

# TEMPLE EMANU-EL family first

A new year of family programming  
at Temple Emanu-El  
2016–2017/5777

**Welcome to Family First at Temple Emanu-El:** your destination for exciting, educational, and experiential family programming! Connect with other families and celebrate Shabbat, holidays, and other Jewish experiences together throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you and your family at our dynamic events all year long!

Please sign up for our mailing list by contacting us:

**Marni Thompson-Tilove**  
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# Your guide to a year of great family programming!

## Shabbat Celebrations

**Family First EKS (=Early Kabbalat Shabbat)** – Celebrate the arrival of Shabbat on Friday evenings with family and friends. Services begin at 5:45 pm with spirited singing and an engaging service led by Rabbi Rachel Zerin. Following services, everyone joins together as a community to eat a scrumptious Shabbat meal prepared by our wonderful volunteers; followed by social time for parents and kids, and topped off with a delicious dessert! RSVPs are strongly encouraged. Supervised activities for children of all ages is provided.

**Fridays at 5:45 pm on September 16, December 16, January 6 (with Shabbat Chai), March 3 (with Shabbat Chai), April 28, and June 9**

**Family First Shabbat Mornings** – Join us for our popular family Shabbat morning interactive services led by Rabbi Zerin, Miriam Abrams-Stark, and community volunteers. Watch as your children read from the Torah for the first time or come up as a family for an aliyah, the blessings before the Torah. Part of each service is dedicated to age-appropriate learning – not just for children but for parents as well. Congregational Kiddush Luncheon following services. All ages are welcome, though the service is geared for children ages 6+.

**Saturdays at 10:30 am–12 noon on December 10, January 21, February 25, March 25, and May 6**

**Tot Shabbat (ages 2–5)** – Tot Shabbat is a weekly experience led by Marni Thompson-Tilove for children 2–5 and their caregivers. Each week a theme related to the weekly Torah portion or upcoming holiday will be explored through singing, dancing, learning, crafting, playing, and praying! It is sure to be a fun and engaging experience for all.

This experience is mainly geared for 2–5 year olds, but older children are welcome, as long as they participate in an age-appropriate way. Although this is a drop-off program, if your child/ren have a hard time separating, please stay and experience the fun with them! Snacks, grape juice, and hallah are provided.

‡ Shabbat-friendly crafts are used, especially stickers and glue dots that are not permanent.

**Junior Congregation (ages 6–11)** – Junior Congregation is a monthly service for our elementary aged children. Designed and led by our USYers, children will participate in and learn prayers and their tunes, as well as engage in activities that teach about the Torah portion.

**Saturdays at 10:30 am–12 noon on October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 4, and April 1**

## Holiday Celebrations and Special Programs

Back by popular demand, Family First will be meeting for Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot! Services are similar to Family First Shabbat programming with the addition of holiday-related stories, prayers, learning, and activities.

We also have several fun, social and educational programs throughout the year. Their descriptions are listed below.

**PLEASE NOTE:** On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur we offer children's services, early childhood programs, playgroups, and babysitting. *The details for these programs can be found in our special separate High Holidays brochure.*



**Family-First Sukkot Services\*** – Come experience the joy of learning new tunes and shaking the lulav and etrog, then join us for a kid-friendly sit-down luncheon in our synagogue's sukkah!

**Monday, October 17, 10:30 am**

**Simhat Torah Celebration** – Join us for ice cream sundaes, followed by a make-your-own craft to showcase upstairs in the Main Sanctuary for *hakafot* (dancing with the Torah)! There'll be dancing and singing and fun for everyone!

**Monday, October 24, 6:00–8:00 pm**

\* We recognize that these Family First Holiday Services all fall on weekdays this year, however we strongly believe that coming to Temple with your family, watching your children participate in dance and song, and engaging with the community in a celebratory holiday experience is worth missing a day of school (when feasible)!

**Simḥat Torah Service\*** – Join the main congregation for a family-friendly service filled with dancing, singing, and *aliyot* for all!

Tuesday, October 25, 9:15 am

**NEW Family First Community-Wide Havdalah** – A twist on our annual “Havdalah Under the Stars” program, this year we will be joined by other groups in our community to end Shabbat together with singing, spirit, and of course, s’mores! Stay tuned for more details coming soon.

Saturday, November 19, 5:00–7:00 pm

**Tu B’s’h’vat Hollywood Havdalah:** Bring the whole family for a fun movie night! This year, we will begin the evening by celebrating the holiday of Tu B’s’h’vat – the Jewish New Year for the Trees. Join us for a Tu B’s’h’vat “seder” which includes a light dinner, followed by popcorn, movie theater snacks, drinks, an age-appropriate movie, family, and friends. What could be better?!

