellen Anna Shmunis & Jacob Kaplan Christie

Aaron Walter & Michael Kinsley

DEATHS

Irene Schlesinger Berg, mother of Debra & Alan Berg, Steven Berg, Roxanne & Steve Whitaker; grandmother of Lisa & Jeffrey Stanton, Dana Berg, Bobby Berg, Andrew Berg, Ali & Amanda Holst, Amanda & Jason Whitaker; great-grandmother of Max and Maya Stanton

Jerome Fram, brother of Tobye & Mort Joachim, Betty Weiner; brother-in-law of Marilyn Fram

Charlotte Frucht, mother of Paula Stafford, Sandi Bodzin Jordan & Fred Jordan, Theresa & Alan Frucht; grandmother of Annie & Trey Stafford, Erin & Nate Karlin, Lulu & David Bodzin, Neil Frucht, Morgan Frucht; great-grandmother of Jacob, Beau, Micah, Oliver, Giana; Bette Ann & Jerry Geren

Georgeann Goldenberg, mother of Stefani & Steve Carlson, Melinda & Kyle Shumard; grandmother of Mallory & Alex Carlson, Evan Carlson; great-grandmother of Annie Rachel Carlson

Daniel Kirshbaum, husband of Glenda Kirshbaum; father of Lauren & Ben Kass, Christi & Geoffrey Kirshbaum, David Kirshbaum; grandfather of Chloe Kirshbaum, Henry, Josh, Hazel and Zev Kass

Annette Schwartz, mother of Susan Hertz, Bonni & Michael Schwartz, Donna & Kenny Baum, Lori & David Schwartz; grandmother of Scott Hertz, Jennifer & Brian Hertz, Abril & Jeremy Schwartz, Melody Schwartz, Rachel & Andy Baum, Lauren & Max Gad, Stephanie & Steven Schiff, Jeffrey Schwartz & Carver Karaszewski; great-grandmother of Isaac, Avram, Maya, Eden, Ari, Barrett, Nomi; sister of Joe Sterman, Irving Sterman

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.

JEWISH/MUSLIM CHRISTMAS: CREATING SACRED ALLYSHIPS

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is meant to encourage people of all faiths to continue to show up for each other in times of danger and vulnerability.

At each venue, light bites will be served prior to small group opportunities which will be facilitated by members of the community. The group will have a chance to learn about each other before engaging in conversation about ways we can be an ally and how we can commit to a sacred allyship going forward.

Following the program, all participants are invited to join in Shabbat worship.

At Emanu El, the **worship will begin at 6:00 p.m.** and include a sermon by Rabbi Oren Hayon titled "*Lights in the Darkness.*" At the conclusion of service, members of the

Muslim community from River Oaks Islamic Center will be able to conduct their evening prayers.

We ask those planning to attend in person for the 5:00 p.m. portion of the program to please RSVP online at emanuelhouston.org or by calling 713.529.5771. No RSVP is needed for the Shabbat worship.

For those unable to attend the Shabbat service at Emanu El, the service will be streamed on the congregation's website, Facebook, YouTube or Roku channel.

The Jewish/Muslim Christmas is spearheaded through the combined efforts Emanu El, Beth Israel, HCRJ, the River Oaks Islamic Center and the Minaret Foundation. Rabbi Steve Gross of HCRJ has been instrumental in the development of the program over the years, which has included Emanu El for the last four editions.

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

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

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

Emanu El's Chanukah Celebration (hybrid) Friday, December 3, Dinner 6:00 p.m., Service 7:00 p.m.

Emanu El looks forward to welcoming the congregation and the community to our annual Chanukah Shabbat.

Join us for an optional **dinner at 6:00 p.m.** featuring brisket, chicken, latkes, challah rolls, and vegetables. Gluten-free and vegetarian options will also be available.

The cost is \$6 for member children and \$12 for member adults. The non-member cost is \$8 for children and \$15 for adults.

The **service will begin at 7:00 p.m.**, and we are calling on our congregants to help light up the Barish Sanctuary with their Chanukiah's all around the room. Please bring your menorah(s) and candles. We'll provide the matches.

At the conclusion of the service, we'll enjoy Chanukah cookies and gelt.

For those unable to attend in-person, the Chanukah service will be streamed in a similar nature to our Friday night worship. The service will be available on our web-

site (Barish Sanctuary streaming video), Facebook, Roku, and YouTube locations. Please do note that the **Chanukah service will begin at 7:00 p.m.**

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

A Look Inside the Houston Jewish Mental Health Study (digital) Jewish Mental Health and Stigma Talk and Discussion

Thursday, December 9, 12:30 p.m.



Dr. Robin Gearing

The congregation is invited to come join Dr. Robin Gearing and Limor Smith, MSW as they discuss results of the Houston Jewish Mental Health study.

This study that occurred prior to the COVID-19 pandemic includes data which was collected at Congregation Emanu El as well as other institutions and organizations within the Houston Jewish community.

Our discussion will be led by Dr. Gearing, a professor at the Graduate College of Social Work (GCSW) at the University of Houston whose work specializes in areas of mental health including treatment engagement, adolescents, and suicide. Dr. Gearing is the director of the Mental Health Research Innovation Treatment Engagement Service (MH-RITES) center.

As part of the center, the Mental Health Access Program has been gathering data in various countries including China and Mexico to study mental health attitudes, perceptions and stigma.

