



# Bulletin

May 5, 2022 | 5 Iyar 5782

VOLUME 76 NUMBER 8

## FROM RABBI HAYON



*In many ways, Jewish identity itself is built upon the capacity and the will to remember.*

This year, the month of May is bookended by days of national memory for American Jews.

On May 4, we observe Yom HaZikaron, the day of mourning set aside to recall the members of Israel's armed forces who fell defending the Jewish State, as well as Israel's far too many innocent civilians who have been casualties of violent terrorism over the few decades of Israel's history.

And then on May 30, we observe America's own Memorial Day, on which we pause from work and school to mourn the deaths of those who have served our nation.

It is not unusual, of course, for a nation – whether modern or ancient – to set aside time for national mourning, in order to reflect on the values for which the nation was founded, and which principled individuals held so dear that they were willing to literally give their lives to uphold and defend them. And as American Jews, we are seized doubly by the impulse to remember.

In many ways, Jewish identity itself is built upon the capacity and the will to remember. Rabbi Abraham

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## Congregation Emanu El Hosts Annual Meeting Online

**Gaylor Elected President; Amundsen & Hayon Give Updates at Meeting Held on Zoom**



**Stuart Gaylor, newly elected President of Congregation Emanu El**

Stuart Gaylor was elected President of Congregation Emanu El during the synagogue's annual meeting that was held online on Sunday, April 10.

The annual meeting was the third in the congregation's history to be held on Zoom while those leading the proceedings connected to the participants from the Barish Sanctuary.

Gaylor's election was one of several

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## Celebrating the Plotkins (hybrid)

Friday, May 20, 6:00 p.m.



**Jason Plotkin**

Join us for Shabbat services and a special oneg to celebrate and appreciate Program Director Jason Plotkin and show Jason, Aliza and Isaac our love and good wishes as they prepare for the next step in their journey. The Plotkin family will be leaving in late May as Jason takes on the role of Executive Director at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan in June.

This service will be streamed online through our website, Facebook, YouTube, and Roku if you are unable to join us in-person.

## WORSHIP SERVICES

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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 K'doshim Friday, May 6**

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner, Sculpture Garden  
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel  
6:15 p.m., Tot Shabbat, Sculpture Garden

### **Saturday, May 7**

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

### **Shabbat Emor Friday, May 13**

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

### **Saturday, May 14**

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

### **Shabbat B'har Friday, May 20**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel  
**Honoring Jason Plotkin & Family During Service**

### **Saturday, May 21**

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
Bat Mitzvah of **Eliana Levit**, daughter of Sarah & Jonathan Levit

### **Shabbat B'chukotai Friday, May 27**

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

### **Saturday, May 28**

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
Bar Mitzvah of **Michael Burt**, son of Tara & Bryan Burt

### **Shabbat B'midbar Friday, June 3**

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner  
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel  
6:15 p.m., Tot Shabbat Service

### **Saturday, June 4**

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
6:00 p.m., Erev Shavuot Service, Barish Sanctuary  
**Confirmation of Helfman Religious School  
10th Grade Class**

### **Sunday, June 5**

10:30 a.m., Shavuot Festival Service & Yizkor,  
Proler Chapel

### **Shabbat Naso Friday, June 10**

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

### **Saturday, June 11**

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
B'nei Mitzvah of **Adam & Jacob Gospin**, sons of Tal & Daniel Gospin

**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.

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

Joshua Heschel is famous for having noted that the Jews' historic legacy is not found in long-lasting castles or monuments; instead, we have constructed for ourselves cathedrals of time. To be Jewish is to maintain enormous, elaborate structures of memory, which we carry with us throughout our lives' journeys. We carry these portable structures with us wherever we go – through times of celebration and times of displacement and loss.

The imperative of memory is encoded in the most primary guidelines of Jewish life: in our Bible, there are nearly 170 different appearances of variants of the Hebrew word *litzkor*, “to remember.” Time and time again, we are adjured to remember the events and concepts that make us who we are: Remember the Sabbath day,

remember the Covenant, remember that you were slaves in Egypt. Each of these acts of memory serves to cement our understanding of who we are and where we came from – and enables us to transmit that self-awareness to each successive generation that will come after us.

And having mastered – or at least practiced – the art of memory comes to serve us well during a month like this one, in which our remembrances contribute to the upbuilding of national identity. Now our memories combine in a new sort of devotional work: remembering those whose sacrifice enabled the defense and preservation of our American homeland and the Jewish home in Israel. And we know well, as Jews and as Americans, that our work of memory is effective and consequential: it matters that we remember. It matters, in some inscrutable and unexplainable way: to the dead, and to us the living, and to the places we call home which endure as a lasting tribute to those whose lives were given to preserve them.

## LIFECYCLE EVENTS

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### IN THE COMMUNITY

**fredi Bleeker Franks** was elected to the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) North American Board in April. She joins fellow Emanu El representatives Dolores Wilkenfeld (Honorary Vice-Chair) and program director Jason Plotkin on the board.

### WEDDINGS

**Lisa Beth Ecker** & **John Matthew Stevens**

### DEATHS

**Ian Goldfoot**, father of Jeanne & Jeff Goldfoot, Jon Goldfoot; grandfather of Skyler & Kate Goldfoot; brother of Denise Bremridge

**Debra Schnoll Goodwin**, wife of Ed Goodwin; daughter of Shirley Schnoll; sister of Beth Ann Scher, Amy & Stan Schnoll Gritz, and Holly Schnoll Hunsicker

**William Jaffe**, brother of Elaine Altschuler

**Michael “Mike” Maltz**, husband of Rosalyn Kessler Maltz; father of Jeffrey Stuart Maltz, Zora Ariel & Andrew Harry Maltz; grandfather of Ethan, Charles, Miriam and Madeline Maltz

**Maria Marcaccio**, mother of Anita & Stuart Gaylor, Paul Marcaccio, Andrea Calvert, Angela & Jim Cherner, and Dino Marcaccio; grandmother of Marc Wallace, Gina & Graham Gaylor, Mollie Gaylor, Sophie Gaylor, and Annie Cherner; sister of Terri & Manuel Gallardo and Connie Gonzales

### 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.

## CONGREGATION EMANU EL HOSTS ANNUAL MEETING ONLINE

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highlights of the annual meeting, which included updates from the outgoing president, Jeri Amundsen, and Senior Rabbi, Oren Hayon.

Gaylor becomes the president following two years as Senior Vice President of the synagogue. Prior to serving as Senior Vice President, Gaylor had served as the congregation’s treasurer in addition to several years of service as a board member.

