

# Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2023 | SHEVAT/ADAR 5783

**VOLUME 77 NUMBER 5** 

#### FROM RABBI HAYON



I am reminded of the hopeful and optimistic promise of the Psalms: "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (30:5)

As part of last month's coverage of Americans' new year's resolutions, the New York Times produced a week-long series of articles focusing on personal wellness and happiness. The series ("The 7-Day Happiness Challenge") identified a handful of simple and easily-accomplished strategies which have been proven effective in increasing the long-term happiness in one's life.

The lessons offered by the articles are elegant in their simplicity: deepen your personal relationships by committing to regular communication with others (even short phone calls lasting just a few minutes have a powerful effect on our happiness); make social plans outside your home and resist the temptation to cancel them; express gratitude on a regular basis for the good things in your life; remain consistent in continuing the choices and behaviors that increase your fulfillment and satisfaction in your life.

I read every article in the *Times* series during the first week of January. I found myself unexpectedly inspired by the concept and encouraged by the notion that such small, everyday actions could have such a deep and long-lasting impact on our happiness. Most of all, I think, I was drawn to the idea of using our new year's resolutions to make ourselves happier, rather than stronger, thinner, or richer. How different would our lives be if we could reliably

29th Bunny & Leo Horvitz Scholar-in-Residence "Changing Realities: Israel After the Elections" Tuesday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.



The elections of November brought about the most dramatic change in political life with the success of the radical religious right who joined the coalition and the failure of the left parties to cooperate with each other. This session will deal with contemporary realities and the Diaspora responses to Israel in 2023.

Professor Liptz appears in cooperation with the Evelyn Rubenstein JCC Bobbi and Vic Samuels Center for Jewish Living & Learning.

continued on page 2



#### Music at Emanu El Continues

The inaugural season of Music at Emanu El continues with its lineup as the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University returns to Emanu El on **February 12**. Experience the beauty of instrumental chamber music performed by gifted musicians.

continued on page 7

#### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

Friday night services are streamed on our website, Facebook page, Roku channel, and YouTube. Saturday morning B'nei Mitzvah services are available solely on the website and Saturday services take place in Proler Chapel as an in-person experience only. Any changes will be shared via the regular synagogue communications.

## Shabbat B'Shalach Friday, February 3

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall 6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel 6:15 p.m., Tot Shabbat Service, Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

#### Saturday, February 4

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear, Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary B'nei Mitzvah of **Benjamin Bernstein**, son of Debbie & Eitan Bernstein, and **Julia Saber**, daughter of Sara Saber, Joel & Mindy Saber.

#### Shabbat Yitro Friday, February 10

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel Helfman 6th Grade Family Shabbat & Overnight

#### Saturday, February 11

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary Bat Mitzvah of **Caroline Yoder**, daughter of Leah Seewald & Drew Yoder

# Shabbat Mishpatim Friday, February 17

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Barish Sanctuary D'var Torah by Barish Limmud Scholar Kristine Henriksen Garroway

#### Saturday, February 18

9:00 a.m., Breakfast and Learn with Barish Limmud Scholar 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service with Barish Limmud Scholar Kristine Henriksen Garroway, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary Bat Mitzvah of **Shirli Hochman**, daughter of Ronith Epelbon & Matias Hochman

### FROM RABBI HAYON continued from page 1

and scientifically increase the amount of happiness we experience every day? How different would our families, our communities, our nation be?

I suspect that "The 7-Day Happiness Challenge" had such a strong impact on me because of how prevalent sadness and disappointment appears to be in our community and throughout the country. We have gone through so many difficult months together, and it seems that happiness has been elusive for many of us for a terribly long time. I am reminded of the hopeful and optimistic

Congregation Emanu El Bulletin (USPS 399-430) is published monthly by Congregation Emanu El, 1500 Sunset, Houston, Texas 77005. Periodical paid at Houston, Texas. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Congregation Emanu El Bulletin, 1500 Sunset, Houston, Texas 77005.

#### Shabbat T'rumah Friday, February 24

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

#### Saturday, February25

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary Bar Mitzvah of **Mason Granoff**, son of Amy & Marc Granoff

#### Shabbat T'tzaveh Friday, March 3

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

#### Saturday, March 4

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary B'not Mitzvah of **Mia Pliskin** and **Riana Pliskin**, daughters of Greta & Alex Pliskin

#### Shabbat Ki Tisa Friday, March 10

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

#### Saturday, March 11

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary B'nei Mitzvah of Samuel Dickerman, son of Annie Stein & Jesse Dickerman, and Olivia Marks, daughter of Andrew & Nataly Marks

#### Shabbat Vayak'heil - P'kudei Friday, March 17

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

#### Saturday, March 18

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel 10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary Bat Mitzvah of **Isabella Clark**, daughter of Lara & Perrin Clark

#### MAZEL MOMENT

Congratulations to **Beth Matusoff Merfish**, who will be honored at NCJW's Women of Influence Luncheon on **February 3**. Beth and City Council member **Abbie Kamin** are being recognized for their visionary effort to create Houston's first paid parental leave policy for city employees.

promise of the Psalms: "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (30:5)

Only time will tell whether the tools and techniques offered by "The 7-Day Happiness Challenge" will have an enduring effect on the amount of joy and fulfillment that its readers experience during their lives in 2023. But whether or not it proves to be successful in the long run, its tips are indisputably beneficial even in the short term: all of us who make our home in this spiritual community already know how important the Happiness Challenge's core principles are: interpersonal connection, reliable and enriching ritual, and the regular, wholehearted exercise of gratitude and thanksgiving. I fervently hope that all of us will use these practices – and the time-honed tools of Jewish life – to bring us and our whole community to new heights of happiness and fulfillment in 2023.