Currently, Dr. Gearing and his research team are beginning a large study on mental health stigma in Israel in collaboration with the University of Haifa. Limor Smith is a doctoral student at the Graduate College of Social Work at the University of Houston who is interested in self-stigma, the internalization of the public stigma of mental illness.

To take part in this Zoom event, please register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org. The Zoom information will be sent to all registrants prior to the event.

"Better Together" Jews Cruise & Booze: Brewery Crawl Sunday, December 12, 10:30 a.m. - Final Tour

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

"Better Together" – a community-wide Houston Jewish singles initiative for those in their 50s and 60s – will embark on a brewery crawl.

Board a bus at Congregation Emanu El before heading out on a three-stop brewery crawl.

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The first stop will be St. Arnold's Brewery for a private tour, tasting and lunch. We will follow that with a stop at Houston Cider with a six-cider flight in their taproom/garden.

The last visit on our crawl will occur at 8th Wonder Distillery where our participants will take part in a semi-private Q&A with a brew master in addition to a tasting of four craft cocktails.

The cost of the all-inclusive tour is \$100, which is to be paid upon registration. To register, visit the calendar on our website at emanuelhouston.org.

To receive more information on future programs for Better Together, please contact bettertogether@beth-israel.org.

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

Heritage Shabbat (hybrid) Friday, December 17, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for Heritage Shabbat featuring Cantor Simmons, Emanu El's professional octet and our organist, Ann Frohbieter. We will share the treasured music of our heritage with classical settings that convey the majesty, tranquility and joy of Shabbat.

In addition to being held in-person, this service will be available on our Barish Sanctuary (streaming video) page, Facebook, YouTube, and Roku platforms.

This program is generously funded by the Fredell Lack Eichorn Cantor's Music Fund and the Julius Nathan Music Fund.

21 Days of Gratitude (digital) Tuesdays in January beginning on Tuesday, January 4, 8:00 p.m.

Join Jewish Family Service of Houston and Congregation Emanu El in shifting the focus and igniting the spark illuminating what we do have in this new year.

During January, you will have an opportunity to be

mindful of three things for which you are grateful. Inspire your friends and your community by sharing on a virtual gratitude wall and feel embraced by that for which others are grateful.

This group will meet for roughly 30 minutes for **four consecutive Tuesdays in January** while participating in a gratitude wall project in between sessions. A Zoom link will be sent prior to the first session.

To register, visit emanuelhouston.org or call 713.529.5771. For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6414.

How (and Why) Journalism Gets it Wrong with Batya Ungar-Sargon (in-person) Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 p.m.



Batya Ungar-Sargon

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

Ungar-Sargon is Deputy Opinion Editor of *Newsweek* and author of the recently released book *Bad News: How Woke Media Is Undermining Democracy*, which explores the recent ideological shifts in mainstream media and their effects across the broader landscape of American democracy.

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

To help us plan appropriately for the evening's events, we ask that you register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or by calling 713.529.5771.

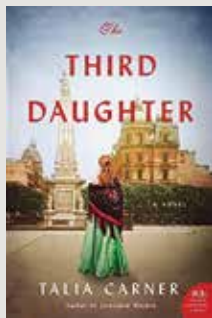
Emanu El has a longstanding and rich tradition of hosting significant public thinkers to reflect on current events through its Endowment Fund Speaker Series. Recent speakers have included Academy Award-winning actress Marlee Matlin, journalist Carl Bernstein and the Reverend William Barber.

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

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Sisterhood News & Happenings

December 2021 –
January 2022



BOOK REVIEW:

The Third Daughter

by Talia Carner

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 7:00 PM (digital)

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, Susana Paoloski.

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 selection can be found below:

The late 1800's find fourteen-year-old Batya in the Russian countryside, fleeing endless programs with her family. Desperate her father leaps at the opportunity to marry her to a worldly, wealthy stranger who promises that Batya will have an easy life in America.

Batya's new "husband" does indeed bring her to America: Buenos Aires, a vibrant growing city. But instead of becoming a wife, Batya is one of thousands of women tricked and sold to a brothel. As the years pass, Batya holds on to one dream: to buy herself out of prostitution and bring her family to America. When she gets a dangerous but possibly life-saving opportunity -to help bring down the criminal network that has enslaved so many young women-she agrees to help. But will saving herself mean abandoning her family to the anti-Semitism that plagues Russia?

A powerful story of finding strength in the face of danger and hope in the face of despair. *The Third Daughter* brings to life a dark period of Jewish history and gives a voice to victims whose truth deserves to finally be told.

The historical events in the novel actually took place between 1892 and 1910; however, the pimps' union, Zwi Migdal, operated with impunity for seventy years.

To help us plan for our book reviews and to receive communications about future book reviews, we ask that you kindly **RSVP by Wednesday, January 12**, by visiting our web calendar and completing the form online or by contacting the Sisterhood at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Afternoon Mah Jongg (in-person) Mondays, December 13 & January 10, 1:00 p.m.

Play Mah Jongg at Emanu El and be a Winner.

Crack your card open, and bam, watch the winds blow jokers your way.

All are invited to join us on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. for an afternoon of fun with snacks and friends. Bring friends and enjoy!

We plan to meet in the Stillman-Lack Library unless our numbers require a move.

