



Bulletin

NOVEMBER 1, 2022 | 7 HESHVAN 5783

VOLUME 77 NUMBER 2

FROM RABBI HAYON



As the High Holy Day season recedes in the rearview mirror, we enter the Hebrew month of *Cheshvan*: a time which is remarkable in the Jewish calendar because it contains no holidays or special fast days. (It is also a time every year that many rabbis greet with a sense of relief!)

I feel deeply proud to know that ours is an institution which preserves and celebrates the Jewish sensitivity that, in order for us to be our best, all living things require periodic opportunities for replenishment and renewal.

The biblical *Book of Kings* calls this month by another name, however. In I Kings 6:38, its name is given as “Bul,” an ancient word which we are told means something like “shriveled” or “withered,” referring to the drying leaves and vegetation of the autumn months. Our ancient predecessors recognized this season as a time when the fields which were once lush and green began to dry and turn brown, preparing for their winter dormancy. They knew, however that the cyclical return of chilly weather and withering agriculture was not a sign of the end of the world; rather, it was a reminder that the earth and its produce was shifting into a period of necessary rest which would be necessary for its eventual rebirth and regeneration in the spring.

Today we know that, just like our ancestors’ fields in ancient Israel, human beings need access to regular periods of rest and rejuvenation in order for us to live and perform at our best. Driving ourselves frantically toward ever-higher levels of intensity and busy-ness may yield temporary short-term gains but will invariably and

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We wish to thank the following volunteers for helping to make the holidays special for all of our members and guests by being ushers at the High Holy Days:

- fredi Bleeker Franks
- Serena Harmon
- Ronith Epelon Hochman
- Lulu Kamin
- Jonah Miller
- Stephen Proler
- Steven Reiner
- Jack Rubin
- Karen Schiff
- JJ Silk
- Phyllis Turkel



Emanu El Votes

Election Day at Emanu El

Election Day is almost here and Emanu El is proud to serve as a polling place. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that participated in EEVotes to help make our congregation and 100% voting community. Remember to VOTE on **November 8!**

WORSHIP SERVICES

Shabbat worship is the weekly spiritual recharge at Congregation Emanu El. We gather in a communal exhale, embracing the end of the week with prayer, song, meditation, study, rest and renewal.

**Friday night services are available in person and online via our website, Facebook page, Roku and YouTube channels. Saturday services are in-person only in Proler Chapel.*

Shabbat Lech L'cha **Friday, November 4**

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:15 p.m., Tot Shabbat Service, Multipurpose Room
7:00 p.m., 7th Grade Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall

Saturday, November 5

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

Shabbat Vayeira **Friday, November 11**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
Heritage Shabbat and Oneg following services

Saturday, November

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bar Mitzvah of **Oliver Garfield**, son of Rebecca & Simon Garfield and **Zach Poldosky**, son of Tiffany & Brett Podolsky

Shabbat Chayei Sarah **Friday, November 18**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:00 p.m. Warehouse Shabbat, Love Dance Houston

Saturday, November 19

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bar Mitzvah of **Ethan Herman Reicheck** and Bat Mitzvah of **Reese Reicheck**, children of Brooke & Jonathan Reichek

Shabbat Tol'dot **Friday, November 25**

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

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

inevitably lead to burnout and diminished performance in the long term. Providing ourselves with the ability to revitalize ourselves is not merely a modern sensibility, but a deeply-rooted Jewish value as well.

It is for this reason that I am pleased to share with you that, with an enthusiastic endorsement from our Board of Trustees, I have approved a period of sabbatical for Rabbi Silk which will begin in January 2023. Rabbi Silk has faithfully, tirelessly, and lovingly served this congregation ever since her ordination from rabbinical school twenty years ago. She has offered attentive pastoral care, led stirring worship, and taught generations of students of all ages here at our congregation, but up to now has not received

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Saturday, November 26

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

Shabbat Vayeitzei **Friday, December 2**

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

Saturday, December 3

10:30a.m., Shabbat Morning Service Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Ethan Stulberg**, son of Dana & Jonah Stulberg

Shabbat Vayishlach **Friday, December 9**

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

Saturday, December 10

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Maxwell Goldfarb**, son of Ann & David Goldfarb and **Charlie Pasternak**, son of Rachel & Jeff Pasternak

Shabbat Vayeishev **Friday, December 16**

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

Saturday, December 17

10:30a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah of **Maiara Kahn**, daughter of Alicia Kahn

Our Apologies

In the October *Bulletin* we made an error in the announcement of an important lifecycle event for one of our congregants. On October 29, **Brody Mark** became Bar Mitzvah, son of Donna Mark & Augie Gonzalez and Jenny & Brandon Mark. Our sincere apologies to the family for our mistake.

the benefit of extended time to recharge her batteries in order to continue serving our community. Rabbi Silk's sabbatical will provide her with the opportunity to engage in high-level study and skill-building in addition to the time she will enjoy with family and friends. I invite you to read her article on page [PAGE NUMBER] of this month's *Bulletin* for more information about her upcoming sabbatical. In the coming weeks, we will also be providing additional details about the steps we are taking to ensure that there will be no interruption of rabbinical services and pastoral care during her time away.