#### WEDDINGS

Iryna Romanenko & Ryan Herbst

#### **BIRTHS**

Maggie Evelyn Carlson, granddaughter of our members Stefani & Steve Carlson

**Leo Ezra Eichberg**, son of our members Jenna & Michael Eichberg

**Micah Ivy Merfish**, granddaughter of our members Sherry & Gerald Merfish

**Arthur Stanton Ruby Wolf**, grandson of our members Debra & Joel Rudy

**Iverson Jules Wiener**, son of our members Grace Millholland & Jonathan Wiener

#### **DEATHS**

Marvin Aronowitz, father of Janice & Alan Aronowitz, Jill & Barry Racusin, and Mitzi & Mark Shidler; grandfather of Samantha Aronowitz, Ali & Andrew Green, Amanda & Philip Racusin, Diana & Michael Racusin, Ashley & Andrew Shidler, and Stacey & Jeffrey Shidler; great-grandfather of Daniel, David, Henry, Jacob, Julia, Madeline, and Max

Ellis Aronson, husband of Leslie Aronson; father of Jennifer & Andy Aronson, Stacey & Eric Aronson, Vered & Adam Aronson, and Lindsey & Kyle Roberts; grandfather of Alex Aronson, Amelia & Julian Aronson, and Olive & Ferris Roberts; brother of Reva & Michael Holmes

**Allen Becker**, father of Gary Becker, Norelle & Brian Becker, and Sunni & Gary Markowitz; grandfather of Jarod Becker, Jeremy Becker, Morgan Becker, Abbie Brooke, Casey Markowitz, and Haley & Phil Wysocki

**Cookie Frank**, mother of our members Ivy & Steven Frank

Natalie Greenberg, aunt of our member Sherry Leva

Rose Kamin, aunt of our members Nancy & Ron Nodler

Samuel Mazella, father of our members Beryl & David Mazella

Anita Reiner, mother of Cindy & Steven Reiner and Abigail & Howard Reiner; grandmother of Amy & Jason Reiner, Amy & Scott Reiner, Melissa & Philip Lepow, Brittany Reiner & partner Matthew Souza, and Ashley Reiner & husband Nicholas; step-grandmother of Nicholas Robbins; great-grandmother of David, Eli, Reese, and Skylar

**Gloria Ribnick**, partner of Jerry Ribnick; mother of Amelia Ribnick Kleiman and L. Greg Ribnick; grandmother of Selina & Holden Broadaway, Brett Kleiman, and Jacklyn Kleiman

**Joel Schneider**, father of our member Carol Orsak

**Linda Silverstein**, sister of our member Roberta Grossman

**Lester Slobin**, husband of Marlene Slobin; father of Pam & Scott Slobin and Stephanie & Todd Slobin; grandfather of Ava, Sam, and Ziva Slobin; brother of Carol & Sanford Slobin

**Roy H. Smith**, father of our members Elizabeth & Bruce Gillespie

**Golda Rita Wilkenfeld**, mother of Ginger & Xavier Berni and David Wilkenfeld; grandmother of Alessio Berni and Kendall, Payton, and Skylar Wilkenfeld

#### 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

February – March 2023

#### Mah Jongg 2023-2024 – Let's Play!



Afternoon Mah Jongg Tuesday, February 7, 1:00 p.m.

Play mah jongg with Sisterhood and let the winds blow your way! Bring your cards and friends. Refreshments will be provided.

Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@ emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Evening Mah Jongg Tuesday, February 21, 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy a mah jongg evening with Sisterhood. A light dinner for \$7 will be served. **Registration is a must!** Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@ emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

#### SAVE THE DATE!

Jeans & Jewels: A Celebration of Being Together

Thursday, March 16

Patron Reception: 6:00 p.m. | Event: 6:30 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood is thrilled to announce that we will be back live at our annual 2023 Donor event, Jeans & Jewels: a celebration of being together. Please join us for dinner and entertainment featuring The David Caceres Orchestra. The event will be held at Congregation Emanu El.

In addition to helping support Sisterhood, a portion of the proceeds from Jeans & Jewels will be donated to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Education Fund. The Rodeo Education Fund has presented more than 20,000 scholarships benefiting the youth of Texas since 1957. An additional donation will be made to the Rodeo's Hospitals Art Contests, which offers children who are confined to hospitals an opportunity to express themselves through art.

Let's celebrate being together and enjoy a wonderful night featuring a delicious dinner and great entertainment while supporting Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood and important causes in the community.

RSVP by visiting us online at emanuelhouston.org/ jeansandjewels2023 or contact the sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.





# **Becker** School



Sarah Williams

#### A Message from Sarah Williams, Becker School Director

One of the great privileges of working in early childhood education is the sacred opportunity to witness the enormous range of growth and development that occurs in our students over their years at Becker. As described in one of our favorite Shabbat songs, *My Roots Grow Deep*, Becker students start as a tiny seed.