To help us plan accordingly, please **RSVP by Thursday, December 9** for the December gathering and **Thursday, January 6** for the January gathering, either online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

MAH JONGG 2022-23

ARE YOU READY FOR A NEW CARD?

DEADLINE JANUARY 28, 2022

CHECKS PAYABLE : SYLVIA BRODY



2004 VERMONT HOUSTON, TX 77019

STANDARD CARD \$9 LARGE CARD \$10



Music of the NIGHT

Saturday, March 19, 2022

A MASKED AFFAIR
A LITTLE BIT OF PURIM A LOT OF BROADWAY

HONORING *Dolores Wilkenfeld* SPOTLIGHTING *Students from The River*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND UNDERWRITING OR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
CONTACT SISHOODDONOR@EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG



FEATURING
Surprise Broadway Stars

HINT #1
OUR STAR HAS PERFORMED
ON BROADWAY IN A TONY-
AWARD WINNING SHOW

Apps You've Always Wanted to Meet: Social/Digital Media Boot Camp (digital) Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Instagram, Tik Tok, Twitter, Facebook . . . Have you always wanted to know how to navigate social media? Do your electronic devices puzzle you?

Learn how to find your way with Sisterhood as Samantha Rosenthal, an educational technology consultant, answers all your digital questions! We'll discuss the "how to" and "why" of making safe online choices in handling your accounts, using your camera, editing photos, and much more! We'll also be sure you never get stuck as a cat in a Zoom filter mishap! Join us for the serious and fun sides of everything digital.

There is no cost for this Zoom program. Please RSVP to the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org by **Monday, December 6**. Registration is also available on our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.



Call to Action: Seeking Kidney Transplant for Family Member of Congregant

Samuel Peters, son of our member Annette Peters-Sline, is in need of a kidney transplant. If you'd like information about becoming a live kidney donor please contact St. Luke's Living Donor program at 832.355.5506.

“Repairing the World”

Congregation Emanu El was created with a focus to serve not only its members and their families, but the local community and the world at large. We strive to be “a light unto the nations” by assisting the needy both inside and outside our temple walls, offering essential connection and supplemental support that uplifts and enables many to achieve their American Dream. Several long-standing Endowment Funds continue to make a notable difference in much of the Temple’s significant social justice work, including The Ed Wayne Hunger Fund, The Lillian Pasternak Mitzvah Fund, The Oshman Benevolent Fund, The Clergy Good Works Fund and The Robert I. Kahn Social Justice Fund. The people who created these important funds truly believed in the mission of “repairing the world.”

Ed Wayne lived a big life in the New York vaudeville community. He loved people of all walks, and was known to bring them home for dinner. Never one to care if a rule needed to be broken to help others, he was known to smuggle Jews to safety in World War II.

Until his death, he never forgot what or whom he loved, and went dancing with his wife Cecil every Saturday evening. After his passing, his wife established The Ed Wayne Hunger Fund, which spoke to his passion of feeding those in need. Today, with the Fund’s support, 300-350 volunteers have now assisted in the temple’s monthly Kids Meals project, preparing thousands of sandwiches and lunches for preschoolers in need. The congregation’s annual Yom Kippur Hunger Appeal is also supported by this Fund, which continues to make a huge difference during the holiest day of our Jewish faith.

Lillian Pasternak was known as “the Mitzvah lady of Houston,” who did endless good things for the Houston community. She and her husband David gave both their time and resources and were very philanthropic. She was President of the Board of the Lighthouse for the Blind for 20 years and helped start the “End Hunger” campaign in Houston. She was recognized for her volunteerism by then-President Gerald Ford. When she passed away, her family established the Lillian Pasternak Mitzvah Fund, which was instrumental in underwriting Mitzvah Day, and now a Christmas Eve event at the Ronald McDonald



Kids Meals CEO Beth Harp, Helaine Wayne Lane, Julie Price, Rabbi Roy Walter, Carol Goodfriend, Barry Goodfriend and Rodney Roth in 2019 when Emanu El celebrated its longstanding partnership with Kids Meals during the synagogue’s 75th anniversary celebration. Emanu El’s monthly Kids Meals project is a direct beneficiary of the Ed Wayne Hunger Fund. Barry and Carol Goodfriend were the initial project leaders for Emanu El on the Kids Meals project.

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Guidance from our past, growth for our future

“At the center of everything we are community of faith, and we must do whatever heals and brings hope to individuals and to the world. It is my goal to make sure that in addition to serving its own members, Congregation Emanu El assists homeless veterans, political refugees, single mothers or anyone in need on their journey to wholeness. We must do visible and consequential work that enhances the spiritual, moral, cultural, and intellectual profile of our city. Ultimately, I want Emanu El to serve as a role model for the transformative social justice work that spiritual communities can provide. I want us to be of service and step up in ways that connects us to all nations, and inspires local and national leaders to make broad systemic changes that matter to our community and the world. I want us together to be that congregation.”

Rabbi Oren Hayon

House. It also funds other important social action projects and pursuits.

The original intention of The Robert I. Kahn Social Justice Fund was to send Emanu El's congregants to a religious action conference in Washington, D.C. Both teenagers and adults have the opportunity to meet with senators and representatives from Texas and elsewhere, to discuss topics that matter to the Reform movement.

