



Congregation Emanu El

# Bulletin

JANUARY 2024 | TEVET – SHEVAT 5784

VOLUME 78 NUMBER 4

## FROM RABBI HAYON



*I hope that 2024 will be a year of growth and goodness for all of us and the people we love. May it bring all of us closer together, and bring us to a new and deeper appreciation for the most meaningful and beautiful aspects of the world we share.*

The start of a new year is, of course, traditionally a time when many people begin thinking about how to improve themselves over the course of the next twelve months. Specifically, it's very common for people to make new year's resolutions about the way they will improve their bodies over the coming year. This month always brings with it a dramatic spike in the sale of diet plans, gym memberships, and resources designed to encourage more modest alcohol consumption.

If you've not yet decided about which (if any) goals you wish to set for yourself in 2024, I'd like to suggest a few possibilities. Each of these new year's resolutions are aimed not to improve your physical health, but your spiritual well-being. Consider taking on one or more of the following commitments in the new year:

- **Challenge yourself to read 50 books this year.** Reading one book per week over the course of a year is an ambitious goal, but is certainly achievable if you set your mind to it. There are some excellent groups on the internet to support you in this resolution, like the "2024 Reading Challenge" on Goodreads.com. To add an additional interesting

*continued on page 2*



**MUSIC AT EMANU EL**  
presents **Elana Arian & New Moon Rising**  
January 26 – 28

Elana Arian, one of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music, will join us for a weekend as Emanu El's artist in residence.

On Saturday night, Elana will be joined by Deborah Sacks Mintz and Chava Mirel. This trio of female powerhouses, New Moon Rising, embodies the best that musical collaboration can be – a soulful oasis of rich harmonies, deep friendship, and joy.

See page 6 for more.



T 713.529.5771  
F 713.529.0703

1500 Sunset Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77005

[EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG](http://EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG)

## 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 Sh'mot Friday, January 5

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, January 6

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear immediately following morning services  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
Bat Mitzvah of **Noe Ostrin**, daughter of Edwin & Lisa Ostrin

### Shabbat Va-eira Friday, January 12

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

### Saturday, January 13

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
B'not Mitzvah of **Emerson Brynes**, daughter of Jeremy & Courtney Brynes, and **Dylan Rovelli**, daughter of Matthew & Meghan Rovelli

### Shabbat Bo Friday, January 19

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

### Saturday, January 20

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
B'nei Mitzvah of **Emma Bray**, daughter of Collin & Rachel Bray, and **Vic Graff**, father of Collin Bray and grandfather of Emma Bray and husband of Sharon Graff

### Shabbat B'shalach Friday, January 26

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

### Saturday, January 27

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary  
B'nei Mitzvah of **Henry Kass**, son of Benjamin & Lauren Kass, and **Cayla Yoburn**, daughter of Jesse & Tewlyn Yoburn

### Shabbat B'shalach Friday, February 2

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 3

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel  
Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear immediately following morning services

---

## FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

angle, consider the online "52 Book Club," which provides a different prompt each week to diversify your reading choices and expose yourself to new authors and titles.

- **Commit yourself to visit a different Houston museum each month.** Did you realize that there are 18 different institutions in the Museum District alone? Spending time in contemplation and study of visual art is good for the mind and the soul. Visiting some of our wonderful local museums is a wonderful way to expose yourself to artists, media, and viewpoints with which you might not otherwise have become acquainted. I encourage you to make time over the year ahead to explore some of the remarkable collections that we are fortunate to have right here in our own backyard.

- **Resolve to set aside technology-free time each week.** Countless scientific studies have firmly established the detrimental effects that constant cell-phone usage has on our sleep, our mental health, and our attention spans. Carving out some inviolable time each week – even just an hour – when we separate ourselves from technology is an excellent way to retrain our brains to capture the richness of analog thought and communication. (It's also a great way to give yourself the priceless gift of peace and quiet during Shabbat each week!)

I hope that 2024 will be a year of growth and goodness for all of us and the people we love. May it bring all of us closer together, and bring us to a new and deeper appreciation for the most meaningful and beautiful aspects of the world we share.

Happy new year!

## LIFECYCLE EVENTS

### BIRTHS

**Gavin Marshall Stevens**, son of Lisa & John Stevens; grandson of Ellen Ecker, William Ecker, and Debra & Matthew Stevens

**Julia Marie Stone**, daughter of Christina & Alex Stone; granddaughter of Michelle & Howard Stone; great-granddaughter of Dr. Larry Greenfield

### DEATHS

**Elaine Betcher**, mother of Sandy & Bob Light, Candy & David Goldstein, and Tonya & Barry Brown

**Morty Carson**, father of Melissa & Charles Carson and Dr. Milinda & Dr. Noel Carson Meltzer; step-father of Dianne & John Hopkins and Keely & Byron Jay Lewis; grandfather of Megan Carson, Thy & Ruben Meltzer, Elise Deloy & Bernard Meltzer, Maya & Elan Meltzer, Uri Meltzer, Lisa & Dwight Astin, Aline & Jason Hopkins, Marti & John Michael Hopkins, Jayce & Andrew Hopkins, Elizabeth Lewis, and Jordan & Mark Lewis; great-grandfather of Beatrice, Ezra, and Aria Meltzer, Aubrie Astin, Cole, Keely, Caleb, Audrey, Helena, and Penelope Hopkins, and Robby Lewis; great-great-grandfather of Violet Robertson; sibling of Sherry & Richard Carson