As always, I am so grateful to make my spiritual and professional home at Congregation Emanu El, a place blessed with extraordinary leaders and guided by timeless ethical values. And I feel deeply proud to know that ours is an institution which preserves and celebrates the Jewish sensitivity that, in order for us to be our best, all living things require periodic opportunities for replenishment and renewal.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

WEDDINGS

Rebecca Orsak & John Green

Vivian Rose & Charles Millikan

BIRTHS

John (“Jack”) Adam France was born Sunday April 3, 2022 to parents Abby Bocchetto and John France, brother to Alison Rose France, Grandson to Susie Tritter, and nephew of Adam Bocchetto.

Michelle & Howard Stone welcomed a new granddaughter, **Lainey Maeve Spellman** on September 20.

DEATHS

Elton Arensman, grandfather of our member Krythe Arensman

Harold Daily, husband of Joyce Daily; father of Laura Daily; brother of Dorothy Bemel

Larry Fradkin, husband of Carol Fradkin; father of Susan & Steve Berdinis and Tootie & Steve Fradkin; grandfather of Alex Berdinis & Megan Ryan, Eric Berdinis, Cody Berdinis, Lori Fradkin & Ben Lilien, and Leslie Fradkin; great-grandfather of Nora Berdinis, Kyle Lilien, and Nathan Lilien; brother of Allan Fradkin; brother-in-law of Maxine Reiff

Randy Herzstein, husband of Sandy Smith Herzstein; father of Bari & David Fishel, Michael Herzstein & Amanda Terranova, and Marcie Prohofsky; grandfather of Max, Elise, and Theodore Fishel; sibling of Judy & Marc Herzstein, and Joyce Lipp Garfinkle

Barry Kurtz, father of Julie & Andy Fox, Michael Kurtz, and Rodney Schield; grandfather of Dylan Kurtz, Colin Kurtz, Jeremy Fox, Ethan Fox, and James Schield; brother of Cathy & Ted Bernstein; brother-in-law of Roy Smith

Dolores Statman, grandmother of our members Shannon Mohrman & Katriel Statman

Lily Urman, mother of our members Patti & Michael Dennenberg; grandmother of David and Nicholas Dennenberg; sister of Diane & Larry Erlick

Karl Wagner, husband of Judy Wagner; father of Linda & Jamie Heimbuecher and Gary & Scott Wagner; grandfather of Montana & Gregory, Ashley & David, and Emily; great-grandfather of Mason Jacob Levine; brother-in-law of our members Janice & Jerry Spencer

Selim Zilkha, husband of Mary Zilkha; father of Nina & Michael Zilkha and Nadia & Larry Stein; stepfather of Emma-Louise Hayley; grandfather of our members Jane & Daniel Zilkha, Lucinda & Andrew Francis, Daniela & Harold Liss, and Julian Wellisz & Anna Walden; great-grandfather of Cecilia, Imogen, Isabel, Genevieve, and Marguerite

Barbara Zimmerman, daughter of Jeanne Martin; sister of our members Sophi Zimmerman & James Langham, Sandra Zimmerman, and Martha & Max Zimmerman

A Notice About Bereavement Communications

Bereavement notices for our temple family are distributed with the permission of the deceased's family, and the timing of these notices is dictated by the family's request. Of course, each family grieves in its own way, and we are grateful for our congregation's patience and understanding with different families' preferences about how their loss is publicized.

**Our clergy want
to know . . .**

If you or a loved one is sick or hospitalized please let us know.

Contact the synagogue at 713.529.5771, so that our rabbis can reach out and visit and be a source of strength and support.

Visiting the sick and praying for those who are ill are important and meaningful mitzvot.

SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

November 2022

BOOK REVIEW:

Mah Jongg Mondays by Fern Bernstein

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, (online)



Sisterhood is thrilled to announce this November Book Review will be attended by the author Fern Bernstein herself! Join Sisterhood for a review of the book *Mah Jongg Mondays: A Memoir of Friendship, Love, and Faith*, reviewed by Carol Sue Zions.

Bernstein illustrates the benefits of Monday Mah Jongg threading the mental challenge, support and deep bonds of devoted friendships. This heartwarming story illustrates the wonderful things that can happen when five women are destined to come together to play an old Chinese game, sitting around a table with tiles, dice and a mah jongg card.

Mah Jongg with Sisterhood

Tuesday, November 1, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., with Dinner, \$7.00

Monday, November 7, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bring your cards and your friends and enjoy the fun with lots of noshes. All levels of players are welcome and, if you don't know how to play, we will teach you! There is no charge. Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.



Women's Day, Navigating the Future: Challenges Facing Nonprofits

Thursday, November 17, 10:00 a.m.

Celebrate Women's Day with your sisters! Experience a meaningful discussion panel of distinguished nonprofit leaders as they divulge the challenges they face in their operations and their plans to overcome them. It's guaranteed to be an exciting and thought-provoking conversation followed by lunch. The cost to attend is \$20 for Sisterhood members and \$25 for non-members.

