



Congregation Emanu El

Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2023 | HESHVAN – KISLEV 5784

VOLUME 78 NUMBER 2

FROM RABBI HAYON



I write these words during an excruciatingly painful time in the life of the State of Israel and of the Jewish people. Israel is currently reeling from a devastating and gruesome attack unleashed upon her by Hamas terrorists who infiltrated the Jewish state from the Gaza Strip.

What is clear, I hope, is that the State of Israel will build a future of safety, security, and prosperity with the support of its international allies and the steadfast devotion and solidarity of the worldwide Jewish community.

Details are still filtering out slowly, but what is clear at the time of this writing is that the horrors and suffering our people endured during this attack were second only, in volume and in brutality, to the days of the Holocaust. Our brothers and sisters in Israel, our family and friends, are suffering mightily.

We do not yet know what will happen next, although by the time you read these words, much more will undoubtedly have become clear. The Israeli military will certainly plan swift and decisive operations of reprisal against the extensive terror infrastructure built and maintained by Hamas in Gaza. It is still far too early to know how this bloody chapter in Israel's history will end.

Since I cannot write about how the current operation in Gaza will end, I'd like to write instead about a moving and inspiring figure from the end of Israel's last significant and prolonged military conflict in Gaza. This battle took place in the summer of 2014 and was known as Operation Protective Edge.

You may remember the conflict as another violent and deadly conflict for both Israelis and Palestinians. It lasted

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Warehouse Shabbat

Love Dance Houston, 2206 Edwards St. b
Friday, November 10, 8:00 p.m.

(doors open at 7:30 p.m.)

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.

Come enjoy local desserts and drinks during this exciting Shabbat program! All adults, young professionals or young at heart, are welcome to join us for this Shabbat service which will be at Love Dance HTX in the Sawyer Yards Art District in Washington Heights. RSVP online at emanuelhouston.org/yp.



Music at Emanu El presents the Shepherd School of Music Sunday, November 12, 4:00 p.m.

The 2023-2024 Music at Emanu El series continues in November with the Shepherd School of Music concert! Find out more on page 5.

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

about six weeks and finally drew to a close with a cease-fire declared on August 1, 2014. The last Israeli killed in Operation Protective Edge was a young Israeli soldier named Hadar Goldin, who was a 23-year-old lieutenant in the IDF when he died. Tragically, Hadar's death came in an ambush waged two hours after the cease-fire was officially declared. His body was seized by Hamas and carried into Gaza. His remains were never returned to Israel for a proper burial.

I think about Hadar often. The reports about his young life testify to a spirit of joy and kindness that inspired and encouraged all who knew him: family, friends, and colleagues. But what stays with me about Hadar's story is a small detail about his military equipment.

Before reporting to duty, Hadar asked his mother Leah to teach him to embroider two Hebrew words on the strap of his rifle: "*oz ve-anavah*," which means "courage and humility." For Hadar, the combination of these two virtues exemplified the moral and patriotic standards to which he aspired. For us today, struggling to find our way toward the resolution of yet another deadly entanglement between Israel and her neighbors, the combination of *oz* and *anavah* remains critically important.

Israel must act courageously. Her leaders, her soldiers and her civilian population must be prepared to make difficult decisions. The willingness to undertake missions that are difficult, and at times deadly, in order to preserve the safety of the Jewish state requires bravery and resourcefulness. Israelis will be asked to sacrifice a great deal in order to bring this conflict to a successful and permanent end – and it will be incumbent upon us in the diaspora Jewish community to provide Israel with material and moral support to enable her to succeed.

And Israel must also act humbly. Though the Israeli national character is built upon independence and rugged individualism, Israel should not hesitate to turn to her closest international allies, particularly the United States, for support and assistance. No nation requires another's permission to see to its own self-defense, but maintaining a healthy sense of humility and working in close consultation with its partners in North America and Europe will help ensure that Israel's long-term self-defense strategy will be successful and sustainable. Most importantly, perhaps, the IDF must act with humility on the battlefield to avoid being drawn into bloodthirst or sadism.