Late in the rabbi's life, when he needed support the most, Rabbi Roy Walter asked Diana Brackman, Steffi Odle and Marvin Cohen to drive Rabbi Kahn to his office and run errands for he and his wife Rozelle. The highlight for all

of them was “hearing the stories about social justice and what he wanted to do to promote Jewish reform and help change the world,” Diana recalls. When her husband Bobby passed away 16 years ago, his family merged a fund in his memory into Rabbi Kahn's fund to be more impactful. The Brackmans were deeply involved in social action activities, and this was their way of leaving a lasting legacy.

The Oshman Benevolent Fund was established to support members of the congregation in need of food, rent, hotels, transportation and medical assistance. It is used for outreach and funneled through the Clergy Good Works Fund. “The Clergy Good Works Fund and The Oshman Benevolent Fund are force-multipliers that enable us to broaden our reach, provide tzedakah and underwrite unexpected needs; like the recent winter freeze, Hurricane Harvey and of course, the pandemic,” shares Rabbi Hayon. “These funds allow us to participate in institutional programs like SEARCH, Interfaith Ministries and Sacred Belonging, as well as provide personal help at the most granular level.”

“We love to see our dad's consecration photo at Emanu El, as the Temple was always home for him. He had an incredible sense of compassion, kindness, and love for all, and his passion for tikkun olam was a lifelong journey. He was a first responder to any of Rabbi Kahn's requests for help, and he enjoyed the process of helping others achieve their potential. His legacy lives on through the Fund in his memory. It has and always will be a great honor to have merged our fund with Rabbi Kahn's fund.”

Lauren and Adam Brackman, daughter and son of Diana and Bobby Brackman

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The Oshman Benevolent Fund along with the Clergy Good Works Fund enables Emanu El to host a monthly project with SEARCH Homeless Services. A group of Emanu El volunteers comes together to pack sack lunches or survival kits for Houston's homeless population.

“We are so proud that our mother designated her legacy gift to the establishment of a benevolent fund at Emanu El. She never forgot that she came to this country as a child with nothing and had little growing up. The fact that she wanted her fund to help others in need is a beautiful reflection of her values and character.”

Marilyn Oshman and Judy Margolis, daughters of Jeanette Oshman



Be a Part of It

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

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“My father spent his entire life taking care of others, as well as my mother and my three siblings. He ‘collected’ people... from prize fighters to a restaurateur who needed funding to keep things going. He was paid in pizzas, and in turn he gave these to those who were hungry. To honor my father, Kids Meals has become my passion project. The more we can do for others, the more respect we earn as Jews in the world.”

Helaine Wayne Layne, daughter of Ed Wayne

In our social justice work, we clearly want to assist those who are hungry and homeless, but we also want to address the underlying reasons for suffering and lack of human resources,” continues Rabbi Hayon. Why do preschoolers in our city need food? What can we do to support immigrants fleeing to our country? How can we make a difference to individuals and the greater community in need of faith-based support? What can we do to truly repair the world? With the help of our social action Endowment Funds, we are constantly reaching out and reaching up to connect, supplement, and improve life for those who touch and move us in myriad ways.



The Lillian Pasternak Mitzvah Fund has been instrumental in several on-going social action events in the community including Emanu El's annual Christmas Eve event at Ronald McDonald House. Due to COVID protocols, Emanu El will not be sending volunteers and just a meal but in prior years. In prior years, the congregation sent a team of volunteers to serve food and conduct activities. The 2018 trip included an appearance by HaHa The Clown.

“My aunt was truly the best of the best. She was my mother’s first cousin, and I grew up hearing about her kindness on a regular basis. To this day, everyone who knew her still shares stories or memories of something good she did for others.”

Jan Pasternak, niece of Lillian Pasternak

In Response to COVID: Emanu El Currently in Phase Four

A variation of this communication was sent to the congregation in late October. As of the print deadline, this correspondence to the congregation was current as of this Bulletin's completion. To verify the current status of the congregation, please reference the Emanu El website (emanuelhouston.org) or call the synagogue office (713.529.5771)

With the continuing decrease in the number of new COVID-19 cases and with hospitalizations declining to moderate levels, we are pleased to announce that Emanu El has moved forward with the following changes which came into effect on November 1:

MASKING

Masks will be optional at indoor or outdoor events for fully vaccinated individuals. While no longer required for those fully vaccinated, we certainly understand and respect that some of you will choose to wear a mask.

VACCINATIONS

All congregants and visitors attending Emanu El events, including those making informal visits to our facilities, are expected to be vaccinated.

We highly encourage all who are eligible to get vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated, for your personal and others' safety, you should attend meetings, events or worship services remotely.

Those not fully vaccinated, including children 2 years and older, should continue wearing masks and observe social distancing while attending indoor programs and services at Temple.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Attendance will not be limited.
Congregational singing is permitted at services.

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS & MEETINGS

Attendance will not be limited.

Certain events or meetings may have capacity or advance registration requirements as in the past. These

restrictions will be communicated separately as part of specific communications for the event or meeting.

HYBRID (MULTI-ACCESS) SERVICES, EVENTS & MEETINGS

We realize that virtual attendance has become popular and plan to continue virtual options whenever possible. Such options will be communicated separately as part of specific communications related to the event.

FOOD

Oneg Shabbat receptions will resume.

When food is served during or after a worship service, event or meeting, we will follow all health and safety guidelines.