**Celine Kaplan**, mother of Nanette & Barry Putterman, Diana Hudson & Lee Kaplan, Barbara & David Kaplan, and Carolyn & Jay Kaplan; grandmother of Lindsey & Matthew Putterman, Jennifer Putterman, Joanna & Pietro, Michael, Glynn, Layne, Jena & Jack, Queenie & Will Kaplan, and Rebecca & Sam Silberman; great-grandmother of Goldie & Sara Putterman, Molly & Charlie Silberman, Robert Putterman, and Alessio Giordano

**Edward Robbins**, husband of Karen Robbins; father of Teresa & Jason Robbins and David Robbins; sibling of Evetta & Richard Robbins and Anne & Frank Schlueter

**Bertram Spiwak**, husband of Audrey Spiwak; father of Alana Spiwak & Sam Stolbun, Susie & George Merijohn, Lynne & Aaron Spiwak, Mimi & Wade Harris, and Deborah Spiwak; grandfather of Seth and Ariel Stolbun, Cori Stolbun & Phil Smith, and Marissa and Lauren Spiwak

**Anita Suprun**, mother of Heidi Suprun and Rosie & Todd Suprun; grandmother of Jared Suprun, Taylor & Michael Suprun, and Lindsey & Kenny Sistrunk; sibling of Barbara Maidenberg; aunt of Hilary Kamin

**Lin Turner**, father of Valerie Turner & Rachael Tobor; grandfather of Hannah and Benjamin Turner

#### 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.



#### Get Social With Us!

Did you know Congregation Emanu El is on Instagram? In addition to our active Facebook pages, be sure to follow us on Instagram to catch snap shots of happenings around the synagogue. From camel sightings to social action, a thriving youth group to clergy in action and more!

Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/emanuelhouston](https://www.instagram.com/emanuelhouston) or if you are already a member, find us at @emanuelhouston. And yes, please feel free to "check-in" at Emanu El when you are here for events and happenings!

### 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.



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT EMANU EL



### Tot Shabbat

Friday, January 5

Dinner 5:45 p.m., Service 6:15 p.m.

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 by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org).

Tot Shabbat happens the first Friday of each month. Below is the 2024 schedule, and we hope your family joins us!

**January 5, February 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7**



### Emanu El Young Families Playdate: School Year Series

Theme: **SPORTS DAY**

Sunday, January 7, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Fire Truck Park (3743 Garnet Street)

Come connect with other young families while we enjoy Sports Day together at Fire Truck Park!

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 and join the fun! Find the event online by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org).



### YP Plus: Who Knows One?

Dinner and a Show

Friday, January 19

Following Shabbat evening services

Join us after services for Shabbat dinner and a show! *Who Knows One?* is a hilarious show that has become a cultural hit in the Jewish community, reuniting old friends and creating new ones with an innovative game that combines *Six Degrees of Separation* and *Jewish Geography*. Now, the creator of *Who Knows One?* is bringing the live show experience to Emanu El! Come see how we're all connected to each other and share a few laughs along the way – and maybe even be a part of the show yourself!

This event is only \$10/person. Register online at [emanuelhouston.org/yp](http://emanuelhouston.org/yp) and join us!

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

#### Welcome Our Newest Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest and returning members to our congregational family from November 14 – December 11. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

**Mimi & Michael Berkowitz**

**Dianna & Joseph Gittelman**

**Adrian Heid & Andrew Burnett**

**Gigi Noguera & Nelson Perli**

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](mailto:annas@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 261.

*continued next page*

## Make 2024 Your Year to Say YES!



### Gathering Place

**First Wednesday of the month, 10:00 a.m.**

**Next Gathering: January 3**

Calling all caring volunteers looking for a monthly volunteer/mitzvah opportunity which will bring you immense personal satisfaction while providing an enjoyable morning for family caregivers and individuals living with mild to moderate memory loss due to Alzheimer's or other dementias. The Gathering Place is staffed by Emanu El volunteers and professional staff from CarePartners, a Houston non-profit with which Emanu El has partnered since 1989.

Questions? Contact Fredi Bleeker Franks at [fredi.bleeker@gmail.com](mailto:fredi.bleeker@gmail.com).



### Kids' Meals

**Third Tuesday of the month, 9:30 a.m.**

**Next Gathering: January 16**

Join us as we prepare close to 1,000 sack lunches and snack packs as Kids' Meals works to end hunger amongst children on the third Tuesday of the month.

This volunteer program is open to participants of all ages. To get on the volunteer mailing list, please contact Donnie Bundman at [dbundman@gmail.com](mailto:dbundman@gmail.com).

Emanu El's involvement with Kids' Meals is made possible through the generosity of the Ed Wayne Hunger Fund.