Over the next four years, our master gardeners (aka teachers) nourish each seed to develop deep roots, a strong trunk, branches that reach for the sky, leaves that dance, and fruits that give. We are so grateful that you entrust your child's social, emotional, spiritual, and educational



development to Becker. Every child deserves access to a Becker education; but, each year we receive roughly \$80,000 in tuition assistance requests. The Becker Scholarship Fund helps us fill these requests, and we need your support to ensure we can help those who need it.

We do not want the cost of tuition to ever to be a reason that a family cannot send their child to Becker. Not only does the Becker Scholarship Fund provide support for families in the Houston community, but it also helps cover tuition for students that are in Houston temporarily while a family member is receiving treatment in our outstanding medical center.

During the upcoming holiday of Tu B'Shevat or "New Year of the Trees" and in honor of our growing seeds, please consider donating to the Becker Scholarship Fund. Maximize the impact of your donation by giving and asking your children's family members to give as well!

Make a gift online at emanuelhouston.org/beckerschool or by calling Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement at 713.987.3316.

We teach your children about Tzedakah, or the act of charitable giving, every week when students are encouraged to donate one penny during our joyful Friday Shabbat services. Help us help those in our Becker community who need it most. Our goal is100% parent participation by February 15, 2023, and no gift is too small.

Please join us in our effort to ensure that every tiny seed can receive a Becker education. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely, Sarah Williams, Director

#### **Priority Enrollment**

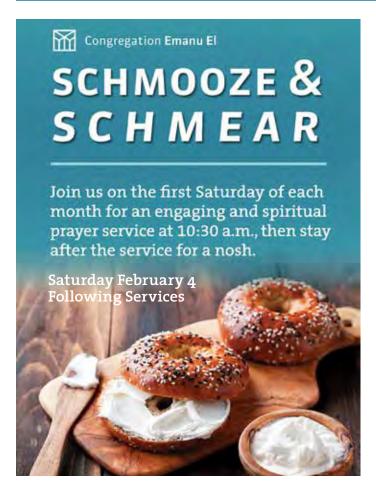
Becker School Priority Enrollment for members of Congregation Emanu El begins on Monday, February 6.

To be included in priority enrollment be sure to submit an Admission Application. Please submit the application online by visiting our website at emanuelhouston.org/beckerschool and click on admissions.

On **Monday, February 6**, applicants will receive an email with information on how to enroll your child online for the 2023-2024 school year which begins in late August of 2023.

Becker offers classes for Young Toddlers, Two's, Three's, PreK and Kindergarten for ages 15 months – 5 years. Early care and extended care hours are available.

For questions regarding admissions or to schedule a tour of Becker, please contact Judy Lazor at 713.535.6400 or judyl@emanuelhouston.org.



#### JED Talks with Emily Wolf Schaffer

Thursday, February 9 Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Service begins at 8:00 p.m.



Come and learn from our congregant Emily Wolf Schaffer, who will discuss her debut novel, My Thirty-First Year (and Other Calamities). Emily will share some of what she learned about the process of writing and publishing a book, and we will discuss some of the book's Jewish and reproductive justice themes. Drinks and appetizers will be provided.



Lunch & Learn with Hara Persons Tuesday, February 7 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Rabbi Hara Person is the Chief Executive of Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) and will visit us at Emanu El for lunch

and an opportunity to speak about the new Torah Commentary as well as what's new with Reform Rabbis.

#### Barish Limmud Scholar in Residence Dr. Kristine Henriksen Garroway Weekend, February 17 – 18

Join us for a special Shabbat of learning and inspiration as we welcome Dr. Kristine Garroway as our Barish Limmud Scholar. Dr. Garroway's theme for weekend will be Hidden Narratives: Forgotten Children.



Dr. Kristine Garroway

Dr. Garroway is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at HUC-JIR in Los Angeles. She has spent time studying and researching in Israel

and has participated in excavations at Ashkelon, Tel Dor and Tel Dan. Garroway's scholarship focuses on children using archaeology and texts of ancient Israel and Mesopotamia. She has published in various scholarly journals and is a regular contributor to thetorah.com. Garroway's books include: Children in the Ancient Near Eastern Household (Eisenbrauns 2014), Growing Up in Ancient Israel: Children in Material Culture and Biblical Texts (Society of Biblical Literature 2018), and The Cult of the Child: the Death and Burial of Children in Ancient Israel (Oxford, forthcoming). She is the recipient of the Biblical Archaeological Society's 2019 Publication Award for Best Book Relating to Hebrew Bible.

#### Friday, February 17

**6:00 p.m.** – As a highlight of our Shabbat evening service Dr. Garroway will deliver the d'var Torah and speak on the topic: *He who curses his father or mother...* 

#### Saturday, February 18

**9:00 a.m.** – Join us on Shabbat morning for bagels, coffee and a fascinating session on the topic: *Hide and Seek: Finding Children in the Bible*. Dr. Kristine Garroway is at the forefront of a new field in biblical studies, called "childist interpretation." This field seeks to highlight children the biblical world. Join her on a tour of biblical texts, ancient Near Eastern culture, and archaeological remains to uncover the incredible value children held in the biblical household.