BECKER SCHOOL & HELFMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

There will be no changes to COVID-related policies for either the Becker School or Helfman Religious School at this time.

We are pleased to be moving forward toward the full resumption of in-person worship and events at Emanu El. As always, we will continue to actively monitor weekly trends and the most up-to-date scientific recommendations as they evolve. If necessary, we will be prepared to make appropriate changes with a focus on your safety. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Giving the Gift of Mobility

We are elated to have congregants back in the building for worship, appointments, committee meetings and shopping in the New Traditions gift shop. With our congregation being multi-generational, we have had several requests for wheelchair services upon arrival to the synagogue. We would like to appeal to you, our congregants that may have unused wheelchairs at home to consider donating them to the synagogue for use when there is a need.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Christian Simmons at christians@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771.

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.

Shabbat Shirah: A Sabbath of Song Celebrating Barbara Loeser (hybrid)

Friday, January 14, 6:00 p.m.



Make plans to join us on Shabbat Shirah, the Sabbath of Song. As our Torah portion and the accompanying extraordinary music highlight Moses and Miriam leading the Israelites across the Red Sea and out of Egypt, we will add in our own celebratory

tune to honor Barbara Loeser as she steps down after more than 45 years of contribution to musical and educational programming at Emanu El.

If you are unable to join us in person, this Shabbat experience will be streamed online through our Barish Sanctuary (streaming video) page in addition to our Facebook, Roku, and YouTube platforms.

This program is generously funded by the Fredell Lack Eichorn Cantor's Music Fund and the Julius Nathan Music Fund.

Thank you, Barbara

I want to say thank you to Barbara Loeser. Over my four and a half years here at Emanu El, Barbara has been a source of kindness, partnership, inspiration, support and encouragement. Before I began my job as cantor of Emanu El, I sat in my house in Colorado on a video call with Barbara and recorded her chanting all the prayers so I could learn them the "Emanu

El way," because every Jewish community chants their prayers a little differently. For 45 years, Barbara has been the voice of the Emanu El way.

Barbara's four and a half decades of leadership are extraordinary. She stood by the side of so many different rabbis and cantors, singing beautiful beloved melodies and sharing her love of Jewish music. During her tenure, Barbara called upon her camp songleading background to create a musical landscape that was warm and welcoming, inviting congregational singing and inspiring a deeper connection to God.

Barbara and I often laugh about the different musical keys we prefer. When we sang together for Shabbat and High Holy Days, it was always a friendly negotiation – maybe a little higher than she would like and a little lower than I would like, but we always met in the middle.

Barbara is a source of joy and creativity, but I was especially aware of it during the pandemic. We sang together wearing hats and sunglasses as we led Becker Shabbats on Zoom. We shared the sweetness of monthly Zoom havdalas, for which Barbara came prepared with creative scavenger hunts to lighten the mood as we all navigated challenging times.

Barbara leaves a beautiful legacy here at Emanu El. We are forever grateful for her energy and spirit, and we wish her mazel tov on her retirement. I know she is looking forward to singing with her friends in the pews. Barbara, may you go from strength to strength and as Debbie Friedman sang, "you shall be a blessing, l'chi lach."

– Cantor Rollin Simmons

ava elizabeth

רבקה אליזבה בת גרשון והרב חוה

SHARE OUR JOY AS OUR DAUGHTER IS CALLED TO THE TORAH AS A BAT MITZVAH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022 • 10:30 AM

KIDDUSH LUNCHEON IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

jeff & pam silk

KINDLY RSVP ONLINE BY DECEMBER 23RD • MEMBERS.EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/AVASILK2022



Helfman Religious School

Planning for 2022 Shirley Barish Israel Memorial Experience



The 2022 Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience will be the fourth trip of its kind following trips in 2014, 2016 and 2018. The 2020 trip was postponed, and participants were given vouchers to use on a similar Israel experience.

Pack your bags, we're heading to Israel!

We are pleased to share with the congregation that the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience (SBMIE) will be traveling with Ayelet Tours on an Israel-only itinerary.

As of press time, the tentative dates for this trip are **Wednesday, June 15 – Tuesday, July 5**. A parent meeting was scheduled for **Wednesday, December 1**.

Further information will be shared with SBMIE eligible families and updates on our trip will be shared with the congregation at large through the trip's Facebook page.

The Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience Fund generously funds this once in a lifetime experience for our Helfman Religious School at Congregation Emanu El's Upper School students.

Helfman Religious School Curriculum Update – 4th-6th Grades

Last month, we shared some of the exciting developments in our Helfman Religious School programs for our PreK-3rd grade students. This month, we are pleased to give you a peek into what's new for our 4-6th graders!

As we began the process of planning to return to on-campus instruction for this year, we took into consideration the feedback from parents, teachers and students about our online programming and what pieces of our revised structure we may want to carry forward. The



The Emanu El Youth Choir which is under the direction of Cantor Rollin Simmons is helping lend their voice to the music at our 4th – 6th grade T'filah service this year during Helfman Religious School.

biggest change for our 4-6th graders is in the structure of our Hebrew learning program. Rather than assigning all students to full-group Hebrew classes on both Sundays and Wednesdays, we now have full-group classes on Sundays only. Students are also assigned to small-group Hebrew classes, which meet on-campus on Sundays or online during the week. We found last year that the small-group environment was better for learning the mechanics of Hebrew decoding and prayer reading (and worked well on Zoom); while the larger Sunday groups facilitate meaning-making and community-building.