Register online at emanuelhouston.org or contact Sisterhood at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org by Friday, November 11.

SPECIAL GUESTS FOR THE PANEL DISCUSSION INCLUDE:



Moderator: Amy Davis
Consumer
Investigative Reporter
for KPRC Channel



Elena Marks
President and CEO of
Episcopal Houston
Foundation



Martin Cominsky
President and CEO of
Interfaith Ministries
for Greater Houston



Brian Greene
President and CEO of
Houston Food Bank



Helfman Religious School

2022-2023 Consecration Class

On Sunday October 16, in front of their family and friends, our kindergarten students and our new students in first, second and third grades, were consecrated. The children sang songs and were blessed by Rabbi Hayon. It was a joyful celebration marking the beginning of the students' Jewish education at Emanu El.



Front row (left to right): Arielle Zhadanov, Lilia Mohan, Sebastian Wexler, Marley Wexler, Asher Swanton, Luke Panter, Liam Funk, Herschel Opalek Owen, Jocelyn Opalek Owen and Emma Elam; **Second row:** Fernando Graubart, Sam Snelgrove, Siena Schwaitzberg, Preston Rockoff, Audrey Saati, Ari Gribov, Ashton Stockel, Hannah Sitzer, Abigail Faig and Naomi Faig; **Third row:** Ella Fixler, Hazel Bakshy, Eleanor Korngold, Oliver Gordon, Emilia Rosenzweig, Gus Goldfarb, Hannah Mosbacher, Eliana Fradkin, Travis Taylor, Joseph Hill, Daisy Funk and Emma Olin; **Fourth row:** Maya Graubart, Rowan Bakshy, Marc Murland, Kalman Gordon, Theodore Fishel, Adah Stein, Tucker Taylor and Lucy Schwartz; **Fifth row:** Philip Slosburg, Luka Augusten Armstrong, Grant Raphaeli, Zoe Blumberg, Rowen Busch, Elise Nevas and Mikayla Mendelovitz; **Sixth row:** Zachary Zhadanov, Misha Mohan, Lily Murland, Alivia Blacher, Maddox Edlund, Beau Rosenfeld, Sofia Mrema, Alia Itkin and Ledger Hirsch; **Seventh row:** Davis Hyatt, Charlotte Hartley, Rafael Hochman, Landon Mendelovitz, Valentina Cohen, Jack Yoder, Leora Raphaeli, Gigi White, Margot Schwartz and Charles Eli Silberman; **Back row:** Todd Weiss, Cathy Winter, Rabbi Fixler, Rabbi Hayon, Cantor Simmons, Rabbi Silk, Stefani Carlson and Beverly Shapiro.

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Becca Schwartzberg

Congratulations Becca Schwartzberg!

Mazel tov to Becca Schwartzberg, our Youth and Young Engagement Coordinator, for being selected to participate in the inaugural HUC-JIR Jewish Ideas Fellowship! In this highly competitive program, Becca will be learning alongside Reform Jewish professionals and lay leaders from across the country. The Fellowship is based on the idea that, “by studying together, by exploring big questions together and respecting the diversity of [participants’] wisdom, we will create a unique learning community and a living leadership laboratory.” We are excited for Becca to begin this unique learning experience!

Wednesday Night Upper School Gatherings Resume

On October 12, the Helfman Religious School Upper School program resumed Wednesday night dinners and programming. To kick off the season, students and faculty participated in a family education program with the One America Movement, a national nonprofit confronting toxic polarization in our society.



Coffee & Conversation with Rabbi Hayon

December 1, 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Join us for Coffee & Conversation during which we will learn from Rabbi Oren Hayon about holidays in the home. This is a great time for our Jewish and non-Jewish families to learn all about celebrating Chanukah this season. Please drop off your children in carpool, then park in our west lot or parking garage. We will be in the youth lounge with coffee and tea.



Giving Tuesday Tuesday, November 29

The Tuesday after Thanksgiving is known as Giving Tuesday, a day for global generosity that gives people and organizations the power to transform their communities and the world. It’s a whole day of Tzedakah! If you participate in #GIVINGTUESDAY, remember to include Emanu El in your charitable decisions. Watch your emails and social media for more information coming soon.



Rabbi Pamela B. Silk

A Message from Rabbi Silk

Just a couple of weeks ago we celebrated Simchat Torah and concluded the Hebrew month of Tishrei. Tishrei was jam-packed with opportunities to celebrate, rejoice, reflect, remember, and recommit ourselves to God, Judaism and being part of a holy and sacred community. No other religious tradition I know of packs more holidays into one single month. When we arrive at the month of Cheshvan, we find ourselves in stark contrast to the fullness of Tishrei, as Cheshvan is the only month of the Hebrew calendar without a single holiday. It is sometimes called Mar Cheshvan, meaning bitter Cheshvan, because of the absence of festivals and celebrations.