### Snack Packs for SEARCH

**Fourth Tuesday of the month, 10:00 a.m.**

**Next Gathering: January 23**

SEARCH Houston's Mobile Outreach team distributes snack packs and sack lunches to individuals who are experiencing homelessness and living on the streets. Our team of volunteers meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. to fill bags with an assortment of non-perishable snack items. Often, the packs provide the only food our neighbors have that day, and they are truly grateful.

Due to limited space, we require pre-event registration to Sandy Harris at [sdharr@comcast.net](mailto:sdharr@comcast.net).







## ELANA ARIAN AND NEW MOON RISING

**JANUARY 26-28, 2024**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26**

**6:00 PM – SHABBAT WITH ELANA  
WITH ONEG TO FOLLOW**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27**

**10:30 AM – SHABBAT MORNING CHAPEL  
SERVICE WITH ELANA**

**7:00 PM – NEW MOON RISING CONCERT\***

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

**9:00 AM – HELFMAN ALL SCHOOL  
T'FILAH WITH ELANA AND OUR  
SONGLEADING TEAM**

**9:45 AM – 10:45 AM – ADULT EDUCATION  
LEARNING SESSION WITH ELANA\***

*\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED AND AVAILABLE  
ONLINE AT [EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/MEE](https://emanuelhouston.org/mee).*



## NEW MOON RISING CONCERT

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**\$18 GENERAL ADMISSION**

ELANA ARIAN, ONE OF THE LEADING VOICES IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSIC, WILL BE JOINED BY DEBORAH SACKS MINTZ AND CHAVA MIREL ON SATURDAY NIGHT. THIS TRIO OF FEMALE POWERHOUSES, NEW MOON RISING, EMBODIES THE BEST THAT MUSICAL COLLABORATION CAN BE — A SOULFUL OASIS OF RICH HARMONIES, DEEP FRIENDSHIP, AND JOY.



REGISTER ONLINE AT [EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/MEE](https://emanuelhouston.org/mee).



# MUSIC AT EMANUEL

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANUEL

\$3,600

Martha & Don Freedman  
Anita & Stuart Gaylor  
Gloria & Joe Pryzant  
Phyllis & Steven Segal  
Edith & Robert Zinn

\$1,800

Barbara & Mark Brookner  
Shelly Cyprus  
Dennis Murland & Vinh Phan  
Linda & Richard Zoll

\$1,260

Leslie & Scott Bormaster  
Nancy Ehrenkranz

Richard Gruen  
Lorraine Wulfe

\$720

Karen & Jeff Basen-Engquist  
Janet Caldwell

Sherry & Gerald Merfish

Lisa & Adam Pollock and family  
Naomi & Arnold Revzin

\$360

Susan & Milton Altschuler  
Jeri Amundsen & Arthur Feldman  
Susie & David Askanase  
Gloria & Larry Brenner  
Claire & Dick Brooks and family  
Betty Duson & Al Kahn  
Milton Finegold  
Sheryl & Bernard Feldman  
Fred & Paul Franks  
Carol & Barry Goodfriend

Gayle Goodman & Ken Adam  
Joyce Goodman  
Sandra Smith Herzstein  
Susan & Edward Kahn  
Barbara & Raymond Kalmans  
Elyse & Lewis Kalmans  
Linda Kates  
Virginia Kennedy & Lawrence  
Lachman  
Joel Laser & Bernie Stephan

Inga Leon  
Cheryl & Haran Levy  
Lynn & Rabbi Bob Loewy  
Rebecca & Jost Lunstroth  
Julie Muntz & Peter Johnson  
Carol Adatto & Eric Nelson  
Kathryn & Jonathan Paine  
Kathy & Stephen Parven  
Karen & Murry Penner  
Cindy & Brett Perlman

Debby & Keith Remels  
Jessica Segal & Danny Miller  
Dr. Tommy & Prissy Roosth  
Susan & Ed Septimus  
Laurie Morgan Silver  
Rollin Simmons & David Segal  
Esther & Terry Treistman  
Gay Yellen & Don Reiser  
Carol & Michael Wilk  
Donna & William Zhukovsky

\$180

Caren & David Cowan  
Elena & Joel Dinkin  
Heidi Dugan

Steven Fenberg  
Pat & Dr. Aaron Fradkin  
The Geretz-Mayer family  
Cantor Kat Hastings

Ronnie Kurtin & Dr. Gary Lew  
Diane Puschett  
Marlene Rubin  
Leslie & Warren Simmons

Linda Susman  
Waldman Funeral Care, LLC

Listing as of 12.05.23

We apologize if we inadvertently missed your donation. Please contact Anna Shabtay if you feel we've made an error.



# SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

January 2024

## Mah Jongg 2024 – Let's Play!

Registration for Sisterhood mah jongg events can be found online by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or by contacting the Sisterhood office at [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.



## Mah Jongg Afternoon

**Tuesday, January 2, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Join us for an afternoon of tiles and smiles! Noshes will be provided. Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

## Evening Mahj

**Tuesday, January 16, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

What could be more fun than dots, dragons and dinner? Have a light dinner for \$7 with us and then play mah jongg. Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.