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**10:30 a.m.** – Dr. Garroway will participate in the Shabbat morning Chapel service by offering the d'var Torah: *The boy-king Josiah* (in haftarah for Shabbat Shekalim).

Don't miss Dr. Garroway as she participates in the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's Yom Limmud at Beth Israel on **February 19** where she'll teach: Where's the Potty on Noah's Ark: Retellings of Noah and the Ark in Jewish Children's Literature. The story of Noah's Ark is one of the most well-known stories from the Hebrew Bible. For those "in the know" it is a story of genocide carried out by God. The retelling of this narrative is found in various forms of children's literature, from bibles, to folktales, to straight up secular fiction stories. Studies of Noah's Ark in Christian children's literature note a shift in the retellings; they focus less on God's reasons for genocide and more on Noah or the happenings in the ark. In this session we will investigate six Jewish retellings of the Noah story aimed at children ages three to eleven. We will examine two Jewish folktales, two Jewish children's bibles, and two secular stories and uncover how fantastic literature, specifically the genres of fable and fantasy, have become the popular means of imparting this story to Jewish children. We will ask questions of how such retellings of Noah's Ark are meant to highlight a truth, moral or lesson to children.

#### Yom Limmud 2023

Sunday, February 19, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Yom Limmud (Day of Learning) provides a unique

opportunity for Jews from all denominations and walks of life to connect with unique Jewish stories and culture from around the globe through music, art, cooking, and general education. This year's Yom Limmud will be held at Beth Israel (5600 N. Braeswood).

Yom Limmud is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston in partnership with the Barish Family/The Chair King.



A complete schedule and an opportunity to preregister for Yom Limmud will become available at houstonjewish.org/yomlimmud.

#### MUSIC AT EMANU EL



# Shepherd School of Music Concert Sunday, February 12, 4:00 p.m.

Join us for our second installation of chamber music by the students of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. We will continue to explore music by Jewish composers, well-known and less familiar. These students bring their awesome talents and inspiring spirits – you don't want to miss it!

#### - SAVE THE DATE! -

# Israel @ 75: Celebrating the Hope in Harmony Yom Ha'atzmaut – Israel's 75th Birthday Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

In celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, join Cantor Simmons and some of the best cantors in the country – Cantor David Berger, Cantor Galit Dadoun-Cohen, and Cantor Leigh Korn – for a journey through the music of Israel.



**Cantor Rollin Simmons** 



**Cantor David Berger** 

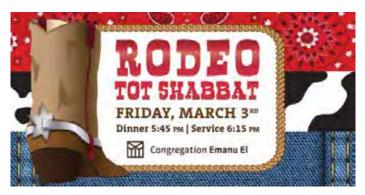


Cantor Galit Dadoun-Cohen



Cantor Leigh Korn

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#### **Rodeo Tot Shabbat**

Friday, March 3 Dinner 5:45 p.m., Service 6:15 p.m.

Lasso up your family and come join us for our annual Rodeo Tot Shabbat! 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.

Our Rodeo Tot Shabbat will begin with dinner at 5:45 p.m. in Feld Hall before the service in the Oshman Multi-Purpose Room at 6:15 p.m.

The optional dinner will be provided by Houston Catering Concepts and feature traditional BBQ including chicken and beef. Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available. The cost of the dinner is \$5 per person. RSVP online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.

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

#### **PURIM 2023**

Sunday, March 5 Spiel 10:00 a.m., Carnival 11:00 a.m.



We are excited for a fabulous day of Purim celebration, and we can't wait to share it with you. You can find all the information and features for this year's bash, including the spiel and carnival as well as volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, by visiting our Purim hub online at emanuelhouston.org/purim2023.

The entertainment will begin with our Purim spiel in the Barish Sanctuary. This year's theme is Mamma Mia Megillah, and we will be singing and dancing to the rockin' 70s beats of your all your favorite Abba tunes, complete with bell bottoms and disco flair. We hope you will join the Emanu El staff, along with our volunteer and youth choirs. We will start with some megillah reading then jump into our high-energy performance. Come in costume and get ready for a groovy time!

Following the spiel, the fun will continue at our Purim carnival, sponsored by the Helfman Religious School Committee. The outdoor carnival will take place around the synagogue's campus and in the Gaylor Parking Facility. From games to inflatables, hamantaschen to arts & crafts, and costumes to confetti eggs, there will be something for everyone. Want to volunteer during the carnival? Registration is available at our website, and we would love your help.

Purim sponsorship opportunities are now available. Your support helps Helfman Religious School provide an outstanding Jewish education to over 450 students each year. With your help, Jewish students are strengthening their Jewish identity, learning Hebrew, preparing for their bar and bat mitzvahs, and connecting with other Jewish students. As a sponsor, you are entitled to such benefits as name/logo placement on all digital and print marketing, social media presence and acknowledgment, vocal recognition and appreciation from the Purim spiel stage, and of course, carnival goodies! Visit our Purim page online to become a sponsor.

The day's festivities are generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming, the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund, the Julia Kaplan Religious School Enrichment Fund, and the Michael Spolane Education Fund.