A Houstonian and lifelong Emanu El congregant, Gaylor will take the helm from Amundsen, who will now transition to the role of Honorary President following two years of service.

As the outgoing president, Amundsen had an opportunity to provide an annual report to the lay members of the congregation. In her comments, Amundsen shared that Emanu El’s professional staff and lay leaders have found the right balance between in-person and digital programming through reflection on how great it has been to see the pews filled for joyous lifecycle celebrations, the service in honor of Barbara Loeser’s 45 years of Emanu El, a hilarious Purim Spiel, and Sisterhood’s “Music of the Night” program that honored Dolores Wilkenfeld.

Amundsen continued her remarks by lauding the schools at Emanu El –Becker School and Helfman Religious School – for all the work they have done to impact our youth during the last year while sharing the congregation’s excitement that the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience will return this summer, providing 25 Helfman 10th, 11th and 12th graders a 22-day trip of a lifetime as they depart for Israel in June.

Other highlights of the board and committee work this past year included: adopting a COVID vaccine requirement for all staff and faculty members; creating

a Sacred Belonging Task Force charged with exploring how Emanu El can be a place where everyone who comes through our doors can find a sense of belonging; hosting more than 60 new congregants in Feld Hall during a New Member Shabbat in the fall; and the creation of the first-ever senior staff level position in development.

During the congregation’s elections, the members elected the following individuals to one-year terms to join Gaylor and Amundsen on the executive committee: Adam Pollock, Senior Vice President; Alana Pulaski, Vice President of Committees & Volunteer Management; Matt Pasternak, Vice President of Committees & Volunteer Management; fredie Bleeker Franks, Vice President of Education; Ben Miller, Vice President of Personnel; Philip Tenenbaum, Treasurer; and Dawn Blitz, Secretary.

Elected to three-year terms on the board were Scott Bormaster, Melissa Carson, Dan Gospin, Ronnie Kurtin, Beth Merfish, Adam Pogach, and Keith Remels.

Greta Pliskin was elected to fill the remaining year of a three-year term to end in 2024, while Patricia Baker, Larry Barr-Meyer and Jennifer Stockel were elected to one-year terms.

Remaining on the board are Richard Buxbaum, Nancy Parkans Ehrenkranz, Tammy Feldstein, Ivy Frank, Ralph Herring, Elyse Kalmans, Dora Klaff, Bruce Lessey, Laura Mayer, Diane Puschett, Bob Schaffer, Emily Schaffer, and Annie Stein.

Terms that concluded with this annual meeting included Michael Epstein, Stephanie Gabelnick, Ben Proler, and Brooke Reichel.

The reports made by both Amundsen and Hayon are available on the synagogue’s Facebook page, YouTube channel and website.

### 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, digital 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](mailto:jasonp@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.535.6414.

### Tot Shabbat (in-person)

**Friday, May 6 (dinner 5:45 p.m.; service 6:15 p.m.)**  
**Friday, June 3 (dinner 5:45 p.m.; service 6:15 p.m.)**

Families with young children will join Congregation Emanu El for this monthly event to share a special Shabbat led by a member of our clergy, geared toward families with little ones ages 0-6.

As of press time, we are planning to maintain our posture of holding Tot Shabbat outside as many of our youngest friends have not yet received access to COVID-19 vaccines. Due to this, please note that due to capacity considerations in our outside spaces, advance registration is required. Any additional updates will be shared ahead of time.

Our Tot Shabbat will begin with a picnic dinner outside in the Sculpture Garden at **5:45 p.m.** (or the Gaylor Parking Facility, if weather dictates).

Families are encouraged to bring picnic blankets or something comfortable to sit on.

An optional dinner will be provided by Houston Catering Concepts. In May, dinner will feature “breakfast for

dinner” with egg and cheese breakfast tacos with the June event featuring hamburger sliders. Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available. The cost of the dinner is \$5 per person.

The deadline for the May Tot Shabbat is **Wednesday, May 4**, with the deadline the next month slated for **Wednesday, June 1**. These dates are subject to change based upon hitting our capacity number.

For more information on our Tot Shabbat programming, please contact Anna Shabtay at [annas@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:annas@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 261.

This program is generously underwritten by the Alex & Willie Mae Goldstein Children’s Fund.

### Shabbat Schmooze & Schmeat (in-person) Saturday May 7, following 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning services

Join us for our warm, participatory and Hamish Shabbat morning Prolet Chapel service, then stay for a chance to schmooze and enjoy a schmeat.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend an engaging and spiritual prayer service on the first Shabbat morning of the month at **10:30 a.m.** and stay after services for a nosh.

Try something new in 2022 with our Shabbat Schmooze & Schmeats that will take place on the first Saturday of the month through May. The last date is **May 7**.

### Leadership Shabbat (hybrid)

**Friday, May 13, 6:00 p.m.**

Leadership Shabbat serves as the congregation’s annual opportunity to install its Board of Trustees and the elected leadership of the temple’s auxiliaries.

This service will take place in person during Shabbat services and be streamed online for those unable to join us at the synagogue.

### The Classics Tour the Notorious

#### RBG Exhibit (in-person)

**Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m.**

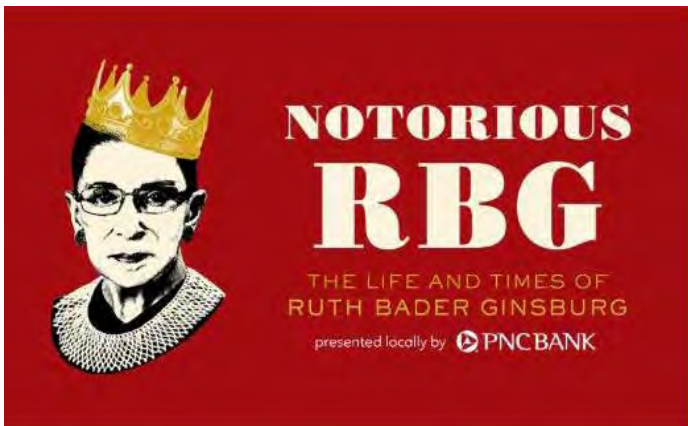
“Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn’t be that women are the exception.”

This is just one of many famous quotes from the Notorious RBG, whose life’s work is currently on view in an extraordinary exhibit at the Holocaust Museum Houston.

The Classics, Emanu El’s affinity group for those in their

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50's and 60's, will meet at HMH for a docent guided tour of *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*.

The exhibit features archival photographs and documents, historical artifacts and gallery interactives spanning RBG's varied roles as student, wife to Martin "Marty" Ginsburg, mother, lawyer, judge, women's rights pioneer, and internet phenomenon. After the tour the group will meet at a nearby restaurant for dinner.