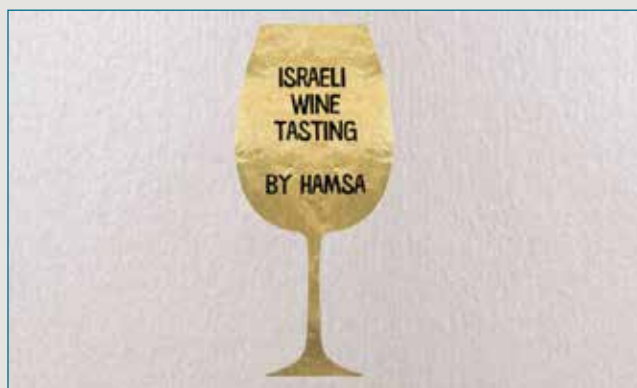
## From Chaos to Calm: Downsizing & Decluttering

**Wednesday, January 24, 10:00 a.m.**

Join Sisterhood and learn how to organize your life with professional home and office organizer Michelle Arnold, owner of Good Clean Function. Michelle will demonstrate best practices for decluttering and organizing any space! We will begin at 10:00 a.m. with coffee followed by the program at 10:30 a.m., and then enjoy a Fall-inspired lunch.

To declutter your home and bring joy to others served by the Houston Area Women's Center, please bring donations of coats and sweaters, handbags, scarves, and costume jewelry.

The cost is \$18 for Sisterhood members and non-members. Please register online or by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org) or contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) by **Friday, January 19.**



## Sisterhood New Member Event: Israeli Wine Tasting by Hamsa

**Wednesday, January 31, 6:00 p.m.**

Kick off 2024 the right way with Sisterhood's New Member Event – Israeli wine tasting by Hamsa Restaurant! Join us to mix and mingle with your Jewish "sisters" and learn more about Emanu El Sisterhood while tasting Israeli wines and enjoying light bites.

This event is open to all new Emanu El women members, new Sisterhood members who have joined since May 2023, and any new Emanu El member between the ages of 25-50 interested in joining. The cost is \$18 per person, and each registrant is welcome to bring one guest.

Please register online by visiting our web calendar at [emanuelhouston.org](http://emanuelhouston.org), or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org) by **Friday, January 19.**





### Women's Day 2024

Wednesday, February 28, 10:00 a.m.

Join us for Women's Day 2024! "Be the Hostess with the Mostest" as our three experts delve into the latest entertaining trends. Panelists Rebecca Graves Cunningham of Dream Bouquets and Adrienne Wagenheim, Owner and Event Designer of Ideal Party Decorators, along with moderator Rhonda Kaizer from Southern Home and Farm will show you how to create a stunning visual feast for your guests.

Discussion will be followed by a delicious catered lunch with centerpieces provided by our panelists.

The cost to attend is \$20 for Sisterhood members and \$25 for non-members. Register online at [emanuelhouston.org/event/womensday2024](http://emanuelhouston.org/event/womensday2024) or contact Sisterhood at 713.529.5771. ext. 233 by **Friday, February 23.**



### Sisterhood Donor Luncheon: Hummus & Happiness

Thursday, March 21, 11:30 a.m.  
Patron Reception 11:00 a.m.

You are invited to join the festivities at the Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood Donor Luncheon, Hummus & Happiness – honoring our beloved Rabbi Pam Silk.

Our honoree, Rabbi Pam Silk, will celebrate her 20 years with Congregation Emanu El. She has held leadership roles in the Houston Rabbinic Association and has served on the Board of Trustees for the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, who presented her with the Mae & Edmund Hecht Rabbinic Award. She is known for her excellent culinary skills and is acclaimed for her delicious Passover "Matzah Toffeee."

We are thrilled that our guest speaker will be Chef Alon Shaya, born in Israel, raised in Philadelphia and a proud New Orleanian. He is a multiple James Beard Foundation Award winner and author of *Shaya, An Odyssey of Food, My Journey Back to Israel*. Shaya's celebrated cuisine – food of his native Israel infused with a New Orleans flavor – has been acknowledged as "unimagined perfection that has changed the cuisine of New Orleans itself." He is also the recipient of many awards for his philanthropy and charitable efforts.

As our event is "all about food," a portion of the proceeds will be donated to No Kid Hungry and the Joan and Stanford Alexander Jewish Family Service (JFS) Passover Assistance Fund.

Be on the lookout for an invitation in your mailbox this month. For more information, please call Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771 ext. 233 or email [sishood@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:sishood@emanuelhouston.org).



**Emanu El Busy Bags**

At Emanu El, we welcome worshippers of all ages to our services. We know that some of our youngest worshippers need something to do with their hands so that they can participate with their minds and hearts. We are pleased to announce that our Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) has put together Congregation Emanu El Busy Bags to provide an opportunity for families with young children to enjoy worship services together. Each bag is filled with quiet, age-appropriate items for congregants and guests to borrow for the duration of the service. Please look for the Busy Bags cart located in the North Lobby which will have three sets of bags labeled for different ages (1-2, 3-5, and over 6 years old). Quantities are limited and we kindly request that you return all items to the cart upon the conclusion of services.