#### Sign-up Deadline THIS Month! A Journey to Israel: May 27 - June 6



Join us on an adventure for all ages and stages with an opportunity to experience new connections to Israel full of inspiration and education. The registration deadline for this summer's congregational trip to Israel is **February 24**. Be sure to sign up NOW to avoid losing your spot on this memorable and exciting trip to Israel with Rabbi Hayon – or else you'll "falafel" about missing out! Register at emanuelhouston.org/israel2023.

continued on page 10



### Please join

Rabbi Joshua Fixier, Rabbi Oren Hayon. Rabbi Pamela Silk, and Cantor Rollin Simmons

for Congregation Emanu El's

Thursday, April 6, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

Kindly RSVP by Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Reserve your spot online at emanuelhouston.org/seder2023 or by returning the form below to Congregation Emanu El, 1500 Sunsel Blvd, Houston, TX 77005



Congregation Emanu El



#### SECOND NIGHT SEDER RESERVATION

I / WE WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE SEATS FO.	0*		
Member Adults (\$45 each) qty		(\$55 each)	Onlidren 12 & undér (520 each)
In my absence or in addition to my res- accessible to those in need of financial			
DIETARY INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)	Vegetarian	Giute	n-Free
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PREFERRED SEATING IF AVAILABLE (OPTIO	ONAL)		
The Classics (50's and 60's)	☐ Emanu El Young Professionals		
	☐ Widow to Widow		

#### SAVE THE DATE 8th Annual Second Night Seder

Thursday, April 6, 6:00 p.m.

A Passover Seder led by our clergy, our seder features a fully catered meal that includes all the staples from matzoh ball soup to gefilte fish! The meal is catered by Houston Catering Concepts, the preferred caterer of Congregation Emanu El.

The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 29.

Those members of our congregation seeking financial assistance and/or are interested in making a donation to make seder accessible for members of our community are encouraged to reach out to Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement, at annas@emanuelhouston.org or 713.987.3316.

Second Night Seder is generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming and the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund.

#### FROM AROUND THE COMMUNITY

#### Welcome Sue Lewis



We are thrilled to introduce you to Sue Lewis, our newest Emanu El team member! You may have already spoken to her on the phone, but Sue will also be the new face you see at reception in the rotunda. She has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Hartford. Originally from New York, Sue moved to Houston for a

career in recruitment. After raising her twins, she has happily joined Emanu El as the receptionist. When not working, Sue enjoys spending time with her family and walking her two standard poodles.

#### Repro Shabbat Breakfast & Learn: Reducing Maternal Mortality in Texas Friday, February 17, 8:00 a.m. Kenny and Ziggys, 743 Post Oak Blvd

Join Emanu El and NCJW Houston for a conversation about the state of women's healthcare and legislation aimed at reducing maternal mortality at the city and state levels. Speakers will include Beth Matusoff Merfish (Chair, City of Houston Women's Commission), Emily Bourgeois (Lead Organizer for the Religious Action Center of Texas) and Rabbi Fixler. Please visit our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org to find details and registration information.

We are grateful to local clergy who have volunteered to help lead prayer and teaching while Rabbi Silk is on sabbatical. We invite you to learn from:



#### Rabbi Steve Gross

Rabbi Steve Gross is the rabbi at Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism and has served the Houston Jewish Community for over 25 years. Rabbi Gross sees every religious endeavor as an opportunity to promote community and establish an intimate relationship with God.

His love of life is inextricably linked to his love of food, and his quest for the perfect croissant is eternal.



#### Rabbi Neal Katz

Neal Katz has served as the rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Tyler, TX since his ordination from HUC-JIR in 2003. In Tyler, Neal is involved in many nonprofit agencies and is currently the chair of The Tyler Loop, an independent, non-profit journalism project. He and his wife Jen have three children (2 in college, one in High School).



#### Rabbi Seth Stander

Rabbi Seth Stander joined the Hope and Healing Center & Institute's Community Bioethics & Aging Center in August 2021. As Inaugural Community Aging Specialist, Seth connects community members with resources related to caregiving, aging in place, long-term care

facility placement, advanced care planning, and more. Additionally, Seth facilitates caregiver/grief support for individuals, couples and families. Finally, Seth teaches CBAC's "Aging with Grace" series and periodic "Lunch and Learn" sessions.

After earning a B.A. (Judaic Studies) from SUNY-Binghamton in 1992, Seth attended the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, where he was ordained in 1999. He has served as a congregational rabbi, resident and staff chaplain, and most recently on staff at the Harris County Long-term Care Ombudsman Program, advocating for the rights of facility residents and their loved ones.



# **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

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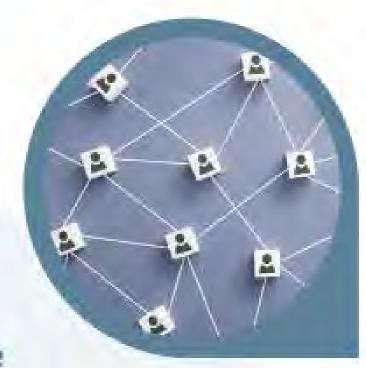
#### **4 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

- 1. Visit emanuelhouston.org/getinvolved to submit your info and choice of committees
- 2. Complete the form below, check the various committees you are interested in and mail to Congregation Emanu El Attn: Anna Shabtay 1500 Sunset Blvd. Houston, TX 77005
- Complete the form below, check the committees you are interested in and place it in the drop box located in the rotunda area of the temple
- 4. 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	