The rhythm of the Jewish calendar encourages us to work hard, engage with tradition meaningfully, celebrate mightily with full vim and vigor, and then rest. In this spirit, in the 20th year of my rabbinate and tenure at Congregation Emanu El, I am pleased to share that I will be taking three months of sabbatical time beginning January 3, 2023. It will be a unique and special time to renew and refresh so that I can continue to do the work I love to do and be present for our community. During my sabbatical I have plans to nourish the parts of my rabbinate I am most passionate about. I will spend the time learning, volunteering, traveling, replenishing my soul and connecting with family in a deeper and more present way.

Torah instructs us regarding the Shmitta year, a sabbatical year that in ancient times and today, calls for the land and people of Israel to renew and refresh and for those who tend those fields to pause for a year.

Rabbi Avraham Isaac Kook, the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of British Mandate Palestine wrote this about the Shmitta year: *Life can only be perfected through the affording of a breathing space from the bustle of everyday life. The individual shakes themselves free from ordinary weekday life at short and regular intervals – every Sabbath...* What the Sabbath achieves regarding the individual, the Shmita achieves with regard to the nation as a whole.

(Introduction to “Sabbath of the Land”)

And so I will take a bit of breathing space for a few months. I will return to Emanu El at the beginning of April. Stepping away from my professional roles and responsibilities for a bit of time is only possible because of my extraordinary clergy partners. In pursuing and planning for sabbatical I am deeply blessed to have the support and encouragement of Rabbi Hayon, Rabbi Fixler and Cantor Simmons. Their commitment to my having sabbatical time to renew and refresh, and their unwavering devotion to our community, will ensure that all will continue to run smoothly during my time away.

Likewise, the talented and dedicated Emanu El staff team will continue to provide excellent service and support so all members' needs will continue to be met without interruption. I am grateful to our temple leadership and the Board of Trustees for this gift of time to replenish my body, mind and spirit.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT EMANU EL

Programming at Emanu El

When reviewing our program calendar, please note any registration requirements. All programs are in person unless indicated otherwise. If you have a suggestion for a program or any questions about the details above, please contact Programming & Engagement Coordinator Amy Hartley at amyh@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 216.



Spiritual Eldering Tuesdays, November 1, 8 & 15 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Please join Rabbi Seth Stander of HHCI at Emanu El to explore how to transform perspectives on the aging process and move toward mindful living. Learn about spiritual eldering and contemplate your natural lifecycle, legacy and eternity. Space is limited, so sign up today by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar or reach out to Amy Hartley amyh@emanuelhouston.org.



Rabbi Seth Stander

Congregation Emanu El

SCHMOOZE & SCHMEAR

Join us on the first Saturday of each month for an engaging and spiritual prayer service at 10:30 a.m., then stay after the service for a nosh.

Saturday November 5
Following Services



Music at Emanu El Shepherd School Concert

Sunday, November 13, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Experience the beauty of instrumental chamber music performed by gifted musicians from The Shepherd School of Music at Rice. We will hear compositions from an array of Jewish composers, both known and not-so-known, from different time periods in history. Ticket price: \$18.



Emanu El Volunteer Choir Showcase – *Back to Broadway* Sunday, December 11, 5:00 p.m.

Emanu El's Volunteer Choir, led by Ann Frohbieter, will brighten your season with their performance of your favorite showtunes. This annual concert is sure to make you smile and enliven your spirit. This is an engaging event for all ages. The program is free and an optional dinner is \$15 per person. Please register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar.

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Heritage Shabbat

Friday, November 11, 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.

Warehouse Shabbat

Friday, November 18, 6:00 p.m.,

Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Love Dance Houston, 2206 Edwards Ste. B



Join Rabbi Fixler, Cantor Simmons and their live band for Warehouse Shabbat! This rocking, adults-only worship event has been designed to be a dynamic, lively and musical prayer experience to rejuvenate your heart and uplift your spirit. The next installment will be in the Sawyer Yards Art District of Washington Heights. Come enjoy local desserts and drinks during this exciting Shabbat experience! RSVP online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org/calendar.

Taste of Talmud (online)

Thursday, December 1, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Do you want all the benefits of a book discussion group without the need to commit to extensive reading ahead of time? Do you want to connect with both your Judaism and a fun group of people?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then join us for A Taste of Talmud, our monthly study of rabbinic texts, led by Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson. No experience or Hebrew knowledge required: all texts are provided in translation. We are currently meeting on Zoom – all are welcome. We would love to have you add your voice to our virtual beit midrash (house of study)! For more information, contact Stefani Carlson at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 251.

New Member Dinner

Friday, December 2,
following Shabbat evening services

Have you joined Emanu El since September 2021? Join us for Shabbat services and dinner for an opportunity to get to know other members, our board and staff.

Federation Launches Listening Project

December 2-4

The Jewish Federation of Greater Houston wants input from Houston's Jewish community to collectively shape our shared future.

Hineni Houston is its community-wide listening journey that aims to engage up to 1,000 Houstonians in conversations. This effort is led by more than 50 volunteers in our community and Chaired by Joe Pryzant and Dori Goldman in partnership with Federation Board Chair Ben Samuels and CEO Renée Wizig-Barrios.