Saturday, February 11, 5:30–8:00 pm

**Family First Purim Extravaganza** – Join in the fun for some Purim festivities and stay for the Megillah reading! It’ll be a topsy-turvy good time!

Saturday, March 11, 6:00–7:30 pm

**Purim Carnival and BBQ** – Open to everyone – adults and children of all ages! Games, prizes, costumes, barbeque lunch!

Sunday, March 12, 10:30 am–1:00 pm

**Family First Pesah Services\*** – Celebrate the retelling of the Exodus from Egypt with songs, prayers, and some biblio-drama!

Tuesday, April 11, 10:30 am

**Family First Shavuot Services\*** – Hear the story of Ruth and Naomi and learn why it’s traditional to eat dairy on Shavuot! Stories, prayers, and songs, followed by a community Kiddush luncheon.

Wednesday, May 31, 10:30 am

**TEMPLE family first**  
The Family First committee is almost entirely volunteer-driven, and your help is needed! There are opportunities both small and large and everything in between! If you are interested in helping us with these fabulous events, or have a special skill set that you want to share, please contact Marni Thompson-Tilove, [familyfirst@teprov.org](mailto:familyfirst@teprov.org).

## Nurture the Wow: Parenting as a Spiritual Practice

NEW



Is a poopy diaper ever a blessing? Can picking up toys really be a spiritual practice? Does caring for a little person’s needs have the potential to nurture my own religious sense of self? Parents, join Rabbi Rachel Zerlin as she leads us in conversations about parenting as a spiritual practice, inspired by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg’s book *Nurture the Wow: Finding Spirituality in the Frustration, Boredom, Tears, Poop, Desperation, Wonder, and Radical Amazement of Parenting*. Together, we will discuss how the mundane, fun, frustrating, ever-changing, and all-consuming role of parenting can transform our experience of Judaism and the Divine.

Spring 2017 – Dates and times to come

*“Why this matters for us is the same reason it matters for our children: because the process of learning how to be a person in the world – a better person, a kinder person – is never really completed.”* – Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

## Family First Shabbaton Weekend: Shabbat Unplugged

Friday, October 28, 5:00 PM –  
Sunday, October 30, 11:00 AM



Join us for our Third Annual Shabbaton, held at Camp JORI. Experience a truly unique and exciting Shabbat filled with friends, good food, singing, and lots of time to unwind and unplug in a beautiful country setting. Saturday night will feature a beautiful Havdalah service around the campfire, complete with s’mores and followed by a fun family activity!

- Programming for children and adults of all ages
- Friday night baby-sitting provided so all parents can attend our “Adults-Only” special program!
- Open to Temple members and non-members
- For a full schedule and registration information, go to [teprov.org/shabbaton](http://teprov.org/shabbaton)

# Calendar for the Year 2016-17/5777



<b>SEPT</b>	16	Family First EKS	5:45 PM
	18	Apple Picking	1:00 PM
	20	Shofar Blowing Class	3:30 PM
<b>OCT</b>	3+4	Rosh Hashanah Family Services	10:30 AM
	11	Erev Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei Service	6:00 PM
	12	Yom Kippur Family Service	10:30 AM
	17	Family First Sukkot Service	10:30 AM
	24	Family First Simḥat Torah Program	6:00 PM
	28-30	Family First Shabbaton at Camp JORI: Shabbat Unplugged	5:00 PM
<b>NOV</b>	19	Community Wide Havdalah – <b>New Program!</b>	5:00 PM
<b>DEC</b>	10	Family First Shabbat Morning Service	10:30 AM
	16	Family First EKS	5:45 PM
<b>JAN</b>	6	Family First EKS with Shabbat Chai	6:00 PM
	21	Family First Shabbat Morning Service	10:30 AM
<b>FEB</b>	11	Tu B'sh'vat Hollywood Havdalah	5:30 PM
	25	Family First Shabbat Morning Service	10:30 AM
<b>MAR</b>	3	Family First EKS with Shabbat Chai	6:00 PM
	11	Purim Eve Extravaganza	6:00 PM
	12	Purim Carnival and BBQ	10:30 AM
	25	Family First Shabbat Morning Service	10:30 AM
<b>APR</b>	11	Family First Passover Service	10:30 AM
	28	Family First EKS	5:45 PM
<b>MAY</b>	6	Family First Shabbat Morning Services	10:30 AM
	31	Family First Shavuot Service	10:30 AM
<b>JUN</b>	9	Family First EKS	5:45 PM