If you have ideas for how we can make these bags even more useful to our young participants, please email Tewlyn Yoburn, chair of the ECAC, at [tewlyn@gmail.com](mailto:tewlyn@gmail.com). We look forward to praying with you soon!



**Judaica from the Israel Museum is Available at New Traditions Gift Shop**

Due to the current situation in Israel, the Israel Museum and their gift shop are closed to the public. The museum shop offers an opportunity for local artists to showcase and sell some of their beautiful work. Unfortunately, with the museum closed, that opportunity has been lost, and many Israeli artists are having to close their small shops. Our Sisterhood gift shop is proud to showcase Judaica from the Israel Museum. We invite you to visit our shop and see the beautiful mezuzahs, jewelry and other unique items made in Israel. These stunning pieces make perfect gifts for any occasion.

**NEW TRADITIONS**  
 SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP  
 CONGREGATION EMANU EL

**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!  
 713.529.5771, ext. 234.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO CONGREGATION EMANU EL ON #GIVINGTUESDAY. YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP CONGREGATION EMANU EL SECURE ITS FUTURE THROUGH STRONG JEWISH EDUCATION AT EVERY AGE AND STAGE, FROM OUR LITTLEST LEARNERS IN BECKER SCHOOL, TO OUR HELFMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THOSE IN OUR ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES.



- ANONYMOUS (2)
- JERI AMUNDSEN & ARTHUR FELDMAN
- STEFANI & STEVE CARLSON
- TAMMY & DAN FELDSTEIN
- FREDI & PAUL FRANKS
- ANITA & STUART GAYLOR
- DIANNA & JOSEPH GITTELMAN
- BARBARA B. GLAVE
- JOYCE GOODMAN

- RICHARD GRUEN
- RABBI OREN & JULIE HAYON
- RONNIE KURTIN & DR. GARY LEW
- LUCY & PETER MOSBACHER
- SHIRLEE & MARK ROSENTHAL
- KATHLEEN & LEE RUBINSTEIN
- JO ANN & BOB SCHAFFER
- JUDY ZAINFELD



**YOU ARE  
INVITED**

**L'DOR  
VADOR**



FOR EMANUEL'S FUTURE

THURSDAY

**February 8, 2024**

6:00-8:00PM

CONGREGATION EMANUEL

**MAKE THIS A YEAR OF YES**

JOIN US FOR CELEBRATORY DRINKS & LIGHT BITES TO HEAR ABOUT THE EXPANSION PROJECT THAT WILL TRANSFORM EMANUEL'S CAMPUS

**CELEBRATION CO-CHAIRS**

HEIDI & STUART AROUTY

BARI & DAVID FISHEL

ALANA & ALAN PULASKI

BECKY & JOE WILLIAMS

**CAMPAIGN CHAIR**

ELYSE SPECTOR KALMANS

**HONORARY CAMPAIGN CHAIR**

DOLORES WILKENFELD

**CELEBRATION HOST COMMITTEE**

KAREN & JEFF BASEN-ENGOUST

DAWN & MITCH BLITZ

KERRY & STEVEN BUXBAUM

CAREN & DAVID COWAN

JEN & BEN FINK

IVY & STEVEN FRANK

SUSIE & EDDIE KAHN

BARBARA & RAYMOND KALMANS

NICOLE & EVAN KATZ

MEREDITH & CARY KOTTLER

CHRISTINE & MARK LASKIN

RACHAEL & BARRY LICHMAN

STACEY & BRIAN ROSE

ROZANNE & HOWARD RUBIN

PHYLLIS & STEVEN SEGAL

HELEN & ANDY SPECTOR

ATTIRE: DRESSY CASUAL

RSVP REQUESTED BY FEBRUARY 1

[EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/LDVPARTY](http://EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/LDVPARTY) OR 713.535.6421





# Helfman Religious School

Helfman Religious School celebrated Chanukah with an all-school t'filah with musical guest Spike Kraus and had a blast singing familiar Chanukah music as well as learning some new songs! After all-school t'filah, students enjoyed a Chanukah "Happening" with relay races, dreidel art, decorating Chanukah cookies, and more. We had a great time!



*continued next page*





**BECKER SCHOOL NEWS**



Becker School elated to celebrate Chanukah with their Chanukah Shabbat in December before winter break!



We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through December 10, 2023.

**ACCESS FOR ALL FUND**

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

**The B'nei Mitzvah of Gabriel & Simon Rose**  
Pat & Aaron Fradkin

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Sara Speer Selber

**ALAN GAYLOR TEACHING ASSISTANT FUND**

To support Helfman Religious School teaching assistants

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Joni & Gary Lewis and Lillian Gaylor  
**Frederick Konig**  
Joni & Gary Lewis and Lillian Gaylor  
Cynthia & Marvin Pleason

**ALEX & WILLIE MAE GOLDSTEIN CHILDREN'S FUND**

To support the educational, spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of children ages 10 and under

In Honor of  
**The Marriage of Lexi Perroux & Jeffrey May**  
Robert Goldstein

**AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**

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

In Memory of  
**Elaine Betcher**  
Judy & Allan Lazor

**BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMBERSHIP FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**The Bat Mitzvah of Noa Hayon**  
Bitsy Proler

**BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

To provide and enhance Becker School programs

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Heidi & Bobby Bazarsky  
Mindy & Steve Finger

**CERSONSKY CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Sandra & Butch Cersonsky  
**Daniel Webne**  
Caren Zaft

**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**  
**Etrog Jam**  
Anonymous

In Appreciation of  
**Rabbi Joshua Fixler**  
**Lesley Diamond**

Rozanne & Howard Rubin  
**Rabbi Oren Hayon**  
Marlene Slobin & Family

**Rabbi Pamela Silk**  
Jennifer, Andrew & Peggy Blum

Rozanne & Howard Rubin  
**Cantor Rollin Simmons**  
Rozanne & Howard Rubin

**Shel Vedlitz**  
Marilyn Waldman

In Honor of  
**Rabbi Oren Hayon**  
The Houston Seminar

Rozanne & Howard Rubin  
**The Bat Mitzvah of Noa Hayon**  
Susan & Syd Waldman

In Memory of  
**Elaine Betcher**  
Sharon & Herb Cohn

**Morty Carson**  
Joy & Joe Kaplan

**Jackie Glassgold**  
Lori Glassgold-Gibson

**Celine Kaplan**

Kay & Mike Hilliard  
Joy & Joe Kaplan  
Beverly & Howard Robinson  
Phyllis Selber  
Carol & Marc Winograd

**Frederick Konig**  
Kathy Guttman

**Bertram Spiwak**  
Joy & Joe Kaplan

**Anita Suprun**  
Leda Karchmer

**Lin Turner**  
The Kasman Family

**Sarah Elizabeth White**  
The Brochstein Family

**ED WULFE YOUTH LEADERSHIP FUND**

To support programming to train young leaders

In Memory of  
**Frederick Konig**  
Lorraine Wulfe

**EDIS LEWIS PARKANS EMANU ELDERS FUND**

To provide programs for Emanu Elders

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Nancy Ehrenkranz

**EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER FUND**

To feed the hungry in Houston and to support Kids Meals

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Kate Fox Slater - 70th**

Felice & Ed Klein  
In Memory of

**Peggy & Louis Ashe**  
Sharon & Herb Cohn

**Michael Karchmer**  
Lois & Larry Greenberg

**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  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Vikki Evans

**FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND**

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

In Honor of  
**fredi Franks**  
**Shel Vedlitz**  
Myra Lipper

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Myra Lipper  
**Anita Suprun**  
Maureen Tiras

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

To enhance musical programming

In Appreciation of  
**The Emanu El Clergy**  
Ellen & Fred Brooks  
**Cantor Rollin Simmons**  
Donna Carleton  
Millicent Lewis

**JEAN & JULIAN GOLDBERG CHILDREN'S FUND**

To provide arts programs for children

In Honor of  
**The Birthday of Arlene Rawitscher**  
Dottie & Kurt Berk

**JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND**

To enhance Helfman Religious School programs

In Memory of  
**Celine Kaplan**  
Honi & Michael Abbott  
Betty Babendure  
Lisa & Joel Bender  
Sissy & Gene Boyd  
Maria Andraca Carano  
Maralyn Cohen  
Terry & Sandy Cohen  
Karen & Larry Feld  
M.M. Feld  
Steven Fenberg  
Bill Goodman  
Alfred Kahn  
Myra (z"l) & Gene Kaplan  
Sheila & Jerry Kaplan  
Kathy & Bill Kottwitz  
Joel L. Laser

continued next page



Queenie, Humphrey,  
Linda & Justin Lee  
Susan & Jack Lee  
Cheryl & Haran Levy  
Nina Lieberman, Ralph  
Zarefsky, and Their  
Families  
Connie & Karim Lopez  
Elena & Kenneth Marks  
Jean Mintz, Melinda &  
Morris Mintz, and Sally &  
Anthony Mann  
Lou & Herb Mizis  
Judy Myers  
Kathy & Stephen Parven  
Bitsy Proler  
Carolyn & Leland  
Putterman  
Margaret Rochs  
Glen A. Rosenbaum  
Marlene Rubin  
Rozanne & Howard Rubin  
Herman J. Schultz  
Claudia & Joel Selzer  
Alan Shelby  
Laurie Morgan Silver  
Irene Weingarten  
Richard Wolf  
Paul Zarefsky

**MARIANNE GREENFIELD  
SISTERHOOD FLOWER  
FUND**

*To provide flowers in our  
worship spaces*  
In Honor of

**The Bat Mitzvah of Eliana  
Gottlieb**

The Gottlieb Family

**The Birth of Bennett  
Myles Botwin**

**The Birth of Julia Marie  
Stone**

**The Birthday of Lainey  
Spellman – 1st**

Michelle & Howard Stone  
Lauren & Scott Vines

**The B'nei Mitzvah of  
Gabriel & Simon Rose**

The Rose Family  
Rozanne & Howard Rubin  
Renee & Brent Silber,  
Shannon & Jason Shapiro,  
and Lindsey & Matthew  
Putterman