Speaking of communal prayer . . . one amazing enhancement to our programs that has happened this year is the shift from Wednesdays to Sundays of our 4-7th grade T'filah (prayer) service. Not only does this change mean that we are worshipping together when most of our students are present – and when our 7th graders can join us and take a leadership role as they prepare for their B'nei Mitzvah – it also means that these students get the opportunity for “close peer modeling” by our awesome Songleading TA's.

Being led in prayer and song by these talented high school students, along with our clergy, gives our Hebrew learners goals towards which to strive, and makes prayer more fun and enriching for all.

Our popular chugim (electives) program for 4-6th graders has continued this year, as well. Students have the option to enrich their Jewish learning through the arts, by choosing to participate in Youth Choir or take classes in Movement, Photography or Journalism. We are looking forward to our Chanukah Happening on Sunday, December 5, which will feature a “chugim showcase” of performances and displays. Please watch our Facebook page for more photos and news!

continued next page



Greene Family Camperships & Scholarship Opportunities

Are you planning to send your child to Greene Family Camp this summer? If so, this is a great project for winter break. Campership awards for Helfman Religious School students are worth half 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 Friday, January 21, 2022.

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

Please note that 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, so that aid can be made accessible to all who are in need.

World Series Wager Settled



Rabbi Ron Segal of Temple Sinai Atlanta (left) and Rabbi Hayon of Congregation Emanu El connected following the World Series to settle the terms of their friendly wager.

With the Atlanta Braves winning, Emanu El will be making a donation to the Community Assistance Center (CAC). The CAC was formed by an interfaith coalition that serves the communities of Sandy Springs and Dunwoody by providing financial assistance for residents, hosting a food pantry and thrift shop, and offering basic skills training. Emanu El also sent a gift basket with Texas goodies to the staff of Temple Sinai, some of whom including Rabbi Segal have ties to Houston area.

Congratulations to the Atlanta Braves and the Houston Astros on their seasons and an exciting World Series!



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through November 11, 2021.

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

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

In Memory of

Arlene Davidson Merson

Caren & David Cowan

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To provide and enhance Becker School programs

In Memory of

Rosamond Grant

Arielle & Jonathan Rogg

Daniel Kirshbaum

The Pulaski Family

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Becker School scholarships

A Donation

Don Akens

In Honor of

The Speedy Recovery of Becky Williams

Sara Astrich

In Memory of

Robert Grossman

Marianne & Larry Greenfield

BROTHERHOOD FUND

To provide and enhance Brotherhood programming

In Memory of

Michael Laviage

Diane Malin

CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Appreciation of

Shel Vedlitz

Jeanne & Matt Pasternak

In Memory of

Arthur Schwartz

Rita Ginsberg

CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Honor of

The Birthdays of Cathy & Hartley Chelin

Leda & Mike Karchmer
Paulette & Mel Levine

In Memory of

Dorothy Rolfe Martin & Harry Fradkin

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

Arlene Davidson Merson

Cathy & Hartley Chelin

CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS FUND

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

In Appreciation of

Rabbis Hayon, Silk & Fixler

Rhoda & Nate Miller

In Honor of

All our Clergy

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

David Kaufman

Sharon & Barry Kaufman

Helen Schwartz

Rita Ginsberg

Rabbi Pamela Silk

Elizabeth Loring & Isaac Goldberg

The Birthday of

Ann Friedman

Punkin & Walter Hecht

Syd Waldman

fredi & Paul Franks

In Memory of

Louis Alexander

Sherrie & Richard Kaplan

Max Brochstein &

Orville Henderson

Marie Brochstein & Family

Robert Grossman

Perri & Aaron Fink

Arlene Davidson Merson

Ellen & Ron Kerman
Linda Zoll

Malka Robins

Felice & Edward Klein

EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND

To provide programs for Emanu Elders

In Memory of

Priscilla Schube

Sara Astrich

EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND

To feed the hungry of Houston

A Donation

Don Akens
Lynda & Dan Greenberg
Lulu Kamin
Linda Kates
Inez Taylor
Jessica & Erik Teegerstrom

In Honor of

Alisha Klapholz – Receiving the Keter Torah Award

Diane Puschett

In Memory of

David Kaufman

Pam Kaufman & Dennis Keierleber

Arlene Davidson Merson

Leda & Mike Karchmer

Malka Robins

fredi & Paul Franks

Annette Schwartz

Marilyn Waldman

Edward X. Wayne and the generosity he showed to all

Jack Lane

FREDELL LACK EICHHORN CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

To enhance musical programming

In Appreciation of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Rhoda & Nate Miller

In Honor of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Center for Performing Arts Medicine-Houston Methodist

Linda & Richard Zoll –

Receiving the 2021 Governor's Volunteers Award for the Volunteer Family of the Year