While writing these words in mid-October, I don't know how the current operation in Gaza will end. It's entirely possible that by the time you are reading them in early November, the answer will still remain unclear and unresolved. What is clear, I hope, is that the State of Israel will build a future of safety, security, and prosperity with the support of its international allies and the steadfast devotion and solidarity of the worldwide Jewish community. May this peaceful future be built solidly on a foundation of courage and humility, and may it be a source of strength and inspiration for us all.

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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 Vayeira

Friday, November 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, November 4

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

Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear following morning service

Shabbat Chayei Sarah

Friday, November 10

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

Saturday, November 11

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

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

B'nei Mitzvah of **David Jacobs**, son of Cantor Francyne Davis Jacobs & Kevin Jacobs, and **Jacob Schaffer**, son of Emily & Josh Schaffer

Shabbat Tol'dot

Friday, November 17

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

New Member Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, November 18

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

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

Bat Mitzvah of **Eliana Gottlieb**, daughter of Kathryn & Adam Gottlieb

Shabbat Vayeitzei

Friday, November 24

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

Saturday, November 25

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

Shabbat Vayishlach

Friday, December 1

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, December 2

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

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

B'nei Mitzvah of **Gabriel Rose** and **Simon Rose**, sons of Stacey & Brian Rose

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

WEDDING

Nicole Alexander & **Andrew Stoler**

Brianna Kreditor & **Josh Daum**

Lauren Levey & **Matthew Kaufman**

Chanel Tran & **Jeremy Slawin**

BIRTHS

Hudson Gray Accardo, son of Nancy & Cory Accardo; grandson of Kay & Fred Zeidman, Dawn & Paul Dalferes, and Joseph Accardo; great-grandson of Myra Helmstetter

Justin Seth Belin, son of Sara Loewy Belin & Paul Belin; grandson of Rabbi Bob & Lynn Loewy and Beverly & Norman Belin

Max Levi Blumenthal, son of Jessica & Kegan Blumenthal; grandson of Pam & John Blumenthal

Eleanor Fisher, daughter of Miriam Rozenbaum & Yaniv Fisher

Sara Julia Putterman, daughter of Lindsey & Matthew Putterman; granddaughter of Nanette & Barry Putterman and Renee & Brent Silber; great-granddaughter of Celine Kaplan and Lillian Putterman

Avi Michael Werner, son of Sharon Raphaeli & Jonathan Werner; grandson of Miriam Raphaeli; nephew of Kimberly & Tal Raphaeli

DEATHS

Marjorie Cohn, mother of Julie Cohn & John Connor; grandmother of Miriam Connor & Alex Churchill

Phillip Eichelberger, grandfather of Traci Donatto; great-grandfather of Russell Donatto

Shirley Friedman Eriksen, mother of Ann & Kenny Friedman

Pearl Grau, grandmother of Leah & Andrew Madof; great-grandmother of Max and Penelope Madof

Melvin Kahn, father of Carol & David Kahn; grandfather of Hannah and Ryan Kahn

Michael Karchmer, husband of Leda Karchmer

Elaine Hofeller Kuper, mother of Laurie & Jeff Bricker; grandmother of Elizabeth & Steven Bricker and Alyson & Daniel Blotcky; great-grandmother of Brandon and Jayden Bricker and Ashton and Elon Blotcky

Eric Langkjaer, father of Jennifer & Thomas Langkjaer and Anette & Anders Tange; grandfather of Emma and Jacob Langkjaer and Tobias and Daniel Tange

Norman Lepow, father of Deborah Ziegler

Earl Littman, father of Erica & Ronnie Humphrey, Bonnie & Larry Likover, and Mary & Michael Littman; grandfather of Stephanie & Brent Humphrey, Jenn & Clay Likover, Lee Likover, Alexandra & Collin Likover, Katie & Ryan Littman, and Robert Littman; great-grandfather of Melanie and Nolan Humphrey and Josephine Likover