# 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

**Tammy Mermelstein** 

Carolyn Putterman

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#### Representative List of Committees

- \_Art
- \_Audit
- Becker Early Childhood Education
- Budget & Finance
- \_ Building, Grounds & Security
- \_ Cemetery
- Emanu El Volunteer Choir
- Endowment Board
- \_ Fundraising / Advancement

- Helfman Religious School
- Insurance
- \_ Investment
- \_ Israel
- \_ Legacy Giving
- \_ Management & Personnel
- \_ Membership
- Nominations / Leadership
   Development

- Sacred Belonging
- Sisterhood
- Social Action
- Social Justice
- Volunteer & Committee
- Coordination
- Young Professionals
- Youth



The Emanu El Youth Choir performed at Brookdale Galleria on Sunday, December 18, with a wonderful experience for all in attendance. It was the perfect way to begin Chanukah.



Helfman Religious School had a rockin' return with some Israeli dancing, led by Shira Moses.

#### Music At Emanu El

Our Music at Emanu El series held its Volunteer Choir Showcase on Sunday, December 11. Led by Ann Frohbeiter, the performance featured our favorite showtunes and brightened the season. Songs from Broadway with a tribute to Stephen Sondheim and a holiday sing-along made for a fun evening.











We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through January 14, 2023.

#### **ABLON FUND FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS**

To provide for creative arts programs In Memory of

#### **Marvin Aronowitz**

Rhonda & Ariel Bass

#### **ACCESS FOR ALL FUND**

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

#### **Connie Orler Bath**

Caren & David Cowan

#### Allen Becker

Sara Speer Selber

#### **Cookie Frank**

Sandy & Michael Wexler

#### **AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**

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

#### The Birthday of Henrietta Bell

Sylvia Farb

In Memory of **Gary Beren** Sylvia Farb

Gladys Kahn Laurie & leff Bricker

#### **Anita Reiner**

Susan & Ed Septimus

#### **BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMPERSHIP FUND**

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

#### **Steve Draper** Michael Epstein

Dr. Jeffrey & Jennifer Ross

#### **Anita Reiner**

fredi & Paul Franks Kathy & Stephen Parven

#### Sam Weber

Dr. Jeffrey & Jennifer Ross

#### **BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

To provide for and enhance the Becker School In Honor of

#### The Anniversary of Debby & Keith Remels

Elizabeth & Bob Remels

In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Paulette & Mel Levine

#### Allen Becker

Sid Farbstein, Mike McBath, Jon Shultx and the Bill Young **Productions Team** Judith F. Freedman Sandy & Ken Kopel Marci & Glenn Levine Lila Rauch Claudia & Joel Selzer Gay Shlenker Block & Family Irene Weingarten & Family Carol & Michael Wilk Richard Wolf

#### **BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

To provide Becker School scholarships In Memory of

#### **Allen Becker**

Sandy Barrash Judy & Allan Lazor Paulette & Mel Levine Kathy & Stephen Parven Ina Perlman Paula & Irving Pozmantier Robin & Rodney Roth Eileen & Richard Westerman Lorraine Wulfe

#### **CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND**

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park In Memory of

Micky & Sidney Nagar Joseph Bradley Nagar

#### **CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park In Memory of

#### Peggy & Louis Ashe

Sharon & Herb Cohn

#### Selma Bradspies Ida Fradkin

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

#### Roberta Rosen

Sandra & M.H. "Butch" Cersonsky

#### Daniel S. Webne

Caren Zaft

### **CLERGYS GOOD WORKS**

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

#### **A Donation**

Tori Brooks

In Appreciation of

The Emanu El Clergy Ronni Rosenfeld

#### Rabbi Joshua Fixler

Sandra & Roger Klaff

#### Rabbi Oren Hayon Anita & Robb Hodgkins

Cantor Rollin Simmons & **Congregation Emanu El** 

Sue & Greg Lewis

In Honor of

#### The Emanu El Clergy

Nathan K. Miller

#### Rabbi Joshua Fixler

Cheryl & Gary Borden

#### Rabbi Oren Hayon - Sivam **Baby Naming**

Julie Schackman & Sunthosh Sivam

#### Rabbi Pamela Silk

Mindy & Kevin Tofsky

In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Tootie & Steve Fradkin Lou & Herb Mizis Rozanne & Howard Rubin

#### Allen Becker

Sara Astrich Sandra Smith Herzstein **Dolores Wilkenfeld** 

#### **Gary Beren**

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

#### Herb Brochstein

Marie Brochstein & Family

#### Cookie Frank

Cheryl & Haran Levy Kathryn & Jonathan Paine

#### Anita Reiner

Jeff & Karen Basen-Engquist

#### Linda Silverstein

**Shelly Cyprus** 

Lester Slobin Ieri Amundsen & Arthur Feldman leff & Karen Basen-Engquist The Beren & Jefferson **Families** Lynn & Jeffrey Busch Shelly Cyprus Sandy & Don Harris Linda Hayon & Barbara Carol & Len Hershkowitz B.J. & Buddy Herz Sandra Smith Herzstein Barbara & Raymond Kalmans Regan & Jon Kasman Joan & Nick Kass The Lempert Family Irv & Barbara Black Levine