Together, we will imagine and ultimately co-create Jewish life in Houston that is joyful, meaningful, and relevant for ALL of us, no matter where we live or how we live our Jewish lives. The central question Hineni Houston asks is: "What are your aspirations for Houston's Jewish community, now and for the future?"

Through an intentionally designed community listening approach, Hineni Houston will seek to understand question, including but not limited to: How have our needs as a Jewish community changed? What is important to us? What are our strengths? What are the barriers to a Jewish community that is connected, inclusive, vibrant and meaningful? Where can we grow or innovate? What is missing in our Houston Jewish community?

We invite you to participate. To do so, please visit www.houstonjewish.org/hineni where you can register for a Listening Forum.

More than 40 Listening Forums are scheduled from now through January, including over the Hineni Listening Weekend which will be held **December 2-4**.

If you have any questions, please submit them to hello@houstonjewish.org.

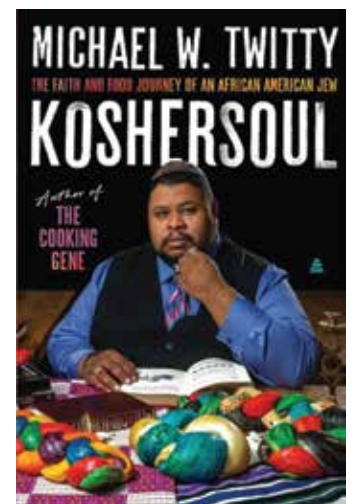
Michael Twitty To Visit Congregation

Emanu El

Wednesday,

December 7, 7:00 p.m.

We are excited to announce Michael Twitty, culinary historian, food writer, and author of *Kosher Soul*, as Emanu El's 2022-2023 Endowment Speaker. From the Washington D.C. area, *Southern Living* named Twitty, one of "Fifty People Changing the South," and *theroot.com* added him to their 100 most influential African Americans under 45. He also made the *Jewish Forward* list of most influential American Jews. Stay tuned for more details about this exciting opportunity in the coming weeks.



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FROM AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Give the Gift of Mobility

Give the gift of mobility to congregants who need the assistance of a wheelchair to move about the Emanu El campus. If you have unused wheelchairs at home, please 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.

Honoring Veterans at Emanu El Memorial Park Cemetery

If you have a loved one laid to rest at Emanu El Memorial Park who served in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, please email the person's full name and branch served to christians@emanuelhouston.org.



Welcome Home Baskets



The Sisterhood-led social action initiative that kicked off October 9 is off to a great start. Volunteers had a fun and productive afternoon receiving and sorting items. Thank you to all who have donated and volunteered to help thus far. In collaboration with Interfaith Ministries and Jewish Family Services, these baskets will greatly help families and need, including newly arrived refugee families.

Our work is not finished! Students of the Becker School did a fantastic job of bringing all the kitchen utensils. We

are now in the highest need of new pots/pans, dishes, glasses, silverware, bath and kitchen towels, bed sheets, basic tools, and coffee makers.

The deadline to donate is **December 11**. Volunteer to help on **November 6 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** with basket assembly, or **November 13 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Volunteers with trucks or SUVs are especially needed on delivery day. Participate in this generous mitzvah today! Visit emanuelhouston.org/welcomehomebaskets to help.



The Classics After-Thanksgiving Dinner Wednesday, November 30, 6:30 p.m. Mia's Table, 3131 Argonne St.

Please join The Classics for an After-Thanksgiving Dinner and skip those turkey leftovers!!! We will give "thanks" for the many blessings in our lives and "give" to those who need a little smile this holiday season.

Meet us at Mia's Table. The restaurant will accommodate us with reserved tables in their large party area. Everyone will order and pay individually for their food and beverages at the restaurant counter. Check out the menu at miastable.com. Please visit emanuelhouston.org/calendar to register in advance online by **Monday, November 28**.

For this event, we ask that you bring a donation that will benefit the patients and families at Texas Children's Hospital. All donated items must be brand new and in original packaging. Suggested donations include infant rattles, Fisher Price brand toys, dolls and action figures, Hot Wheels/Matchbox cars, craft/paint/model sets, playing cards, adult coloring books, and toiletries (e.g. travel size shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and soap). Food items are not permitted.

If you have any questions, please contact The Classics at emanuelclassics@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

Emanu El Volunteers: Together We Are Better

Congregation Emanu El is built on a foundation of member inclusion, diversity and talent. For years, we have prided ourselves on creative programming and a 'get it done' attitude, bringing people in all walks of life together to connect via shared interests and skills. At its core, volunteers sharing what they do best makes Emanu El the dynamic religious and spiritual institution it is today.

"It's inspiring to see the many moving parts of our organization working together to lead us, teach us, and make us better individually, both as a community and throughout our city," shares Stuart Gaylor, Board President. "As a volunteer leader, I meet lots of members and work with our dedicated clergy, staff and board. I get to develop stronger relationships with so many wonderful people."