Rita Mermelstein, mother of Tammy & Scott Mermelstein and Elyse Mermelstein; grandmother of Hannah and Deborah Mermelstein

Howard Plotkin, sibling of Joyce Klein

Sondra Rose, sibling of Carol & Michael Wilk; mother of David Wilk & Edward Richards, Samuel Wilk, and Debra Levy-Fritts & Jeffrey Fritts; mother-in-law of Rabbi Stuart Federow; grandmother of Ariel Follbaum & Peri Federow, Libbi & Joe O'Dean, Louis Fritts, and Hannah Fritts

Daniel Rosenberg, father of Karen Landsden & Zachary Rosenberg; grandfather of Samuel Rosenberg

Helen Simkin, mother of Judy & Marc Herzstein, Rhonda & Seth Freedman, and Sherri & Bob Carabello; mother-in-law of Ilene Allen; grandmother of Kimberly & Marc Glenn, Jamie & Ryan Simkin, Brooke & Dan Feather, Hayley Herzstein, Megan & John Cruz, Rebecca Freedman & Ryan West, and Molly & Zachary Freedman; great-grandmother of Jonah, Asher, and Isabella Glenn, Lily and Brette Feather, Emma and Abigail West, August Cruz, and Aurora Freedman

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.



NEW SERIES – NEW DATE!

Sex, Intimacy, and Relationships: Toward a Postmodern Jewish Sexual Ethic Beginning November 1, 12:30 p.m.

We're thrilled to announce the launch of a new monthly lunch-and-learn opportunity with Rabbi Silk. This class series will meet on the first Wednesday of the month, beginning this month.

Sexuality and intimacy are central to our identities and experiences as human beings, yet we have few opportunities to speak about them in a frank, open, and explicitly Jewish way. Using the IYUN program from Hillel's Jewish Learning Fellowship, we will read – broadly and generously – traditional Jewish texts on intimacy, gender, sexuality, and other related topics.

Bring your lunch, we will provide dessert, beverages, and nourishment for your mind and soul.

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Shira Moses in Rabbi Silk's office at shiram@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 212. The cost to attend is \$18, and space is limited.



Bereavement Group at Emanu El Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The death of a loved one. Divorce. Estrangement. Job loss. Retirement. Communal tragedy. And so much more. Each is a catalyst for grief: the undesired journey that we may either embrace, despite the pain; or, that we may ignore, risking our long-term health – physical, emotional, and spiritual.

Thursday mornings through **November 16**, we invite you to come together in order to describe and process your pain in a safe, brave space. And, in doing so, may your journey through grief be both honored and eased by loving, understanding peers.

This group will be led by Rabbi Seth Stander, Community Aging Specialist at HHCI. Rabbi Stander connects community members with resources related to caregiving, aging in place, long-term care facility placement, advanced care planning, and more. Additionally, Rabbi Stander facilitates caregiver/grief support for individuals/couples/families/groups. Rabbi Stander 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.

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Shira Moses in Rabbi Silk's office at shiram@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 212.



Tot Shabbat Friday, November 3 Dinner: 5:45 p.m., Service: 6:15 p.m.

November is a time of togetherness and gratitude. In that spirit, the theme for the November Tot Shabbat is Thanksgiving. Families with young children are invited to 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.

Tot Shabbat will begin in Feld Hall with an optional dinner provided by Houston Catering Concepts, and vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available. The cost of the dinner is \$5 per person. Register online and join us by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.

NEW THIS YEAR: At November's Tot Shabbat, we will begin collecting donations for the Family-to-Family Mitzvah Day. For more information about this mitzvah project, visit emanuelhouston.org/family-to-family-2023.

Questions? Contact Allison Hale at allisonh@emanuelhouston.org.