The cost for the tour is \$15 per person and unfortunately, we cannot accommodate drop-ins. Please RSVP online at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or by calling 713.529.5771 by **Sunday, May 15**, so that we can give the Museum an accurate count.

### **Emanu El Shavuot Observance (hybrid)** **Saturday, June 4, 6:00 p.m.** **Sunday, June 5, 10:30 a.m.**

Congregation Emanu El will observe Shavuot on **Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and June 5.**

The congregation is invited to join Helfman Religious School's 10th grade students for their Confirmation ceremony during Erev Shavuot services on the evening of **Saturday, June 4**, in the Barish Sanctuary. This service is an opportunity for our Confirmation students to stand together and affirm their connection to Judaism.

The next morning, Emanu El will host its annual Shavuot Festival service, which includes the prayers of Yizkor, in the Proler Chapel. .

Both services will be streamed online through the synagogue's website, Facebook page, YouTube, and Roku.

### ***Jews in 20th Century Iran: National Belonging, Education and Identity* (digital)** **Thursday, June 9, 12:30 p.m.**

Our bi-monthly "Lunch & Learn" series examining Israel and the Middle East will continue in June as



**Danielle Farah Image**

our congregant Dr. Danielle Farah leads a presentation entitled, *Jews in Twentieth-Century Iran: National Belonging, Education, and Identity*.

Jews have lived in Iran for over 2,500 years, with a population of 100,000 at the community's height in 1945. During the twentieth century, Iranian Jews experienced rapid upward mobility, participated in significant political and social movements, and integrated into several layers of Iranian society. This talk will explore the landscape of Jewish identity in Iran, with a special focus on Jewish-Muslim interactions, political engagement, and the intersection of education and integration. As we analyze how Iranian Jews navigated between their Iranian and Jewish identities in an era of new nationalisms, we gain insight into what Jewish emancipation and assimilation looked like in a Muslim-majority country.

Dr. Farah is a 2021-2023 Samuel W. and Goldye Marian Spain Postdoctoral Fellow in Jewish Studies at Rice University. She received her PhD in Jewish History from Stanford University in 2021. Dr. Farah's scholarship, which lies at the intersection of Jewish history, Middle Eastern history, education history, and transnational studies, examines interreligious encounters, national belonging, and Jewish identity formation in modern Iran and Turkey. As an Iranian American Jewish woman, her work aims to give voice to Middle Eastern Jews' experiences.

To register for this Zoom event, visit our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org), or call 713.529.5771. A Zoom link will be sent prior to the presentation.

### **Community Shabbat Dinners (in-person)** **Fridays, June 24 & July 22 following Shabbat services**

Our popular Community Shabbat dinners return this summer.

Join us for a Shabbat dinner following worship services as we come together as a community. These popular social dinners also include vegetarian and gluten-free options. The cost of dinner is only \$5 per person.

In June, join us for a make-your-own-burger bar featuring hamburgers, grilled chicken and chipotle black bean burgers. We will have all the toppings and condiments, plus sides.

The July meal will feature a NY-deli-signature-breakfast featuring eggs, potato pancakes, fruit, bagels and more. And yes, dessert is included!

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Both meals will be catered by Emanu El's preferred caterer, Houston Catering Concepts.

Please note that RSVPs are required, and Emanu El will unfortunately be unable to accommodate walk-ups. RSVP online by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or by calling 713.529.5771. The RSVP deadlines are Wednesday, June 22, for the June dinner and Wednesday, July 20, for the July gathering.

**7th Annual Night at the Ballpark (in-person)**  
**Tuesday, August 9, 7:10 p.m.**



Congregation Emanu El is excited to announce its seventh annual Night at the Ballpark! Join your Emanu El family at Minute Maid Park as the Houston Astros welcome the Texas Rangers to town.

Tickets are \$20, and seats are located in the Chevy Mezzanine section of Minute Maid Park (section 254 & 255). This game is a "Dollar Dog Night" at the ballpark. Due to a limited number 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.

Tickets are expected to arrive at the synagogue in late July, and participants will receive communication to pick up their tickets or receive them in the mail prior to the ball game.

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



**HELFMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS**



**Helfman Religious School**

**Helfman Upper School in Action**

Our Helfman Upper School program came to a conclusion in late April. Some of the highlights of the end of the Helfman school year include the graduation of our Helfman Religious School 12th grade class during Shabbat worship on April 29 and the upcoming Confirmation our 10th grade class during Erev Shavuot services in June.

A graduation photo as well as a photo of our confirmation class will be shared in the June edition of the *Bulletin*.

**Cooking with the 12th Grade**

The Helfman Religious School 12th grade class under the tutelage of Rabbi Pam Silk and teacher Michelle Frankfort had fun in the kitchen with a project just prior to Passover. The end result of the cooking adventure? Kosher for Pesach chocolate chip brownies and macaroons.



**10th Grade Confirmation Family Ed**

In preparation for the upcoming Confirmation service to be held during Erev Shavuot services in early June, Rabbi Oren Hayon hosted a Confirmation family education program. During the family education session, Confirmation class, parents and students in our 10th grade class shared conversation about their families' Jewish values and traditions.



# SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

May 2022



## BOOK REVIEW:

*The Light In Hidden Places*

by Sharon Cameron

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 7:00 PM (digital)**

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

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 May book selection can be found below:

It is 1943 and for four years, 16-year-old Stefania was working for the Diamant family in their grocery store in Przemysl, Poland, weaving her way into their lives and hearts. She even made a promise of betrothal to one of their sons, Izio, which had to be kept secret since Stefania is Catholic and the Diamants are Jewish.

Everything changes when the German army invades Przemysl, the Diamants are forced into the ghetto leaving Stefania alone in an occupied city, the only person to care for Helena, her six-year-old sister. And then comes the knock at the door. Izio's brother Max has jumped from a train headed to a concentration camp. Stefania and Helena make the extraordinary decision to hide Max and, eventually, 12 more Jews, as well. Then they must wait, every day, for the next knock at the door, the one that will mean death. When the knock finally comes, it is two SS officers, requisitioning Stefania's house for the German army. With two Nazis living below, 13 Jews hidden above, and a little sister by her side, Stefania has one more excruciating choice to make.

Sharon Cameron brings her extraordinary storytelling prowess to this depiction of real-life Righteous Gentiles Stefania and Helena Podgorska. This gripping page-turner explores the momentous decisions people make in the most desperate of circumstances and how one person truly can change the world.