Bernice & Jordan Loftus IoAnn Luco Susan & Steven Perin

Cheryl & Haran Levy

Nancy Peskin Lisa & Adam Pollock &

Family The Pulaski Family

Marlene Rubin Rozanne & Howard Rubin

**Howard Schlezinger** Sherry Stoger

Irene Weingarten & Family Aileen & Jerry Zarin

#### Stephen Smith Lulu Kamin

#### **ED WULFE YOUTH LEADERSHIP FUND**

To support youth programming with the intention of preparing young leaders In Memory of Ed Wulfe

Lorraine Wulfe

continued next page

#### **EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND**

To feed the hungry of Houston

#### **A Donation**

Tori Brooks David Odle **Christian Simmons** Sharon & Mark Wise

In Honor of

#### The Bar Mitzvah of **Aaron Peskin**

Sara Astrich

#### The Speedy Recovery of Kay Levy

Joy Pulaski

In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Doris & Michael Kampf

#### **Ellis Aronson**

Sara Astrich

#### Allen Becker

Linda & Paul Lynn

#### **Stan Peipert**

Sondra Ross

#### **Anita Reiner**

Kate & Don Robins

#### Rita Wilkenfeld

Sara Astrich

Cathy & Lenny Herzfeld

#### **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 Rita Wilkenfeld

Jason Plotkin

#### **ETERNAL FLAME FUND**

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

#### **A Donation**

Aliza Geretz & Ben Mayer

In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Debby & Alan Stanton

#### Allen Becker

Myra Lipper Lisa & Adam Pollock & Family

#### **Cookie Frank**

Ieri Amundsen & Arthur Feldman Lisa & Adam Pollock & Family

#### **FARB TZEDAKAH CANS**

Tzedakah collected by congregants throughout the year that benefit the Aubrey & Sylvia Farb Community Service Fund

#### **A Donation**

Anonymous Shirley Burkom

#### In Memory of

#### Willy E. Glave

Barbara Glave & David Wall

#### **HAROLD REINGOLD RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

To enhance Helfman Religious School programs In Honor of

#### The Bat Mitzvah of **Julia Saber**

The Teichman Family

#### **JASON & DAVID MARCUS PLAYSPACE FUND**

To maintain and enhance the playground In Memory of **Marvin Aronowitz** 

#### **Randy Herzstein Stephen Smith**

Sandy Marcus

#### **IULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND**

To enhance Helfman Religious School programs In Memory of

#### Leona & Louis Liedeker

Lauren Epstein Scharf

#### **JULIUS & HARRIET ZINN FUND**

To provide and enhance congregation programs In Memory of

#### Allen Becker **Lester Slobin**

Sharon & Harvey Zinn

#### **MARIANNE GREENFIELD** SISTERHOOD FLOWER **FUND**

To provide flowers in our worship spaces In Honor of

#### Rabbi Roy Walter **Bobby Frank**

The Bat Mitzvah of Maiara Kahn

The Kahn Family

#### The Birth of Escher Sonny Zissman

Claire & Dick Brooks The B'nei Mitzvah of Max Goldfarb & Charlie **Pasternak** 

The Goldfarb & Pasternak Families

#### The Marriage of Nicole Longnecker & David Pesikoff

Elizabeth & Matt Krohn & Family

In Memory of

**Marvin Aronowitz** 

Larry Greenfield

Sam Axelrad

The Goldfarb Family

Allen Becker

Larry Greenfield

**Ed Goodfriend** 

The Goodfriend Family

#### **Bessie Greenfield**

Larry Greenfield Elizabeth & Matt Krohn & Family Michelle & Howard Stone & Family Debbie Zissman & Family

#### Marianne Greenfield

Sandy & Richard Brochstein

#### Ronald H. Greenfield

Larry Greenfield Elizabeth & Matt Krohn & Family Michelle & Howard Stone & Family Debbie Zissman & Family

#### Catherine & Albert Kahn and Alma & Jaroslav Muzika

Alicia Kahn

#### **Anita Reiner**

The Reiner Family Debbie Zissman & Family

#### Monette G. Salmon

Judy Salmon

Lyn Schmulen

Debbie Zissman & Family

#### **PRAYER BOOK FUND**

To provide prayer books for worship In Honor of The Jewish Residents **Association at Brazos** 

**Tower at Bayou Manor** Herman J. Schultz

In Memory of Lyn Schmulen

Sharon & Herb Cohn

#### **RABBI ROY & LINDA** WALTER ENRICHMENT **FUND**

To support spiritual and cultural enrichment In Appreciation of Rabbi Roy Walter -Unveiling of Alfred B. Levine

Paulette & Mel Levine

In Honor of

#### **Ed Septimus - Election** as Chair of Regional HUC board

fredi & Paul Franks

#### Rabbi Roy Walter

Morton A. Cohn Marilyn Presser

In Memory of

#### **Marvin Aronowitz**

Hildy & Mike Caplan Jennifer Carlin-Roth Carol Fradkin Arlene & Marshall Hoffman Judith & Alfred Osborn Barbara & Allen Pauly Cindy and Brett Perlman Carol & Michael Wilk