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Emanu El Young Families Playdates in the Park: School Year Series

Sunday, November 12, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Evergreen Park (4500 Evergreen)

Come connect with other young families while we celebrate our love of story time! Please join us at the children’s playground at Evergreen Park in Bellaire for the Young Families Playdates in the Park: School Year Series. Come for the whole time, or just drop in when you can. Snacks, drinks and fun will be provided! If your child is five years old or younger, we would love to meet up with you. As always, older siblings are welcome!

Register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.

Memorial Plaques from Original Memorial Wall Available for Pickup November 13 – 16

We hope you had a chance during the High Holy Days to see our beautiful new Memorial Wall, which includes the names of loved ones whose plaques were on our original wall. All plaques from the former wall are stored in Cottage 8, one of the temporary buildings along the East driveway. They will be available for pickup **November 13-16**. Our security guards will be happy to direct you to the cottage for pickup.

Unfortunately, we do not have space in our building to store these plaques. If you are unable to pick them up during the times specified below, but do want to have them, please contact Christian Simmons at christians@emanuelhouston.org by **November 13**.

PICKUP DATES/TIMES:

Monday, November 13, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 14, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 15, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 16, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.



OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH RICE UNIVERSITY’S SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONTINUES. JOIN THESE EXTRAORDINARY STUDENTS AS THEY PERFORM CHAMBER WORKS BY JEWISH COMPOSERS THAT DEMONSTRATE HOW JUDAISM INFLUENCED THEIR MUSIC AND LIVES.

THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC

“SONGS WITHOUT WORDS”

NOVEMBER 12, 2023 | 4PM



TICKETS ARE \$18 OR INCLUDED FOR FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANU EL.
 REGISTER FOR THE EVENT AT EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/MEE.

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New Member Shabbat Dinner Friday, November 17 following Shabbat evening services

Congregation Emanu El welcomes our newest members to join us for a delicious dinner following Shabbat services. If you've joined Emanu El since January 2023, be on the lookout for your personal invitation.

During this time of togetherness, those who are new to the congregation will be joined by committee and board members of Congregation Emanu El.

To register, visit our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.



Dr. Joshua Furman

History of Emanu El with Dr. Josh Furman Tuesday, November 27, 7:00 p.m.

Second in a series, please join us for a discussion of "Mid Century American Judaism: An Early Portrait of Congregation Emanu El." Our guest (and former Becker parent) Dr. Joshua Furman is the

Founding Curator of the Joan and Stanford Alexander South Texas Jewish Archives, as well as the Associate Director of the Program in Jewish Studies at Rice University. Recognizing the need to preserve historical materials that tell the narrative of South Texas Jewish life, since 2017 Dr. Furman has become an expert in the study of this area, not to mention a first-rate historian of the founding and growth of our synagogue.

Come learn about the beginnings of this congregation through the eyes of an archivist and see some of the special objects that tell Emanu El's story. Drinks and desserts will be served. Free and open to all. Registration for the event can be found online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.



SAVE THE DATE! 2023 Endowment Speaker: Jonathan Safran Foer Wednesday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.



Jonathan Safran Foer

Jonathan Safran Foer is known for his novels *Everything Is Illuminated* (2002), *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close* (2005), *Here I Am* (2016), and for his non-fiction works *Eating Animals* (2009) and *We Are the Weather: Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast* (2019).

NEW TRADITIONS SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP CONGREGATION EMANU EL

The Chanukah countdown has started! Chanukah begins on **Thursday, December 7**, and New Traditions gift shop is stocked for all your Chanukah needs with menorahs, candles, decorations, and gifts galore! Shop local and take your purchases home the same day. Support Sisterhood!

GIFT SHOP HOURS:
Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Sundays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., when Helfman Religious School is in session

Also available by appointment! To make an appointment, call 713.529.5771, ext. 234.

SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

November-December 2023

Mah Jongg Afternoon Tuesday, November 7 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of mah jongg at Emanu El! Noshes are complimentary.

Registration for Sisterhood mah jongg events can be found online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713-529-5771, ext. 233.