In Memory of

**Nason Mark Feldman**

Sheri Feldman, Jason,  
Rori, Charlie, & Dylan  
Feldman, Lacey, Todd,  
& Nash Wallerstein, and  
Elaine Helfman

**Norman Getz**

Philip Getz

**Ed Goodfriend**

The Goodfriend Family

**Marianne Greenfield**

Dr. Larry J. Greenfield  
Elizabeth & Matt Krohn  
and Family  
Michelle & Howard Stone  
and Family  
Debbie Zissman and  
Family

**Morris H. Greenfield**

Dr. Larry J. Greenfield  
and Family

**Goldie & Seymour Halfant**

Rozanne & Howard Rubin

**Goldie & Seymour Halfant,  
Stanley Kaplan, Joan Rose,  
Mimi & Alfred Rubin,  
Robert Rubin, and Joan  
Levine**

The Rose Family

**Celine Kaplan**

Dr. Larry J. Greenfield  
and Family

**Leonard Parven**

**Mina Parven**

Kathy & Stephen Parven  
and Family

**Philip “Lucky” Pullen,  
James Franklin Higgins,  
Harriet & Ernest Gottlieb,  
Doris & Philip Pullen,  
Barbara & Robert Higgins,  
Joan & Charles Hilton, and  
Owen Thompson**

The Gottlieb Family

**Francine Greenfield  
Rosenthal**

Dr. Larry J. Greenfield  
and Family  
Michelle & Howard Stone

**Mimi & Al Rubin**

**Robert Jay Rubin**

Marlene Rubin & Ron  
Kronberg, Paul & Jenn  
Rubin, Jack & Perla  
Rubin, Mindy & Nick  
Adams, Shari & Dennis  
Heinz, Renee & Brent  
Silber, Shannon & Jason  
Shapiro, Lindsey &  
Matthew Putterman,  
Rozanne & Howard Rubin,  
Alissa & Greg Gomez,  
and Stacey & Brian Rose

**Anita Suprun**

Dr. Larry J. Greenfield  
Elizabeth & Matt Krohn  
Michelle & Howard Stone  
Debbie Zissman

**THE PROLER CHAPEL  
FUND**

*To maintain and enhance  
the Proler Chapel*

In Memory of

**Anita Suprun**

Maureen & Jody Proler

**RABBI ROY & LINDA WALTER  
ENRICHMENT FUND**

*To support spiritual and  
cultural enrichment*

**A Donation**

The Rhona & Ronald  
Konig Fund

In Honor of

**Rabbi Roy Walter**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**The Speedy Recovery of  
Marlene Farbstein**

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan

**The Speedy Recovery of  
Rabbi Roy Walter**

Carol Fradkin

In Memory of

**Sydney Brown, Johanna  
Goldberg, and Emily  
Weingarten**

Sharon & Mike Segal and  
Family

**Bob Friedberg**

Carol Fradkin

**Celine Kaplan**

Nori Lauren Gabert

**Frederick Konig**

Lauren & Alan Gordon

**Anita Suprun**

Marlene Rubin

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*To provide Helfman Reli-  
gious School scholarships*

In Memory of

**Morty Carson**

Marlene Rubin

**Bertram Spiwak**

Penelope J. Hooks, MD

**RICKY SCHNURR  
CAMBERSHIP FUND**

*To provide Greene Family  
Camp scholarships*

In Memory of

**Frederick Konig**

Sondra Ross

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL  
JUSTICE FUND**

*To send congregants to  
the Consultation on  
Conscience at the Religious  
Action Center*

In Memory of

**Marjorie Cohn**

Susie Askanase

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**

*To enhance preschool  
education*

In Honor of

**Sandy Brochstein**

Irene Jacobs

**SHIRLEY & MARVIN  
BARISH TEACHER ENRICH-  
MENT FUND**

*To provide training programs  
for Emanu El teachers*

In Memory of

**Sol Freed**

Steven Fenberg

**Celine Kaplan**

Jacquelyn Barish

**TEMPLE FUND**

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

In Appreciation of

**The Emanu El Clergy &  
Staff**

Cantor Kenneth Feibush

In Honor of

**Israel**

Rosa & Joe Ortega

**The Bar Mitzvah of Eytan  
Shabtay**

fredi & Paul Franks

**The Birthday of Kate Fox  
Slater – 70th**

Susan & Syd Waldman

**The Birthday of Syd  
Waldman – 65th**

fredi & Paul Franks

**The B'nei Mitzvah of  
Gabriel & Simon Rose**

Judy & Danny Danziger

In Memory of

**Kelly Berretta**

Dorothy & Albert  
Krafcheck

**Celine Kaplan**

Jeri Amundsen & Arthur  
Feldman

Holly Schnoll Hunsicker

**Rozelle Jacobson Schultz**

Herman J. Schultz

**Bertram Spiwak**

Beverly & Howard  
Robinson

**Lin Turner**

Marsha & Shelly Kaplan  
Dr. Stephen & Judy Loeb  
Annette Robertston



MUSIC AT EMANU EL's partnership with Rice University's Shepherd School of Music continued with the students' presentation of "Songs Without Words," a performance of chamber works by Jewish composers that demonstrated how Judaism influenced their music and lives.