We ask that you kindly **RSVP by Wednesday, May 11**, by completing the online registration form located on our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or by contacting the Sisterhood at [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

## Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation (digital)

**Monday, May 9, 6:00 p.m.**

Looking for a way to reduce stress and gain insight and awareness of yourself and others? Join Sisterhood for a meditation class during which you will learn how to let go of your distracted thoughts and refocus your attention on the present. This one-hour class will be led by certified meditation instructors Ann Friedman and Jan Silver. This is the perfect time to explore meditation and bring more joy to your life!

This class will be held online via Zoom. The information to access the event will be emailed ahead of time to those who RSVP.

Please RSVP online to reserve your place or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org).

## Installation and Closing Program (in-person)

**Wednesday, May 18, 11:00 a.m.**

Please plan to join Sisterhood to witness the installation of new officers and board members for 2022-2023 as we celebrate the past year and the beginning of a new one! The installation service will be led by our clergy in the chapel and will include a selection of songs performed by Cantor Simmons. Afterward, a delicious lunch will be served. There is no cost for this event, but please RSVP online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) by **Monday, May 16**.





Jeri Amundsen

## Annual Meeting 2022

*Report given by outgoing president Jeri Amundsen during the Emanu El Annual Meeting held on April 10, 2022. A video version of this report can be found on the congregation's Facebook page, website and YouTube channel. A recap of the annual meeting can be found on page 1 of this edition of the Bulletin.*

Thank you again for joining us today. Two years ago, as we were preparing for our Annual Meeting, we were forced by the onset of COVID to quickly figure out how to conduct an annual meeting online. Our staff did a remarkable job pivoting to an online format. Last year, COVID again forced us to turn to Zoom for our Annual Meeting. And our staff nailed it again. But this spring, thankfully, the activity and operations in our building look more like 2019 – our students, staff, congregants and guests fill the halls and spaces of 1500 Sunset Boulevard with work, worship, study, and volunteering. So why are we meeting like this again, over the internet? We discovered that the online format in 2020 and 2021 attracted 75% more members to the Annual Meeting. With such a huge increase in participation in temple business, sticking to an online format was a simply a smart business decision.

Finding the right balance between in-person and virtual programming is something our staff thinks about a lot. It's encouraging and exciting to be back in a posture of planning rather than reacting.

Digital programming and live-streamed worship services provide access to many of our members. I am grateful for the increased accessibility, but I am thrilled that our campus is bustling with people again. After too many quiet months here, having people in the building again reminds me how important it is to connect with each other in this sacred place.

In recent months, our members and guests have filled the pews in the Barish Sanctuary for joyful celebrations, including the Shabbat Shira celebration in honor of Barbara Loeser's 45 years with Emanu El, the hilarious Purim Spiel, and the Sisterhood's spectacular Music of the Night, honoring Dolores Wilkenfeld. Feld Hall hosts Kiddush Luncheons and volunteer events such as Kids' Meals. As part of our Endowment Speaker Series we heard the thought-provoking Newsweek opinions editor Batya Unger-Sargon and in a couple of weeks, we will have the chance to learn and worship with the Cantor Josh Breitzer, our Kahn Scholar-in-Residence. Next week we look forward to celebrating the Second Night Seder with close to 200 people attending.

Our monthly Tot Shabbat services have drawn a capacity crowd of 150 nearly every month! The return of Friday night and Saturday morning services in the intimate Proler chapel was welcomed by many of our members.

The return of on-campus learning was easily to most significant boost of energy this year. Six days a week, the halls of Helfman and Becker are teeming with students and teachers. Last fall, Helfman welcomed back students to our campus and this spring invited, parents and caregivers back to the lively Sunday morning T'filah service, led by our clergy and song leader TAs. Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson and her staff continue their dynamic approach to Jewish curriculum for Helfman students PreK thru 12th grades. Let me share some highlights we can all be proud of:

- This year's enrollment surpassed expectations, with more than 400 students.
- By the end of May, we will have celebrated the B'nei Mitzvah of more than 40 students here in the beautiful Barish Sanctuary. Kiddush luncheons have resumed.
- More than 50 students are scheduled for the next cycle of B'nei Mitzvahs beginning in the fall.
- Helfman provides leadership development and engagement for 57 outstanding teen TAs (teacher assistants).

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- During our April 29 Shabbat worship, our Helfman Seniors will gather here on the bimah to celebrate the 2022 Helfman graduating class.
  - In June, seventeen of our 10<sup>th</sup> graders will celebrate Confirmation during the Erev Shavuot service.

And I am delighted to share that, after two COVID-related postponements, this June, 25 Helfman 10th, 11th, and 12th graders will depart on the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience for a 22-day trip of a lifetime. This trip is made possible by the vision and generosity of Marvin Barish and his family, as well as Stefani Carlson and our clergy.

Our youngest learners at Becker have also enjoyed being back in the classroom. Like most preschools throughout the country, Becker's enrollment dipped significantly at the beginning of the pandemic when families opted to keep their young kids at home. Today, Becker enrollment is bouncing back and has nearly doubled to 150 students, thanks to the innovation and intentionality of Becker Director Sarah Williams. Under her leadership, Becker's curriculum embraces the Reggio Emilia philosophy of early childhood education. This year Becker students enjoyed an expanded garden area and the addition of FOUR new learning studios, including Light and Shadow, STEM, Art, and Sensory – which stir imagination and creativity and support the idea that children learn in a variety of ways. Becker also added some feathered friends, with the arrival of six hens and a custom chicken coop. (You can check them out at the NW corner of the school.) I am also excited to report that Sarah Williams has been accepted into the Mandel Teacher Education Institute, a professional development program focused on supporting teachers through collaboration and centered in Jewish learning.

Our Becker families play a big part of the success of our preschool. The Becker PTO brought families back together with two successful fundraisers this year and will host an on-campus book fair this month. Thank you to Sarah and thanks to your staff for inspiring our youngest students to love to learn in a safe, joyful environment.

One of the best part of being president of the congregation is working alongside our staff. Emanu El's long history of a strong partnership between lay leaders and our staff and clergy continued this year with the Board of Trustees. Whether working on committees, setting up new initiatives, providing counsel to staff, and making decisions, our board worked hard, guided by the best interest of our members. A few highlights of the Board and committee work this past year include:

- Adopting a COVID vaccine requirement for our staff and teachers, in order to keep our community safe and healthy.
- Creating the Sacred Belonging Task Force, charged with exploring how to ensure Emanu El is a place where everyone who comes through our doors can find a sense of belonging.
- The membership committee helped organize a New Member Shabbat Dinner last fall, which hosted more than 60 new congregants in Feld.
- Following the creation of a first-ever senior staff level position in development – the Director of Congregational Advancement, the Board's Search Committee conducted a nation-wide search, and was thrilled to find and hire Anna Shabtay for this position.