#### **Connie Orler Bath**

fredi & Paul Franks Judy & Ronnie Yambra

#### Allen Becker

Rose, Shelley, Barry & Sherry Sandler

#### **Rose Kamin**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

#### **Natalie Littman**

Amv & Steve Mitchell & Family

#### **Lester Slobin**

Barbara & Allen Pauly **Stephen Smith** 

Barbara & Raymond Kalmans

#### **RICKY SCHNURR CAMPERSHIP FUND**

To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships In Memory of

#### **Marvin Aronowitz**

Cindy & David Senior Allen Becker

Gladys Schnurr

Harry Schraber Sondra Ross Lester Slobin Rita Wilkenfeld

**Gladys Schnurr** 

# RIVA BURSTEN CARING CONGREGATION FUND

To support programs that assist people in the community In Honor of

#### The Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Peskin

Myra Mayer

In Memory of

Marvin Aronowitz

Barry & Mindy Levinson

# ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

To send congregants to the Consultation on Conscience at the Religious Action Center In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Serena Brooks & Lewis Wilkenfeld

#### **Ellis Aronson**

Debby & Keith Remels

# RONALD BROCHSTEIN EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To enhance preschool education In Memory of Marvin Aronowitz

# Rebecca & Arthur Kay ROZELLE & ROBERT I.

KAHN LIFELONG ADULT JEWISH EDUCATION FUND To present annual lectures by Reform scholars

In Memory of Rozelle & Robert Kahn

**Rozelle & Robert Kahn** Al Kahn & Betty Duson

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

To purchase and maintain Emanu El's sacred objects

#### **A Donation**

Norman L. Blumenfeld

#### SHIRLEY & MARVIN BARISH TEACHER ENRICHMENT FUND

To provide training programs for Emanu El teachers

#### **A Donation**

Keith Solomon

In Memory of

Marvin Aronowitz

Rhoda & Steven Saka

#### SHIRLEY BARISH MEMORIAL ISRAEL EXPERIENCE FUND

To send Helfman Religious School students to Israel In Memory of

#### Marvin Aronowitz

Shirley & Leonard Lebow Marlene Rubin

#### **Ellis Aronson**

Marlene Rubin

#### **Marvin Barish**

Elise & Mark Newman

#### Gloria Ribnick

Sandra & Joseph Kirk

#### Rita Wilkenfeld

Marlene Rubin

#### SISTERHOOD FUND

To provide for the Sisterhood In Memory of

#### **Lester Slobin**

Diane Puschett

#### Rita Wilkenfeld

Debbie & Eugene Goldgar The Simon Family

# SUSMAN FUND FOR FAMILY PROGRAMMING

To support programs for families In Honor of

#### Lila Rauch

Robin Susman & Howard Block

#### In Memory of

#### **Marvin Aronowitz**

Lila Rauch Claudia & Joel Selzer Linda Susman

#### Birdie Rauch

Lila Rauch

#### **Richard Susman**

Linda Susman Robin Susman & Howard Block

#### **TEMPLE FUND**

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

#### **A Donation**

Caryn & Shawn Mackoff

In Honor of **Ed Septimus – Election** 

# as Chair of Regional HUC board

Claire & Dick Brooks **Rabbi Roy Walter** 

Roger Greenberg

The Birthday of Barbara &

Raymond Kalmans
Cindy & Ron Ezgle

The Birthday of Raymond Kalmans

Sandy & Don Harris
The Birthday of Michael
Wilk

Mr. & Mrs. Gary S. Glesby, Lauren G. Mahan, and Mr. & Mrs. Will Northington

### In Memory of Marvin Aronowitz

Paula & Irving Pozmantier Susan & Syd Waldman

#### Ellis Aronson

Karen Lee

#### **Cookie Frank**

The Bray Family

#### Vicki Greenberg

Roger Greenberg

#### Gladys Kahn

Linda & Philip Boyko

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#### **Anita Reiner**

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#### Lyn Schmulen

Roger Greenberg

Mary Stein Schultz Herman J. Schultz

#### Linda Silverstein

Claire & Dick Brooks

#### **Lester Slobin**

Sandy & Ken Kopel Laura Mayer & Jarrod Cyprow

#### Stephen Smith

Eİlie & Jon Totz

#### Rita Wilkenfeld

Ann & Kenny Friedman

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to welcome the newest and returning members to our congregational family from December 7 – January 11. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

Krythe Arensman
Kailey Caplan
Cellie Davis, daughter Baileigh
Lisseth De Masi & Joanna Hoffman,
children Luka & Niko
Sheila & Loui Dobin
Deborah Ebner & Ira Bloom
Noy Haim-Fridman & Oz Fridman,
children Geffen, Itamar, & Ivri
Emily Schreiber & Sam Stein

New members will be shared in the *Bulletin* regularly. Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town or looking to find a way to connect with Emanu El? Contact Anna Shabtay at annas@emanuelhouston.org.



# Helfman Religious School

The teachers and students at Helfman Religious School are excited to be back in session after the break! We're looking forward to a great semester ahead.





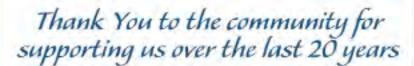














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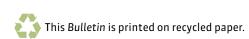


THEAT



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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
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Matt Pasternak, Vice President
fredi Bleeker Franks, Vice President
Ben Miller, Vice President

Philip Tenenbaum, Treasurer

Dawn Blitz, Secretary

Jeri Amundsen, Honorary President

Carol Sue Zionts, Sisterhood President

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