"One of our board's goals this year is to actively engage as many members as possible," he continues. "Our temple volunteers are the lifeblood of our congregation, and I can promise you that getting involved will enrich your life, bring greater joy, help you become more spiritual, and even have more fun. There are many ways to become involved; a one-hour event, a monthly committee or maybe a quarterly obligation. There is something here for everyone – we just need to learn that you'd like to get involved."

In response to this goal, the temple created a Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group, chaired by Board Member Scott Bormaster, to help match members' passions and interests with the wide variety of volunteer opportunities. "Our committee is tasked with not only identifying the best volunteers available for any given need, but ultimately developing a comprehensive member database so at any time our leaders can identify members with select skill sets and talents," explains Scott. "We want our temple committees to have a simple process to fill their volunteer needs and develop a robust committee system that brings out the best in our membership."

"Everyone has something to give, and the temple has an abundance of needs," adds Adam Pollock, the Board's Senior Vice President. "By tapping into members'

interests and desires we can fill and refill philanthropic passions and interests, within the congregation and the broader community. There is great opportunity to contribute and grow at the personal, professional and organizational level. As we move beyond the isolation of the pandemic, volunteering is the best way to get involved and make meaningful connections with others."

The Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group has created a flyer to help capture initial member interest at this time. The flyer was promoted during the High Holidays, will be available to access in our weekly emails, on the temple website and in this month's Bulletin. "There is strength in numbers, and we are determined to combine the many volunteer opportunities with our strong member knowledge and abilities," says Scott. "Ideally, this will turn into a continuous source of volunteer leaders to help build, grow and ensure the longevity and vitality of our beloved Emanu El. For all of us, this would be a great legacy and accomplishment."

To volunteer with Emanu El, go to emanuelhouston.org/getinvolved.

"The word for 'synagogue' in Hebrew is 'beit k'neset,' which means 'house of assembly.' The phrase indicates something that we all instinctively know: that in order to make a place holy, it must be a place of meeting – a place for human connection where relationships can flourish and grow. In order for our synagogue to be the best – and holiest – place it can be, we must work hard to make certain that it feels like 'home' to all of its members. I hope that Emanu El can be the place that invites all of our congregants to bring the best parts of themselves here – to volunteer, to learn, to grow and to connect with each other."

– Oren Hayon, Senior Rabbi



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EMANU EL IS GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

DO YOU...

- like helping others?
- have a talent or skill to share?
- enjoy being part of a vibrant community?
- want to feel more connected as a member?



The newly formed "Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group" is here to help match YOUR passions and interests with the wide variety of volunteer opportunities at Emanu El.

Volunteer today to help shape the future of our congregation and broader community.

Questions?

Contact Scott Bormaster, *Chair, Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group*

📞 713.725.5212

✉️ sb4runner@aol.com

JOIN NOW!

There are three ways to sign up. Visit emanuelhouston.org/getinvolved to submit electronically, detach the following form and mail it to **Congregation Emanu El Attn: Anna Shabtay 1500 Sunset Blvd. Houston, TX 77005**, or bring it with you to High Holy Day Services and drop it in the marked locations. Also, feel free to reach out to any of our committee members listed on the back of this page with questions.



Volunteer Form

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

(over)

Make your mark at Emanu El and GET INVOLVED!



All we need is YOU

Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group

Patricia Baker

Larry Barr-Meyer

Nancy Ehrenkranz

Ralph Herring

Joy Krohn

Laura Mayer

Carolyn Putterman

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☎ 713.857.9411

☎ 832.496.7480

☎ 713.443.6776

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Representative List of Committees

- _ Art
- _ Audit
- _ Adult Education
- _ Becker Early Childhood Education
- _ Budget & Finance
- _ Building, Grounds & Security
- _ Cemetery
- _ Endowment Board
- _ Fundraising/Advancement
- _ Governance/Board of Trustees
- _ Helfman Religious School
- _ Insurance
- _ Investment
- _ Israel
- _ Leadership Development
- _ Legacy Giving
- _ Management & Personnel
- _ Membership & Outreach
- _ Membership Engagement/Involvement
- _ Nominations
- _ Sacred Belonging
- _ Sisterhood
- _ Social Action
- _ Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group
- _ Young Professionals
- _ Youth

HUNGER FUND

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the High Holy Day Hunger Fund Appeal. Your support will directly impact those who are hungry in Houston through Kids Meals, SEARCH, Houston Food Bank, and more. *List reflects gifts given as of October 12.