Diane Puschett

The Birthdays of Cathy & Hartley Chelin

Nancy Peskin

Marilyn Waldman

HAROLD REINGOLD RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

To enhance Helfman Religious School programs

In Honor of

Judy Stein's 50 years of teaching at Emanu El

Sheryl Goodkin

The Birthday of

Charlotte Berkowitz

Ellie & Jon Totz

JASON & DAVID MARCUS PLAYSACE FUND

To maintain and enhance the playground

In Honor of

Rabbi Pamela Silk

Ruby Sondock

The Birthday of

Elaine Kuper

Ruby Sondock

In Memory of

Barbara Horwitz

Ruby Sondock

JULIUS NATHAN MUSIC FUND

To provide musical programs

In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's Retirement

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

continued next page

In Memory of
Edwin Frohbieter
Kathy & Stephen Parven

**MILTON POPKIN
ENDOWMENT FUND**
*To promote an
understanding of other
religions and cultures*
In Memory of
H. Miles Cohn
Stephen C. Paine

**RABBI ROY & LINDA
WALTER ENRICHMENT
FUND**
*To support spiritual &
cultural enrichment*
In Appreciation of
Rabbi Roy Walter
Aronoff & Rudin Families

In Memory of
Beatrice Friedberg
Carol & Larry Fradkin
Daniel Kirshbaum
Lulu Kamin
Barbara & Allen Pauly
Priscilla Schube
Jonathan Schube
Marian Siegel
Barbara & Martin Meyer
Barbara & Milton Wagner
Brad Wagner
Linda Cohn Walter
Aronoff & Rudin Families

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
*To provide Helfman
Religious School
scholarships*
In Appreciation of
**Bill Soffar for his
presentation to the
7th grade class**
Helfman Religious
School 7th Grade

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING
CONGREGATION FUND**
*To support programs
that assist people in the
community*
In Honor of
**The Birth of Aaron
Julius Gold**
Myra Mayer

In Memory of
Arlene Davidson Merson
Myra Mayer

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL
JUSTICE FUND**
*To send congregants to the
Consultation on Conscience
at the Religious Action
Center*
In Memory of
Elaine Maas
Pam Kaufman & Dennis
Keierleber
Arlene Davidson Merson
Lanie & Jerry Rose

**ROSE GOODFRIEND
ISRAEL PILGRIMAGE**
*To help send Confirmation
students to Israel*
In Honor of
**The 50th Anniversary of
the Bar Mitzvah of
Syd Waldman**
Julie & Robert Goodfriend

**SHIRLEY BARISH
MEMORIAL ISRAEL
EXPERIENCE FUND**
*To send Helfman Religious
School high school
students to Israel*
In Memory of
**Daniel Kirshbaum
Arlene Davidson Merson**
Marlene Rubin

**SISTERHOOD FLOWER
FUND**
*To provide flowers in our
worship spaces*
In Honor of
**Barbara & Phillip Caplan,
Lenore Caplan, and Jane
& David VanDenburg**
Katharine, Gary &
Jacob Caplan
**Rabbis, Cantor, Teachers &
Religious School Staff**
The Blitz Family
Katharine, Gary &
Jacob Caplan
The Hearn Family
Pulaski & Slobin Families
The Ziff Family

**Our friends and family
celebrating with us**
Pulaski & Slobin Families
**The Bar Mitzvah of
Jacob Caplan**
Katharine & Gary Caplan
The Hearn Family
Matthew Hearn
Katharine, Gary &
Jacob Caplan
The Hearn Family
Jules Pulaski
Linda, Joseph, Brian,
Katie, Michael, Jordan,
Ellie & Sam Pulaski
Alana, Alan, Josie & Sybil
Pulaski, Ellen Kalish,
Linda & Joseph Pulaski,
Brian, Katie, Michael,
Jordan, Ellie & Sam
Pulaski, Susan &
Steven Perin, Marlene
& Lester Slobin, and
the Slobin Family

Sam Slobin
Susan & Steven Perin
The Joseph Pulaski
Family
Marlene & Lester Slobin
Stephanie, Todd & Ava
Slobin, Susan & Steven
Perin, Ellen Kalish,
& the Pulaski Family

**The Bat Mitzvah of
Sophie Blitz**
The Blitz Family
The Ziff Family

Julia Ziff
The Blitz Family
Lauren & Garrison Ziff

In Memory of
**Shirleen & Albert Agress,
Abe & Belle Jacobson,
Percy Jacobson, Barbara
& Leonard Kalish, Mark
Kalish, Ruth Pulaski,
Lack, Edward Pulaski,
& Mark Webman**
Alana, Alan, Josie, Jules &
Sybil Pulaski, Ellen
Kalish, Linda & Joseph
Pulaski

**Rowena & Louis
Goldfaden, Myra &
Albert Perin, Ethel &
Stanley Novak, Anne &
Phillip Slobin, Allen
Abramson, Lil & Dan
Feinstein, Goodwin &
Frieda Goldfaden, Jack
Goldfaden, Francis &
Jack Hackman, Justine &
Jerry Hackman, Suzanne
& Marty Hackman,
Michelle Abramson
Maloney, Herman
Minkin, Bernard Shapiro,
& Celia & I.J. Shapiro**
Stephanie, Todd,
Ava & Sam Slobin,
Susan & Steven Perin,
Marlene & Lester Slobin

Anthony Kreisel
The Ziff Family
Arlene Davidson Merson
Leda & Mike Karchmer
**Rhona & Simcha
Minkowitz, Sonya &
Gerald Leiman**
The Hearn Family

**June & Robert
VanDenburg, Isla &
William Riewaldt,
Evelyn & Harry Kamion,
& Anna & Maurice
Caplan**
Katharine, Gary &
Jacob Caplan