Please note there will be no Evening Mahj this month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.



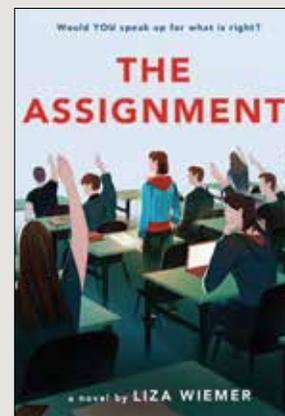
BOOK REVIEW:

The Assignment by Liza Wiemer
Thursday, November 9, 12:30 p.m.

The Assignment, by Liza Wiemer, was inspired by a real-life high school class in which students were made to role play Nazis and argue for the Final Solution at the 1942 Wannsee Conference.

As the school administration addresses the teens' refusal to participate in the appalling debate, the student body, their parents, and the larger community are also forced to face the issue. The situation explodes, and acrimony and anger result. What will it take for tolerance and justice to prevail?

This month's selection will be reviewed by Carol Sue Zions. The event will take place in the Oshman Multi-Purpose Room, and refreshments will be served. There is no charge, but please RSVP online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.



HOUSTON CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

Thursday, November 16, 10:30 a.m.



Join your "sisters" for a fascinating guided tour and then indulge your inner artist during a hands-on art project at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, located at 4848 Main Street in the Museum District. Following the tour, we will enjoy a Dutch treat lunch at a nearby restaurant.

This event will be limited to 30 people, so please register early. Carpooling to the museum is recommended.

The cost is \$10, and the event is open to Sisterhood members and non-members. Register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or contact the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org by **Monday, November 13.**

SAVE THE DATE:

Safety & Security for Women
Wednesday, December 20, 9:30 a.m.

Please join Sisterhood to hear Calicia Kampf, patrol sergeant and public information officer with the Madison County Sheriff's Office, speak about women's personal safety and how they can protect themselves against crime. The program will also include a demonstration on self-defense by congregants Teri and Ray Wathen. We will begin with coffee and a visit with our "sisters," then follow the program with a delicious brunch.

Open to all Emanu members, there is no cost for this program. Please register online or by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org or contact the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org by **Friday, December 15.**



Helfman Religious School

On Sunday, October 8, we welcomed our newest group of learners at Helfman Religious School. Mazel tov to our 5784 Consecration class!



Front row: Reagan Selbst, Solomon Witus, William Nevas, Lila Harrington, Madeleine Giga, Weston Edlund, Miles Collins, Ava Cruz, Ethan Cruz, Harland Fraser, Lillian Friedensohn, Madison Muscat, Virginia Wen and Max Buchman; Second row: Andrew Cort and Elijah Collins; Third row: Madeline Rosenberg, Asher Jake Rubenstein, Rachel Moliver, Tobi Merlin, Eli Goldberg, Solomon Heilbronner Hayden, Hazel Hittner, Aaron Kronman, Jacob Sloan, Alex Goldberg, Esther Slosburg, Isaac Nicolayevsky and Lindsey Gordon; Fourth row: Theodore Sasser, Benjamin Rosenberg, Vivienne Rice, Sylvia Richmond, Carly Klupchak, Oliver Pfeil, Matteo Frankfort, Sophia Adelman, Eliana Shoham, Emma Goldberg, Noah Selbst and Emma Tunitsky Giovannini; Back row: Todd Weiss, Rabbi Josh Fixler, Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pamela Silk, Cantor Rollin Simmons, Stefani Carlson and Beverly Shapiro.



Helfman Family Trivia Night Saturday, November 4 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening of programming for the whole family! We'll start with dinner and Havdalah together, then the kids will watch a movie accompanied by some of our teachers and TAs, while parents enjoy adult beverages and trivia games hosted by "Geeks Who Drink." Teams will be by grade level so you can meet other parents. Students in middle school and above are welcome to participate in the trivia. Childcare is for PK3 and up – no

diapers, please. For more information and registration, visit us online at emanuelhouston.org/helfman.