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

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

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

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Sandy & Sam Block

In Honor of

The Anniversary of Larry & Don Barr-Meyer

Sara Astrich

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To support Helfman Religious School teaching assistants

In Memory of

Lily Urman

Cynthia G. Pleason

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

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In Honor of

The Marriages of Shelby & Eric Lynn and Jordan & Robert Nathan

Lindy & Samuel Dorn

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To provide Becker School scholarships

In Memory of

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Jolene Friedman &
Harold Eisenman

Rabbi Jimmy Kessler

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To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Appreciation of

Dee Dee Dochen

Sandy & Andi Gaitz

In Memory of

Larry Fradkin

Sara Speer Selber

CECILE & EMANUEL WULFE CONFIRMATION AWARD FUND

To provide a scholarship to send an outstanding Confirmation student to a Jewish Youth Group event

In Honor of

The Birthday of Lorraine Wulfe

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To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

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To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

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In Memory of

Bradley Stuart Borden

Michele & David Olifant

Marianne Greenfield

Shirley Burkom

Randy Hertzstein

Cathy Borden

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

A Donation

Howard, Lisa & Nancy Garoon & Families

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Oren Hayon

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In Honor of

Rabbi Joshua Fixler

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To feed the hungry of Houston

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Randy Herzstein

Sara Astrich

Sandy Frieden

Barbara B. Glave

Barbara & Allen Pauly

Margit Levitin

Evelyn Westheimer

Sigmund Westheimer

Lorraine Wulfe

ESTHER SHELBY FELLOWSHIP FUND

To provide food and refreshments for Emanu El programs that bring members closer to the congregation and each other

In Memory of

Randy Herzstein

Aliza & Jason Plotkin

ETERNAL FLAME FUND

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

A Donation

Myra Lipper

In Honor of

The Birthday of Sherwin Newar

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Stephen Weil

FREDELL LACK EICHHORN CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

To enhance musical programming

In Honor of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Beverly Borden

continued next page

In Memory of
Randy Herzstein
Kathryn & Jonathan Paine

**GERARD & PAULINE
LECHENGER MORGENSTERN
ADULT EDUCATION FUND**

*To provide adult Hebrew
education programs*

In Memory of
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**JASON & DAVID MARCUS
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*To maintain and enhance the
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In Memory of
Randy Herzstein
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MITZVAH FUND**

*To support mitzvah projects
that improve life for*

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In Memory of
Marianne Greenfield
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GARDEN FUND**

*To maintain and enhance the
landscape around Emanu El*

In Honor of
**The Birth of Lainey Maeve
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In Memory of
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*To support spiritual and
cultural enrichment*

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Beverly Borden
Sara Brook

**The Birthday of Bette
Pesikoff**
Jonah Schein

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Estate of Elaine J.
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**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Helfman Religious
School scholarships*

A Donation
Rachael Lee

In Appreciation of
**Stefani Carlson & the entire
B'nei Mitzvah Team**
Sallye Wolf

continued next page

**RICKY SCHNURR
CAMBERSHIP FUND**

To provide Greene Family
Camp scholarships
In Appreciation of
**The Brit Milah for Cayden
James Barr-Meyer
Rabbi Oren Hayon**
Don & Larry Barr-Meyer

In Memory of
Larry Fradkin
Don & Larry Barr-Meyer
Gladys Schnurr
Cindy & David Senior
**Marianne Greenfield
Randy Herzstein**
Gladys Schnurr
Daniel Weinberg
Sondra Ross
Gladys Schnurr

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING
CONGREGATION FUND**

To support programs
that assist people in the
community
In Appreciation of
Pat & Aaron Fradkin
Lou & Herb Mizis

In Memory of
**Jodie Engler
Larry Fradkin**
Myra Mayer
Randy Herzstein
Susan & Ed Septimus

**ROBERT I. KAHN GALLERY
FUND**

To maintain and enhance the
Robert I. Kahn Gallery
In Memory of
Randy Herzstein
Debby & Richard Colton
Libby & Buz Marvins
Nancy Peskin

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL
JUSTICE FUND**

To send congregants to the
Consultation on Conscience at
the Religious Action Center
A Donation
Thelma G. Fixler

**THE ROBERT REICHEK
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT
ENDOWMENT FUND**

To provide youth and young
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In Memory of
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Jennifer & Robert Reichek

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CHILDHOOD FUND**

To enhance preschool
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In Memory of
Ronnie Brochstein
Phyllis Berman
**Terre Brook
Michael Epstein
Marianne Greenfield**
Phyllis Turkel
Randy Herzstein
Phyllis Berman
Sharon & Herb Cohn
Carolyn McGuinness
Sharon & Herb Cohn

**SACHS-PESSES COMMUNITY
OUTREACH FUND**

To present programs on
LGBTQ+ issues
In Honor of
**The Anniversary of Larry &
Don Barr-Meyer**
Peggy Arriaga, Jennis
Kauffman, & Julie Kauffman

**SARAH & ADOLPH
BLUMENFELD KLEI KODESH
SACRED OBJECTS FUND**

To purchase and maintain
Emanu El's sacred objects
In Memory of
Barry Kurtz
Dotty & Lawrence Kagan

**SHIRLEY BARISH MEMORIAL
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To send Helfman Religious
School students to Israel
In Memory of
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& Tali Kalmans
Jodie Engler
Rebecca & Jost Lunstroth
Larry Fradkin
Marlene Rubin