SISTERHOOD FUND
*To provide and enhance
Sisterhood programming*
In Honor of
**The Speedy Recovery of
Michelle Garvin**
Susan & Ed Septimus

In Memory of
Arlene Davidson Merson
Susie & David Askanase

**SUSMAN FUND FOR
FAMILY PROGRAMMING**
*To support programs for
families*
In Memory of
Morris Glesby
Lila Rauch

TEMPLE FUND

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

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Pamela Silk

Harriet Grossman

In Honor of

Barbara Loeser's Retirement

Marian Daum

Linda & Richard Zoll –

Receiving the 2021

Governor's Volunteers

Award for the Volunteer

Family of the Year

Glori & Ed Chaika

The 50th Anniversary of the Bar Mitzvah of Syd Waldman

Donna & Philip Tenenbaum

The Anniversary of Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Ann Kauffman

Mariana & Isaac Pesin

Madgelyn & Richard Pesin

The Bar Mitzvah of Sam Slobin

Linda Hayon & Barbara Loeser

The Birthday of Benjamin

Nathan Kessler

Madgelyn & Richard Pesin

The Speedy Recovery of Sara Astrich

Barbara & Raymond Kalmans

Susan & Syd Waldman

Shirley Gurwitch

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

Celine Kaplan

Barbara & Raymond Kalmans

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

In Memory of

Esther Schultz Barvin

Herman J. Schultz

Michelle Roth Glaben

Myrna & Sheldon Zwickel

Robert Grossman

Harriet Grossman

Mark Kalish

Jan & Martee Fuerst

Laura Lempert

Michael Laviage

Mitzi & Mark Shidler

Carol & Sandford J. Slobin

Arlene Davidson Merson

Thelma Zirkelbach

Malka Robins

Susan & Syd Waldman

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.

Abby & Chris Hendel, daughter Aria

Phan & Robert Madorsky, daughter Aariah

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.



Find Us On YouTube!

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

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

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



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!



Sisterhood Hosts Annual Women's Day

The Texas Heart Institute hosted Emanu El Sisterhood's 2021 Women's Day on November 17, 2021. The entire community was invited to the special virtual Women's Day event organized by the Sisterhood, "Inspiring Women Embracing Challenges."

Y Ping Sun (pictured) is widely recognized in Houston and around the globe for her generous spirit and strong commitment to community engagement. She was joined in the presentation by Dr. Joanna Molina-Razavi.

Author Suzanne Nossel Presents at Emanu El

In mid-November, we welcomed the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center of Houston's Ann and Stephen Kaufman Jewish Books & Arts Festival to our Barish Sanctuary this afternoon as we partner to host Suzanne Nossel (right), author of *Dare to Speak: Defending Free Speech for All*. Suzanne was joined by Frank Michel (left) who moderated the program. Our president Jeri Amundsen provided a welcome on behalf of the congregation prior to the program. The event was co-presented by the Sisterhood of Congregation Emanu El along with the local Hadassah chapter.



New Traditions Sidewalk Sale a Resounding Success

Volunteers (from left to right) Donnie Bundman, Sylvia Brody and Cathy Irby spearheaded the second annual New Traditions Sidewalk Sale just prior to Chanukah. The congregation and community attended in droves with over \$5000 in sales during the four-hour sale. Thanks to all for their continued support.

continued next page

The Classics Tour Downtown Houston

In late October – our Classics group for those in their 50s and 60s – headed downtown for a tour led by Preservation Houston. The group joined Jim Parsons for a guided tour of the Market Square area, which served as the center of Houston’s early commercial district. Though the neighborhood declined in the mid-20th century, a series of preservation projects have brought new uses to its historic buildings. Among the tour highlights were the 1861 Kennedy Bakery (now La Carafe); the 300 block of Main Street, a largely intact row of late 19th century commercial buildings; and the imposing façades of Houston’s early 20th century financial district. Be on the lookout for more events featuring The Classics.



Past Presidents Gather for Luncheon

In early November, we had the wonderful opportunity to welcome our Past Presidents for a luncheon. This group of leaders is pictured with current president Jeri Amundsen, Executive Director David Lamden, Rabbi Hayon and Executive Vice President Stuart Gaylor.



Ellen Allard Participates as Scholar-in-Residence

Musician Ellen Allard (pictured at Tot Shabbat) was part of a Scholar-in-Residence weekend at Congregation Emanu El in the beginning of November. In addition to participating in Tot Shabbat, Ellen led Shabbat at our Becker School and T’filah in our Helfman Religious School. She also participated in Saturday morning Shabbat worship and led a combined Becker/Helfman professional development.



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DavidL@emanuelhouston.org.



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Congregation Emanu El

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REMINDER:

End of Year Philanthropy at Emanu El

Please consider a gift to Congregation Emanu El when you are considering your end of year giving. A donation to the Temple Fund helps Emanu El remain a vital and vibrant religious community while you could potentially receive a tax incentive.

Donate online at emanuelhouston.org/give or call Anna Shabtay at 713.987.3316. Any donations received in the mail must be post marked by **Friday, December 31, 2021**, to be considered part of 2021 tax year. If you are considering a gift of stock, please be in touch prior to **Friday, December 24**. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to Congregation Emanu El.



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