Our Becker teachers are an incredibly special team! It is important that they know how loved, valued and amazing they are. We like to bring them fun surprises, like our “Woot-Woot Wagon.” The admin team visits every teacher with a cart full of goodies for them to choose from so that we can show our appreciation. We make it fun with music and dancing, and the children get to witness their teachers being celebrated and join in on the celebration too. Becker teachers are making a difference in the lives of our little learners each and every day.

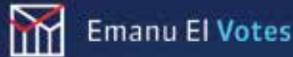


Becker School
BECKER BOOK FAIR
NOVEMBER 5 - 8

FAMILY NIGHT & DINNER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
RSVP & JOIN US!
EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/BOOKFAIR2023

GENEROUSLY
UNDERWRITTEN BY

SAVE THE DATE



YOUR VOICE/YOUR VOTE

Make your plan now. Election Day is soon!

- ✓ **OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 3: EARLY VOTING**
- ✓ **NOVEMBER 7, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM: HOUSTON MAYORAL & CITY COUNCIL ELECTION**
- ✓ **VOTE AT ANY POLLING LOCATION**

REMEMBER TO VOTE ALL THE WAY DOWN THE BALLOT!

As part of Emanu El's ongoing non-partisan work addressing healthcare access inequality, we ask you to consider supporting:

HARRIS COUNTY PROP. A:

IN FAVOR OF THE BOND ISSUE THAT WILL PROVIDE HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM WITH \$2.5 BILLION AND IS VITAL TO THE ONGOING HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, POLLING LOCATIONS, YOUR OFFICIAL BALLOT, AND TO CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION, VISIT [EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/EEVOTES](https://emanuelhouston.org/eevotes).

Changes to Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP)

ATTENTION SENIORS: Your current PDP sponsor will provide you with an Annual Notice of Change about your current prescription drug plan for 2024. Review that Notice, which describes changes in your Plan, including changes to the premium, co-pay, and the drugs covered. If you are satisfied with the changes and want to remain in that Drug Plan, you do not have to do anything to stay in that Plan for 2024. However, if your current plan will be discontinued or merged with another plan for 2024 or if you are in doubt as to whether or not your current plan is the best plan for you, you may want to review your options before accepting that change or staying with your current plan. **You have from now until December 7, 2023, to make changes to your Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage.** To change your Prescription Drug Plan, you must sign up by **December 7, 2023**. The change will be **effective January 1, 2024**.

If you want to review your current Part D plan, the Emanu El Social Action Committee will provide a trained volunteer to assist your analysis of alternatives. If you know how to contact the person who helped you in the past, please contact them directly. If you are not sure and/or would like a volunteer to contact you between now and **December 7, 2023**, call Cynthia Pleason at 713.855.9260 and leave your name, phone number and email address and you will be contacted to schedule a convenient time to assist you.



When contacted by a volunteer, you will need to have the following information available:

1. Your MyMedicare username & password (If you do not have an account, you will need to create one. The volunteer can provide assistance if needed.)
2. Your Medicare Card (Medicare number and the date enrolled in Part A & Part B)
3. Your drug list: name, dosage and frequency of each medication
4. The name of your current insurance plan, if any
5. The name of your preferred pharmacy
6. Your zip code

Do not wait until the last minute to make your call. If you want to sign up for a Medicare Part D (drug) plan for the first time, you will need to create a personal account at www.mymedicare.gov. Call Cynthia Pleason at 713.855.9260, and a volunteer will assist you in setting up your account.

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Book Banning Education Panel
Monday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.
Evelyn Rubenstein JCC Kaplan Theatre
 (5601 S. Braeswood)

This year's Jewish Book & Arts Festival will be covering the timely issue of book banning. Books are at the center of this illuminating panel discussion on censorship and its effects on society. Each of our panelists brings his or her own unique perspective with a collective goal of discussing this issue from a variety of angles, demonstrating how book banning affects so many different parts of our society.