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To provide flowers in our
worship spaces
In Honor of
**Alyson, Daniel, Ashton, &
Elon Blotcky and Elizabeth,
Steven, Brandon, & Jayden
Bricker**
The Birthday of Elaine Kuper
Laurie & Jeff Bricker
**The B'nei Mitzvah of William
Burger & Wyatt Greenberg**
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In Memory of
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Kate & Irving Greenberg,
Florence Kaplan, Arlene &
Arthur Paul, Sheila & Michael
Paul, Mark Richman, and Sara
& Martin Richman**
The Greenberg Family
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Lorraine & Sigmar Hofeller,
Sophie & Leonard Keller,
Harry Kuper, and Marion &
Elia Levi**

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To provide for the Sisterhood
In Honor of
**The Birthday of Shirley
Schnoll**
Sara Astrich

In Memory of
Larry Fradkin
Nancy & Billy Gotsdiner

**SUSMAN FUND FOR FAMILY
PROGRAMMING**

To support programs for
families
In Memory of
Randy Hertzstein
Lila Rauch
Pamela & Andrew Susman

TEMPLE FUND

To support the needs of the
temple and to fulfill the
mission of Congregation
Emanu El
In Appreciation of
David Odle
Susan & Syd Waldman

In Honor of
**The Emanu El Clergy &
Staff**
Robert Goldman
**The Birthday of Rabbi Oren
Hayon**
Cheryl & Haran Levy

In Memory of
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Amy Bernstein
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Ann Pomerantz
Judy Schwartz
Carolyn Solar

Minnette Robinson
Barbara & Raymond
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Leah Peska Stillman
Paul Ringold

Book of Memory

Please note the following additions to the 2022/5783
Book of Memory.

**Richard Susman, Gerald Rauch, Morris Rauch, Birdie
Rauch, Ralph Levey, Alyce Levey, Harry Susman,
Dorothy Susman, Max Sprung, Rae Sprung, Veda
Mae Glesby, Morris Glesby, Mark Levey, Pattie
Levey, Anita Kotlen, Leonard Rauch, Susan Glesby,
Frenchy Falik**
Remembered by Linda Susman & Family.

#WeBelongTogether



Erev Rosh Hashanah

On September 25, congregants gathered for a reception prior to the contemporary service, Erev Rosh Hashanah Unplugged. It was a joyful event that demonstrates the community's desire to come together in person, setting the tone for a meaningful and memorable high holy day season.





Yom Kippur Afternoon Experiences



Gratitude, Growth & Repair



Congregants enjoyed a variety of opportunities to enhance their Yom Kippur experience through learning, discussing, and creating beautiful art.



Sukkot On Sunset



YP JED Talk in the Sukkah



Young Professionals gathered in the sukkah for a JED Talk with special guest Al Silber, star of Lend me a Soprano.

Huge thanks to our volunteers!

Thank you Steve Moskowitz, Dick Brooks, Phillip Rivers, Billy Rosenberg, Alford Bleeker and Salomon Schein for all your hard work and volunteering your time to put up the sukkah that our entire community enjoyed throughout the week of Sukkot!



We also thank all the volunteers that helped with the festival: Karen Schiff, Heidi Kaplan, Amanda Petrie, Joe Cohen, Melia Cannata, TJ Owers and Fredi and Paul Franks.

**YOUR VALUES. YOUR FAMILY.
MAY BOTH ENRICH YOUR LIFE
THROUGHOUT 5783.**

During this season of reflection, may the blessings of life and love be your guide into a New Year that's full of happiness, health and fulfillment.

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Congregation Emanu El



LET'S PICKLEBALL!
JEWISH SINGLES OVER 50

**IF YOU'VE NEVER HELD A PADDLE,
THE TIME HAS COME!
IF YOU ARE HANDY WITH A PADDLE,
WE NEED YOUR GUIDANCE**
PICKLEBALL PRESENTATION BY
PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS, PRACTICE,
MEET, GREET, NOSH & NETWORK

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 6
CONGREGATION BETH YESHURUN
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT:
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Congregation Emanu El

Oren J. Hayon, Senior Rabbi
Pamela B. Silk, Associate Rabbi
Joshua R.S. Fixler, Associate Rabbi
Roy A. Walter, Rabbi Emeritus
Rollin Simmons, Cantor
David Lamden, Executive Director
Anna Shabtay, Director of
 Congregational Advancement
Sarah Williams, Early Childhood Director
Stefani Carlson, Director of
 Congregational Learning

Stuart Gaylor, President
Adam Pollock, Senior Vice President
Alana Pulaski, Vice President
Matt Pasternak, Vice President
fredi Bleeker Franks, Vice President
Ben Miller, Vice President

Philip Tenenbaum, Treasurer
Dawn Blitz, Secretary
Jeri Amundsen, Honorary President
Andrew Gass, Brotherhood President
Carol Sue Zionts, Sisterhood President

EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG

WE'RE GOING TO ISRAEL!
 JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING
 NOVEMBER 3 | 7:00 PM

ISRAEL

SUMMER 2023

The graphic features a blue background with a collage of Israeli scenes: a stone wall, a minaret, a dome, a waterfall, a person on a camel, and a person in a boat. The word 'ISRAEL' is written in large, blue, outlined letters, with each letter containing a different scene. The background also shows a beach and waves.



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