Diversifying and strengthening Emanu El's revenue streams has been a topic of Board conversation for many years. The Board's vision allowed us to create a position that focuses on building relationships with our members to create a culture of philanthropy, not simply just planning fundraisers. Anna's warm personality and professional experience allowed her to hit the ground running, listening, and getting to know our staff, lay leaders, and members. Her work with both Becker and Helfman on fundraising strategies is paying off, including an extremely successful Day of Giving for Becker that raised more than \$50,000 for Becker Scholarships. Anna also works with our Endowment Board to make thoughtful and careful use of our endowment funds to support our congregation. Each year, our operating budget includes a

*continued next page*

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proposed draw from our endowment, which Fredi Franks will touch on in a moment, but neither the line item nor the balance of the funds gives tells the whole story of the temple Endowment Fund. In fact, the stories behind the 70+ funds that make up our endowment offer a glimpse at the history and growth of Emanu El. I hope you saw the year-long series in the temple *Bulletin* that highlighted not just how the funds are used, but the inspiring and heartwarming stories of the philanthropy of Emanu El families who prioritized the future of Emanu El with the creation of the 70+ distinct funds. Please join me in thanking Stuart Gaylor for his leadership of the Endowment Board and the committee of Endowment Board Directors and other lay leaders for this beautifully researched and written series.

Fredi Franks will share more details about the budget shortly. I want to thank all of members for choosing to belong to Emanu El. Operating a member-based nonprofit requires each of us to make a financial investment in Emanu El through our Annual Commitment. Your Annual Commitment is key to the success of our vibrant community and the future of Emanu El. We are committed to never letting financial hardship be a barrier to belonging to Emanu El. When our members endured unexpected economic challenges and uncertainty during Covid, our staff worked to ease their hardship with appropriate adjustments to their pledge. These unavoidable revenue reductions had a direct impact on our bottom line, leaving a deficit for the 2020 and 2021. This year's Annual Commitment packet will arrive in your mailboxes soon. If your circumstances have improved, please consider enhancing your annual commitment pledge to ensure the financial health of your spiritual home.

On a personal note, it's the end of my two-year term. My term began with the onset of COVID and ends this month, when life feels more like 2019 than 2020. I have joked with many that it's been the Pandemic Presidency. The opportunity to serve this congregation as president was an honor; to be trusted with leading Emanu El has been meaningful to me in ways I could not have imagined. Most importantly I am grateful for the people I have had the pleasure and privilege to work with and learn from and laugh with. I have had a front row seat to the work the clergy does in service to our congregants, our local and global Jewish community and to the stranger. If I did anything to make their jobs easier, I will consider my service a success. Rabbi Hayon, thank you for partnership and friendship. I've seen how your love for our congregation and respect for our rich history anchors your vision for what we hope always to be: a vibrant, vital Jewish community in the heart of Houston.

Rabbi Silk, thank you for always being there for me, as a Rabbi and a friend (and a recipe resource). I'm grateful for your steady presence and wise counsel whenever I need it.

Rabbi Fixler, thank you for helping me ask hard questions.

Cantor Simmons, thank you for the beautiful music that is a balm for the ups and downs of life.

David Lamden, we have tackled a lot of challenges the past two years together and managed to laugh through almost all of them. Thank you for your partnership and friendship.

Jason Plotkin, I am so glad we had the chance to work together these past two years. Thank you for always thinking ahead, always answering my texts promptly, and for approaching novel ideas with "how can we make that work." I trust everyone tuning in knows that you will be leaving Emanu El for a new and exciting position in Michigan at the end of May. We will miss you, Aliza and Isaac and wish you all the very best!

I also want to thank the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee for your support and dedication to Emanu El. I am excited for Stuart Gaylor to take the helm on May 1. Stuart's thoughtfulness, business acumen and ability to energize volunteers are the perfect combination to lead our congregation. Congratulations Stuart!

And finally, I want to quickly thank my family. I could not have done this job without the encouragement and support of my husband Arthur Feldman and my children, Norah, Harry and Penny. I know each of them welcomes an end to my endless texts back to them: "Sorry I can't talk right now," "Can't talk, walking into meeting" and "Meeting running long, will be home soon."

*Thank you all.*



## Under the Tent with Warehouse Shabbat

Emanu El hosted its latest installment of Warehouse Shabbat under a tent in the Proler Chapel parking lot. Rabbi Josh Fixler and Cantor Rollin Simmons led the alternative prayer experience on a Friday night in early April. Drinks and specialty popsicles were the nosh for the evening.

## Parents Gather Ahead of Entering B'nei Mitzvah Cycle

Our sixth-grade parents who will have children in the B'nei Mitzvah program in 2022-23 came together in March to celebrate Shabbat with their children and our congregation before taking part in a parents meeting with Rabbi Fixler and Cantor Simmons.



## Hayon Leads Worship Opportunity for Rabbis at CCAR

In late March, Rabbi Hayon led a Shacharit service at the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) gathering in San Diego.

The service which featured colleagues online served as an opportunity to honor Reform Movement partners, Rabbi Sally Priesand (the first female rabbi ordained by a rabbinical seminary in America), female rabbis ordained between 1972 and 1983), as well as chaplains and rabbis working in healthcare facilities.

Those assembled also had a chance to bless Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker of Beth Israel in Colleyville to remember those rabbinic colleagues who have passed in recent times and to engage in song, wisdom and Torah.





### Emanu El Board of Trustees Votes Unanimously to Continue Relationship with Rabbi Hayon

I am proud to share that at the March Board meeting, our temple Trustees voted unanimously to continue our relationship with Rabbi Hayon when his current agreement expires next summer. The board vote followed a unanimous recommendation by the temple's Personnel Committee. The Board's first-hand view of Rabbi Hayon's visionary leadership and love and respect for our congregational community no doubt inspired its enthusiastic endorsement to begin contract discussions this summer.

Our Temple bylaws, updated in 2018 and 2020, provide that the initial appointment of a senior rabbi is determined by a vote of our members; subsequent contract renewals are the province of the elected Board of Trustees. Pursuant to our bylaws, the congregation must be provided notice of the Board's decision. More details about the roles of our Board of Trustees and our members in these important decisions can be found in our bylaws, which are available on the temple website ([www.emanuelhouston.org/about/](http://www.emanuelhouston.org/about/)). In accordance with our bylaws and the terms our current agreement with Rabbi Hayon, the next step involves working out the terms of the agreement.