Panelists will include Debby Kerner, a former Harris county school board member; Valerie Koehler, owner of Blue Willow Bookshop; Mark Trachtenberg, an appellate attorney with expertise in the public school system; and Emanu El's Senior Rabbi Oren Hayon. Evan Mintz, Director of Communications for Arnold Ventures and former deputy opinion editor for the Houston Chronicle will moderate the panel. Register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: American Jewish Committee, Congregation Emanu El, Congregation Beth Israel, National Council of Jewish Women Greater Houston Section



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome Our Newest Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest and returning members to our congregational family from September 13 – October 11. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

- Margo Aaron, daughter Essie**
- Susan Baum**
- Masha & Michael Blankenship, children David, Emma & Zachary**
- Linda & Ryan Campbell, children Dalton & Elaine**
- Poonam Desai & Ram Shoham, daughter Maya**
- Ady Fisberg Levine & Matthew Levine, son Kai**
- Sally Miller**
- K. Sarah Ostrach & Zhibin Dai**
- Richard Prinz**
- Lily Celeste & Ben Spector**

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 or 713.529.5771, ext. 261.



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through October 9, 2023.

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

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

A Donation

Mirl Cohen
Mari & Jim O’Leary

In Appreciation of
Rabbi Josh Fixler

Anonymous

In Memory of

Michael Karchmer

Rhonda & Bill Glick

Elaine Kuper

Earl Littman

Sara Speer Selber

AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

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

In Appreciation of

fredi Bleeker Franks

Sally & Tom Joyce

In Memory of
Joel Androphy

Judy & Allan Lazor

Michael Karchmer

Shelly Cyprus

Carol Adatto Nelson &

Eric Nelson

Elaine Kuper

Marilynne & Alford

Bleeker

Earl Littman

Steven Fenberg

Joe Siff

Julie Muntz & Peter

Johnson and Family

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To provide and enhance Becker School programs

In Memory of

Gayle Rockoff

Barbara Chotiner

Braunstein

Helen Simkin

Paulette & Mel Levine

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Becker Early Childhood Center scholarships

In Memory of

Elaine Kuper

Helen Simkin

Paulette & Mel Levine

CANTOR-STONE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Helfman Religious School scholarships

In Memory of

Michael Karchmer

Lisa Stone & Scott

Cantor

CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Memory of

Harry Fradkin

Dorothy Rolfe Martin

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

Michael Karchmer

Bernard Rosenfeld

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Helen Simkin

Sandra & Butch

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Joy & Richard Pulaski

CHESTER MARCUS CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

In Memory of

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Shirley Burkom

CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS FUND

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

A Donation

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Scott Pepin

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In Appreciation of

Marsha & Joe Cohen

Joe Pryzant

Rabbi Pamela Silk

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The Emanu El Clergy & Staff

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Lorraine Wulfe

Claudia & Joel Selzer

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Amy Kapiloff

Linda & Richard Zoll

Earl Littman

Liza & Eric Fues

Rita Mermelstein

Linda & Richard Zoll

Sondra "Bunny" Rose

Judy & Ronnie Yambra

Helen Simkin

Claudia & Joel Selzer

ED WULFE YOUTH LEADERSHIP FUND

To support programming to train young leaders

In Honor of

The Birthday of Phyllis Segal – 80th

Susie & Alvin

Zimmerman

The Birthday of Lorraine Wulfe – 80th

Tammy Feldstein

Arlyne & Maynard

Gimble

Sydney Greenblatt

Susie & Alvin

Zimmerman

In Memory of

Earl Littman

Lorraine Wulfe

EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND

To feed the hungry in Houston and to support Kids Meals

In Appreciation of

Linda Lesser

David Odle

Cheryl & Haran Levy

In Honor of

Phyllis Segal

Marjorie Rosenthal

The Birthday of

Carol Wilk

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Davis

continued next page

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Stefani Harris
Arlene & Barry
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Lauren, Harley,
Hayden & Natalie
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Sondra "Bunny" Rose
Marsha & Joe Cohen