Justin Best on clarinet.



Cantor Rollin Simmons and Gloria Pryzant with the Shepherd School musicians.



Isaac Foreman, pianist and artistic coordinator for Shepherd School/Music at Emanu El.



Piano Trio by Mendelssohn, played by Yu-Ming Ma on violin, Han Lee on cello and Isaac Foreman on piano.



Yu-Ming Ma on violin.





Congregation Emanu El

# 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!**

### 4 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1. Visit [emanuelhouston.org/getinvolved](http://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**
3. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

(over)



# Make your mark at Emanu El and GET INVOLVED!

All we need is YOU



## Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group

|                   |                                  |                |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Patricia Baker    | ✉ patriciabaker83@yahoo.com      | ☎ 713.522.5241 |
| Larry Barr-Meyer  | ✉ barmeyers1@gmail.com           | ☎ 713.516.5291 |
| Nancy Ehrenkranz  | ✉ nancy@mkmmomentum.com          | ☎ 713.298.6297 |
| Melinda Gordon    | ✉ melindagordonggordon@gmail.com | ☎ 713.256.9145 |
| Ralph Herring     | ✉ rjh77008@gmail.com             | ☎ 713.857.9411 |
| Laura Mayer       | ✉ laura.mayer@sir.com            | ☎ 713.443.6776 |
| Tammy Mermelstein | ✉ tammy.wilsker@gmail.com        | ☎ 786.271.4346 |
| Shari Penner      | ✉ shari@sharipenner.com          | ☎ 713.825.8125 |
| Carolyn Putterman | ✉ carolynputterman@gmail.com     | ☎ 713.817.2667 |



### Representative List of Committees

- \_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
- \_Widow 2 Widow
- \_Single Day Event  
(will be contacted by Event Chair)





WALDMAN FUNERAL CARE  
Extraordinary Service. Compassionate Care.

## TEN YEARS SERVING OUR FAMILIES FROM MY HEART

At your time of need, we provide compassionate support and expert guidance. We're here for you. We'll visit with you any time. Your place or ours.

We focus on the details,  
so that you can focus on your family.

[www.WaldmanFuneralCare.com](http://www.WaldmanFuneralCare.com)  
713-875-4811

CHEVRA KADISHA OF HOUSTON APPROVED  
Texas Funeral Establishment License #4622



Syd Waldman  
Funeral Director



## CONTRACT IN JUST 3 DAYS!



### MEYERLAND | 5311 Yarwell Drive

Charming 3 bedroom with recently renovated baths and updated kitchen is ready for you to move right in! Large picture windows bring in lots of natural light to your spacious living and dining rooms. You will love the storage in the built-in cabinetry and window seat in the family room.

3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHS | Offered at \$535,000 | MLS 67539063



May I help You sell Your home?

Call today to schedule an appointment.

**Terry Cominsky**

REALTOR-ASSOCIATE\* Circle of Excellence, Hall of Fame  
713.443.1610 | [terry.cominsky@sir.com](mailto:terry.cominsky@sir.com)

Martha  
Turner

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

*Thank You to the community for  
supporting us over the last 20 years*



**HOUSTON JEWISH FUNERALS**

Jewish-owned and operated since 2001



SCAN OUR QR CODE FOR A MESSAGE FROM OUR STAFF



WATCH NOW

*Jewish Heritage... Jewish Traditions... Jewish-owned and operated*

Contact us today at (713) 666-0257 | [HoustonJewishFunerals.com](http://HoustonJewishFunerals.com)





This Bulletin is printed on recycled paper.



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  
**Anna Shabtay**, Director of  
Congregational Advancement  
**Erika Roberts**, Interim Becker Principal  
**Stefani Carlson**, Director of  
Lifelong Learning

**Stuart Gaylor**, President  
**Adam Pollock**, Senior Vice President  
**Dan Gospin**, Vice President  
**Dora Klaff**, Vice President  
**Barry Lichman**, Vice President  
**Ben Miller**, Vice President

**Philip Tenenbaum**, Treasurer  
**fredi Bleeker Franks**, Secretary  
**Jeri Amundsen**, Honorary President  
**Carol Sue Zions**, Sisterhood Co-President  
**Judy Simon**, Sisterhood Co-President

EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG

## Tribute Book Honoring Rabbi Silk



Rabbi Pam Silk

Emanu El Sisterhood is thrilled to announce that our 2024 donor event, Hummus and Happiness, will honor Rabbi Pam Silk for her 20 years of service to our congregation. The event, which will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 21, at Emanu El will include a tribute to Rabbi Silk.

We invite you to participate in the celebration by sharing a memory with or special story about Rabbi Silk. Pictures are welcome too! Your response will be printed in a special tribute book and presented to her at the event. To give your tribute, visit [emanuelhouston.org/rabbisilk](http://emanuelhouston.org/rabbisilk). The deadline for submission is **February 1**.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/emanuelhouston](http://www.facebook.com/emanuelhouston)