– Jeri Amundsen, President

### Plotkin Attends PEP-RJ Conference

In late March, our Emanu El Program Director Jason Plotkin attended the Program & Engagement Professionals of Reform Judaism (PEP-RJ) conference held in Atlanta.

The conference included over 40 professionals in the areas of engagement, membership, communication, and programming. Over 75% of the participants in the conference were attending the PEP-RJ conference for the first time.

Rebecca Bar, Executive Director of Nazun (formerly Challah for Hunger) was the keynote speaker for the conference and spoke on the subject of “design thinking” and how professionals can utilize these tools for engagement.

The other featured speakers were Atlanta Jews of Color Council executive director Victoria Raggs and Rabbi Lydia Medwin of the Temple. Raggs shared how the attendees can bring lessons she has learned from helping Jewish organizations navigate DEI (diversity, equality & inclusion) back to their own synagogues. Medwin provided insight into how synagogues can move forward in remaining connected to their communities as we continue to look into the ‘new normal.’



**Emanu El Program Director Jason Plotkin attended the Program & Engagement Professionals of Reform Judaism (PEP-RJ) conference in March and served on the planning committee. Pictured is the conference committee, from left to right: Cindy Livingston of Temple Kol Emeth (Marietta, Ga.), Andy Kirschner of KAM Isaiah Israel (Chicago), Samantha Berinsky of Temple Sinai Atlanta (Sandy Springs, Ga.), Plotkin, Jillian Manko of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, and Sheri Rosenberg of Temple Ohabei Shalom (Nashville, Tenn.).**

The conference represented a final ‘hurrah’ for Plotkin, who will be stepping down from his role as President in May. The organization recognized the outgoing leader for his service during the PEP-RJ business meetings.

### Memorial Plaques Deadline of Wednesday, May 18 to Ensure Placement Prior to High Holy Days

Many members of our congregation choose to memorialize their loved ones with a permanent plaque on the yahrzeit wall of the Barish Sanctuary, which also provides for the perpetual reading of their names as part of the Friday evening Mourner's Kaddish. The cost of a plaque is \$500.

To ensure that your loved ones' plaques are placed on the wall in time for High Holy Days, we encourage you to purchase plaques by the close of business on **Wednesday, May 18**. We apologize that this date is several months prior to the holy days but are making sure there is ample time based on trends to receive the plaques back from our vendor. For more information, contact Christian Simmons at [christians@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:christians@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 262.





## Emanu El Virtual Undies for Everyone Drive

Now Through Saturday, June 11th

Congregation Emanu El's Social Action Committee is back up and running with our first project – *Undies for Everyone*.

Emanu El is teaming up with Undies for Everyone to hold a virtual underwear drive and we are need of your help! Kids living in poverty do not have the luxury that many take for granted – a week's share of fresh underwear. It is cost prohibitive for families and non-profit agencies. Underwear has become one of the least donated but most requested items.

Our goal as a congregation is to collect 500 pairs of undies and we are counting on help from everyone! Please visit the [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) website or check other synagogue communications to find a link to purchase undies and you will be providing access to children to a week's supply of underwear.

We hope you will support our virtual underwear drive and help us give something small but impactful to our community members in need. You can learn more about Undies for Everyone by visiting their website ([undiesforeveryone.org](http://undiesforeveryone.org)) and please do not forget to promote this drive through social media.

You can also get involved by volunteering to pack up boxes for Undies for Everyone by signing up at <https://undiesforeveryone.volunteerhub.com/>

Thank you for your support!

*Micol Rosen & Patti Dennenberg*  
Emanu El Social Action Chairs

## Community Organizing Core Team Seeks Help in Shaping Congregation's Social Justice Agenda

Emanu El's Community Organizing Core Team needs your help in shaping the congregation's social justice agenda. We are seeking congregants to participate in small House Meetings (10 people, max) this spring. These

structured, facilitated 90-minute meetings are designed to help us learn about the issues that weigh heavily on our congregants' hearts and minds and will take place in lay leaders' homes. All you need to bring is the willingness to listen and share.

Please email Jessie Cassorla at [jessiec@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jessiec@emanuelhouston.org), if you are interested in participating and we will send you available dates. Because these meetings are intentionally small and composed of congregants who may not know each other, we appreciate your patience as we work to schedule them through April, May, and June.

## Emanu El Endowment Board Renames General Endowment Fund

The Emanu El Endowment Board is excited to announce that by unanimous vote, the name of the General Endowment Fund has been changed to Eternal Flame Fund.

The purpose of this fund is to support the highest-priority programs and services, and provide ongoing care for the needs of our synagogue, while continuing to invest in the future of Congregation Emanu El.

If you are looking for a way to donate to the Emanu El Endowment Funds that is the most flexible and pervasive throughout the areas within the synagogue, look no further than the Eternal Flame Fund.

"This name change and purpose update brings attention to the importance of directing contributions to Emanu El in a way that helps Emanu El support today and secure tomorrow," explains Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Giving.

If you have any questions about making contributions to the Endowment Funds or about establishing your own named Endowment Fund, please contact Anna at [annas@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:annas@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 261.

## Getting Mail at Summer Camp!

Everyone loves getting mail at summer camp! Please send us your child(ren)'s camp info and address(es) for camp this summer, so we can send them something special. The two options to communicate this information to our team are emailing Jessie Cassorla at [jessiec@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jessiec@emanuelhouston.org) or completing the online form at [members.emanuelhouston.org/form/summercamp2022](http://members.emanuelhouston.org/form/summercamp2022).



## Becker School Kindergarten and Pre-K Graduates for 2022

The month of May features the conclusion of the Becker School year and with it, the siyum (“end” or “completion” in Hebrew) celebration for Becker School’s kindergarten and pre-K class.



### KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:

**Ava Bartsoff**, daughter of Kathryn & Adam Bartsoff

**Theodore Brock**, son of Karen & Jason Brock

**Logan Hawkins**, son of Alyse & Paul Hawkins

**Joseph Hill**, son of Jacklyn & Bradley Hill

**Georgia Lurie**, daughter of Sarah & Seth Lurie

**Payton Magliaro**, son of Christina Valkovich & Anthony Magliaro

**Tobi Merlin**, daughter of Drew Dumaine & Jeffrey Merlin

**Isaac Plotkin**, son of Aliza & Jason Plotkin

**Sadie Pyle**, daughter of Leah Binkovitz & Phillip Pyle II

**Gray Smith**, son of Dorian Gray Nodler & Matthew Easterly

**Ashton Stockel**, son of Jennifer & David Stockel

### PRE-K STUDENTS:

**Matthew Bartsoff**, son of Kathryn & Adam Bartsoff

**Xavier Bray**, son of Sarah Bray

**Rachel Carbajal**, daughter of Tam Carbajal & Hector Carbajal

**Ellis Dailey**, son of Amanda & Zach Dailey

**Louise Delisio**, daughter of Abigail Schuh & Samuel Delisio

**Eleanor Fixler**, daughter of Annie & Rabbi Josh Fixler

**Oliver Gordon**, son of Erin & Forrest Gordon

**Avery Kaplan**, daughter of Erin & Steven Kaplan

**Loic Fokom**, son of Victoire & Joel Fokom

**Audrey Magliaro**, daughter of Christina Valkovich & Anthony Magliaro

**Alexander McCauley**, son of Maria Johannsen & Matthew McCauley

**Rachel Moliver**, daughter of Anne & Hunter Moliver

**Hannah Mosbacher**, daughter of Lucy & Peter Mosbacher

**Christopher Porter**, son of Alison & Chris Porter

**Krishav Ramineni**, son of Shubhra & Naveen Ramineni

**Emilia Rosenzweig**, daughter of Clarice Jacobson & Brian Rosenzweig

**Audrey Saati**, daughter of Sarah Haasis & Amar Saati

**Asher Schloss**, son of Nicole & Cory Schloss

**Siena Schwaitzberg**, daughter of Liana & Andrew Schwaitzberg

**Niam Shah**, son of Prachee & Pranay Shah

**Adam Sivan**, son of Danna & Avishai Sivan

**Sloane Sorter**, daughter of Christine Church & Jason Sorter

**Asher Swanton**, son of Jill Rubenstein & Philip Swanton

**Alex Vasquez**, son of Kathy Sam & Arturo Vasquez

**Candace Volpe**, daughter of Dale & Dana Volpe

**Montague Whiteley**, son of Fay Cantor- Stephens & James Whiteley

**Michaela Wilson**, daughter of Anthanette & Chad Wilson



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through April 14, 2022.

**ABLON FUND FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS**

To provide for creative arts programs

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Ellen Orseck**  
Claire & Dick Brooks

**ACCESS FOR ALL FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**The Marriage of Carol & Larry Fradkin**  
**The Speedy Recovery of Maxine Reiff**  
Pat & Aaron Fradkin

**ALAN GAYLOR TEACHER ASSISTANT FUND**

To support Helfman Religious School teacher assistants

In Honor of  
**Stuart Gaylor – President**  
Kathy & Stephen Parven

In Memory of  
**Sandra Shainock Adair**  
Saranne & Livingston Kosberg  
**Michael Maltz**  
Joni & Gary Lewis

**AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**

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

In Memory of  
**Michael Maltz**  
Eric & Carol Adatto Nelson

**BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMPERSHIP FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**Jason Plotkin**  
Michaele & Michael Brown

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

To provide and enhance the Becker School

In Memory of  
**Robin Deutsch**  
Linda, Joseph, Michael, Brian, Katie, Alana & Alan Pulaski

**Elton Lipnick**  
Linda & Joseph Pulaski

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

To provide Becker School scholarships

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Linda Hayon**  
Marlene & Lester Slobin

In Memory of  
**Debra Schnoll Goodwin**  
Marianne & Larry Greenfield

**BILL & JOAN SPITZ PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP FUND**

To strengthen the vision of Congregation Emanu El's leaders

In Appreciation of  
**Rabbi Oren Hayon**  
Spitz Family

**BROTHERHOOD FUND**

To support the Brotherhood of Congregation Emanu El

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Stephen Moskowitz**  
Claire & Dick Brooks  
Cookie & Salomon Schein

**CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Memory of  
**Sophie Eisen**  
Sharon & Herb Cohn

**CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS FUND**

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

**A Donation**  
**JDC – Ukrainian Aid**  
Anonymous  
Gastonia & Gordon Goodman  
Barbara Black Levine & Irv Levine  
Lila Rauch  
Phyllis & Steven Segal

In Appreciation of  
**Dolores Galea**  
**Rochelle Lento & Mark Magidson**  
Linda & Paul Lynn

In Honor of  
**Rabbi Oren Hayon**  
Iris & Jonathan Greenfield  
**Kathy Parven**  
Jennis Kauffman

In Memory of  
**Mary G. Brochstein & Carnell Henderson**  
**Jennifer Ruggeri**  
Marie Brochstein & Family  
**Diane Gaitz Dante**  
Marianne & Larry Greenfield  
**William Jaffe**  
Miriam Feldman

**DOLORES & BUDDY WILKENFELD COMMUNICATIONS FUND**

To enhance Emanu El's communications with congregants

In Honor of  
**Kathy Parven**  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan  
**Dolores Wilkenfeld**  
Phyllis Cohn  
Betty Duson & Al Kahn  
Claudia Pleason Selzer & Joel Selzer

**EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND**

To provide programs for Emanu Elders

In Memory of  
**Debra Schnoll Goodwin**  
Sara Astrich  
**Michael Maltz**  
Sandra Gabe

**EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND**

To feed the hungry of Houston

In Memory of  
**Michael Maltz**  
Leda & Mike Karchmer

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**Jeri Amundsen – Honorary President**  
**Stuart Gaylor – President**  
Myra Lipper

In Memory of  
**Sandra Shainock Adair**  
**Debra Schnoll Goodwin**  
**Billy Ladin**  
Myra Lipper

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

To enhance musical programming

In Honor of  
**Cantor Rollin Simmons**  
Margie Kosoy  
**Dolores Wilkenfeld**  
Gloria & Joe Pryzant

**GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND**

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

**A Donation**  
Anonymous  
Lindsay & Jordan Hirsch

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Aaron Fradkin**  
Carol & Michael Wilk  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Evelyn Cohen  
Judy & Danny Danziger  
Pat & Aaron Fradkin  
Carol & Barry Goodfriend  
Elsa Laufman  
Nora Laufman  
Rici & Harold Miller  
Lou Mizis  
Linda & Joseph Pulaski  
Sharon Segal  
Phyllis Selber  
Saundra Turk  
Marsha Wallace & Imelda Jarquin  
**Philip Tenenbaum**  
Stephanie & Howard Loeser

**GREENE FAMILY CAMP FUND**

To support Greene Family Camp

In Honor of  
**The Bat Mitzvah of Ava Silk**  
Carol & Michael Wilk  
**The Birthday of Jack Rawitscher**  
Dottie & Kurt Berk  
**Cindy Reiner**  
Wendy & Rob Milman

continued next page

**JASON & DAVID MARCUS  
PLAYSPACE FUND**  
*To maintain and enhance the  
playground*  
In Honor of  
**The Birthday of  
Ruby Lee Sondock**  
Lila Rauch

**JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS  
SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND**  
*To enhance Helfman  
Religious School programs*  
In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Celine Kaplan**  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan  
Rozanne & Howard Rubin

**JULIE KRONOWITZ  
MEMORIAL FUND**  
*To provide programs about  
religion*  
In Memory of  
**Julie Kronowitz**  
Steven Kronowitz,  
Ruth Pantoja,  
Matthew Kronowitz, &  
Lindsay Kronowitz

**JULIUS NATHAN MUSIC  
FUND**  
*To provide musical programs*  
In Memory of  
**Cary Parven**  
Sue & Stu Baum  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**  
*To provide prayers books for  
worship*  
In Memory of  
**Donna Goldfarb**  
Charlotte Axelrad

**RABBI ROY & LINDA  
WALTER ENRICHMENT  
FUND**  
*To support spiritual and  
cultural enrichment*  
In Appreciation of  
**Helen Dreyfus & Annie  
Stein's service to the  
Emanu El Endowment  
Board**  
The Endowment Board

In Honor of  
**Rabbi Roy Walter**  
Leslie Cohan &  
Richard Caplan  
Sara Miriam Sandhaus

In Memory of  
**Cary Parven**  
Carol & Larry Fradkin  
Kathy Guttman  
**Ted Roggen**  
Jackie Hibbler  
Arlene & Marshall Hoffman

**Harris & Sol Weingarten**  
Sharon & Mike Segal  
& Family

**RICKY SCHNURR  
CAMPSHIP FUND**  
*To provide Greene Family  
Camp scholarships*  
In Honor of  
**Kathy Parven  
Jason Plotkin  
Dolores Wilkenfeld  
The Birthday of Celine Kaplan**  
Gladys Schnurr

In Memory of  
**Marian Daum  
Cary Parven**  
Gladys Schnurr

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING  
CONGREGATION FUND**  
*To support programs  
that assist people in the  
community*  
In Honor of  
**The Anniversary of  
Helen & Stanley Lack**  
Rona Weiner

In Memory of  
**Sarah Rabin**  
Susie & Joel Litman,  
Hillary & Clay Freed  
& Carly & Scott Goldman

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**  
*To enhance preschool  
education*  
In Memory of  
**Diane Gaitz Dante**  
Phyllis Turkel  
**Marian Daum  
Cary Parven**  
Marianne & Larry Greenfield  
**Elton Lipnick  
Jerome Lipnick**  
Phyllis Turkel  
**Harlan Priesman  
Rhoda Levin Priesman**  
Phyllis Turkel

**ROSE GOODFRIEND ISRAEL  
PILGRIMAGE**  
*To help send Confirmation  
students to Israel*  
In Memory of  
**Ida & Aaron Goodfriend**  
Gary Goodfriend

**SARAH & ADOLPH  
BLUMENFELD KLEI  
KODESH SACRED OBJECTS  
FUND**  
*To purchase and maintain  
Emanu El's sacred objects*  
In Memory of  
**Shawn Blumenfeld**  
Helen & Andy Spector

**SHIRLEY BARISH  
MEMORIAL ISRAEL  
EXPERIENCE FUND**  
*To send Helfman Religious  
School students to Israel*  
In Honor of  
**The Anniversary of  
Susan & Ed Septimus**  
The Austin Septimus

**SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND**  
*To provide flowers in our  
worship spaces*  
In Honor of  
**The B'not Mitzvah of  
Samantha Chavez &  
Samantha Odensky**  
The Chavez & Odensky  
Families

**Julian Farber &  
Dylan Kramer**  
Karen & Stephan Farber

In Memory of  
**Nelly Levy Berg**  
Sara Astrich & Lorraine  
Wulfe & Family  
**Bob Brook, Sam Odensky,  
Daniel Townley, Rozelle  
Cohen, Scarlett Chwatko,  
Adele Sandler, & Darna  
Brook**  
Janis Odensky

**Jose Andres Chavez-Rivas,  
Marco Antonio Chavez-  
Rivas, Marcos Chavez-  
Panameno, Rafael  
Chavez-Rivas, Rafael  
Albert Chavez, Zoila  
Pastora Chavez, Rick  
Grant, John Howell  
Lawrence, Betty Margul,  
David Margul, Dorothy  
Margul, Nancy Andrea  
Reynolds, Cynthia Joy  
Slover and Gordon Suits**  
Terry Leavitt-Chavez &  
Anthony Chavez

**Alfred Goodman**  
Joyce Goodman & Family  
**Sarah Breier Klein**  
Sara Astrich

**SISTERHOOD FUND**  
*To provide for the Sisterhood*  
In Honor of  
**Claire Brooks**  
Sandra Binder Smith  
**Shelley Wisner**  
Julie, Erin, & Lynn Busch  
Adele Croft

**SUSMAN FUND FOR  
FAMILY PROGRAMMING**  
*To support programs for  
families*  
In Honor of  
**Lila Rauch**  
**Linda Susman**  
Patricia & Mark Rauch

In Memory of  
**Mark Levey**  
Lila Rauch

**TEMPLE FUND**  
*To support the needs of the  
temple and to fulfill the  
mission of Congregation  
Emanu El*  
**A Donation**  
Katriel Statman &  
Shannon Mohrman

In Appreciation of  
**Jeri Amundsen - Honorary  
President**  
Kathy & Stephen Parven

In Honor of  
**Scout Brooks**  
**Lisa Brooks**  
Claire & Dick Brooks  
**Barbara Loeser's  
Retirement**  
**Kathy Parven**  
Carol & Michael Wilk  
**Cantor Rollin Simmons**  
Claire & Dick Brooks  
**The Marriage of  
Zach Freedman**  
Pat & Aaron Fradkin  
**The Speedy Recovery of  
Vivian Cyprus**  
Claire & Dick Brooks

In Memory of  
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DINNER 5:45 PM | SERVICE 6:15 PM

VISIT OUR WEB CALENDAR TO RSVP  
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SAVE THE DATE:

**Shirley Barish Memorial Experience**  
**Monday, June 13 – Tuesday, July 5**

Be on the lookout in the coming weeks!

25 Helfman Religious School 10th, 11th and 12th graders will be departing in June for a three-week experience in Israel funded by the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience fund.

This experience will be captured and shared through photos, videos and personal reflections on the SBMIE Facebook page and in future editions of the *Bulletin*.



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