**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
Michael Karchmer
Reva & Bruce Edison

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM
LEADERSHIP FUND**
*To send Emanu El
leadership to URJ
Biennials and underwrite
leadership programs and
speakers*
In Memory of
Michael Karchmer
Myra Lipper

**FREDELL LACK
EICHHORN CANTOR'S
MUSIC FUND**
*To enhance musical
programming*
In Honor of
Cantor Rollin Simmons
Paula Sitzer

**HAROLD REINGOLD
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
FUND**
*To enhance Helfman
Religious School
programs*
In Memory of
**Theba Feldman
Maxine Reingold
Shirley Schnoll**
Velva Levine

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MARCUS PLAYSPACE
FUND**
*To maintain and enhance
the playground*
In Memory of
Elaine Kuper
Rhonda & Seth
Freedman

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Jill & Barry Racusin
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ENRICHMENT FUND**
*To enhance Helfman
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programs*
In Memory of
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fredi & Paul Franks

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FUND**
*To provide lifelong
adult Jewish education
programs*
In Memory of
**Earl Littman
Helen Simkin**
Sharon & Harvey Zinn

**MARIANNE GREENFIELD
SISTERHOOD FLOWER
FUND**
*To provide flowers in our
worship spaces*
In Honor of
**The Birthday of
Debbie Zissman**
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In Memory of
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Mason Reckles
Debbie Zissman
Tamara, Eric &
Escher Zissman

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MEMBERS FUND**
*To make Emanu El
membership more
affordable
for young members*
In Appreciation of
**The Emanu El Clergy &
Staff**
Brad Wolf

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*To support spiritual and
cultural enrichment*
In Appreciation of
**Becky Proler & Gretchen
Gemeinhardt**
Judy A. Zainfeld

In Honor of
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In Memory of
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Pamela & Mark Wallock
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*To provide Greene Family
Camp scholarships*
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Earl Littman
Cindy & David Senior

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING
CONGREGATION FUND**
*To support programs
that assist people in the
community*
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Myra Mayer

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*To maintain and enhance
the Robert I. Kahn Gallery*
A Donation
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In Memory of
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EARLY CHILDHOOD
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*To enhance preschool
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In Memory of
**Lenore Caplan
Edward Fox**
Phyllis Turkel

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*To provide for the
Sisterhood*
In Memory of
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LAUFMAN COLLEGE
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*To provide engagement
opportunities for Emanu
El college students*
In Memory of
**Bill, Helen & Sol
Laufman**
Molly Ann Kaplan

**SUSMAN FUND
FOR FAMILY
PROGRAMMING**
*To support programs for
families*
In Memory of
Gerald Rauch
Linda Susman

TEMPLE FUND
*To support the needs
of the temple and to
fulfill the mission of
Congregation Emanu El*
A Donation
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In Appreciation of
**The Emanu El Clergy &
Staff**
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**Shel Vedlitz, Philip
Tenenbaum & Fredi
Franks**
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In Honor of
Margery & Robert Loeb
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**The Anniversary of
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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.

HUNGER FUND

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the High Holy Days 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 9. We apologize if we inadvertently missed your name. Please contact Anna Shabtay if you believe there is an error at annas@emanuelhouston.org.*

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Sandy & Don Harris	Ellen Welsh & Martin Reichenthal	Richard Wolf
Ralph J. Herring	Debby & Keith Remels and Family	Donna & William Zhukovsky



This year's High Holy Day addition of an ice cream truck at our first-ever Tash-LICK celebration was a blast.



In case you missed it, here are the highlights from our Simchat Torah festival service.





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MUST ARRIVE BY 1PM

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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 4
Following Services





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From

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to

Broadway

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH



PART OF THE
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2023-2024 SEASON



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