



Bulletin

August 2, 2018 | 21 Av, 5778

VOLUME 72 NUMBER 11

FROM RABBI HAYON



I hope that the days that lie between us and a new Jewish year will bring many opportunities for us to reflect seriously on the ways we may better ourselves in the year 5779.

This year, August 12th is the first day of the Hebrew month of Elul. Elul is traditionally understood to be the beginning of the High Holy Day season.

But there is no need to start shopping for apples and honey just yet; Elul invites us to undertake internal, rather than external, preparation for the holidays.

It scarcely bears repeating that ours is a hyper-connected world, where we can remain firmly and instantly connected with friends and family all over the world. The omnipresence of digital technology and social media means that we can contact virtually anyone we have ever known, at virtually any time, for virtually any reason. Most times this is a great benefit – we can reconnect with long-lost friends, do business with colleagues and clients all around the world, and access nearly the entirety of human knowledge with little more than a few keystrokes. But of course there are times when the ease of virtual interaction inhibits us from living our best spiritual lives.

If you regularly spend time on social media, you probably have experienced a relatively recent phenomenon that has

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Message to the Congregation August 2018

As we embark on this sacred journey together, with the excitement of our congregation's 75th anniversary on the horizon, one of my aspirational goals is that every congregant finds their place.



Rodney Roth

The opportunities are endless as we offer a broad spectrum of programs and service committee opportunities that hopefully peak everyone's interests. Judaism is a beautiful religion that combines spirituality and the study of torah with the tenants of education and the practice of mitzvot. I would like to promote a community that is not only warm and welcoming but one that is also inclusive of new ideas, the pursuit of understanding

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Congregation Emanu El's Brotherhood Holding Annual Garage Sale August 12th & August 19th

The Brotherhood of Congregation Emanu El will host its annual Garage Sale on Sundays, **August 12th and 19th from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at 5645 Beechnut in a strip center located at the corner of Beechnut and Hillcroft in southwest Houston.

The garage sale is open to all members of the community.

Pick-ups for this year's event began in June and continue through **Saturday, August 4th**. To schedule a pick-up, arrange a drop off or to volunteer, please call or email Steve Moskowitz at moskose@swbell.net or (281) 495-7795.

Any items left at the end of the sale are given to non-profit organizations within our community.

Proceeds from the garage sale benefit the Brotherhood, enabling the organization to make a difference at Emanu El and in the community.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Shabbat Eikev, Deuteronomy 7:12 – 11:25 **Friday, August 3rd**

5:45 p.m., Tot Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:30 p.m., Tot Shabbat, Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday, August 4th

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

Shabbat R'eih, Deuteronomy 11:26 – 16:17 **Friday, August 10th**

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

Saturday, August 11th

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

Shabbat Shof'tim, Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9 **Friday, August 17th**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
7:30 p.m., Young Professionals/The Middle Pop-Up
Shabbat in the Heights: Prosecco & Prayer, Gallery 3

Saturday, August 18th

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'not Mitzvah of **Hailey & Madelyn Frank**, daughters
of Ivy & Stephen Frank

Shabbat Ki Teitzei, Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19 **Friday, August 24th**

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

Saturday, August 25th

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Jack Applebaum**, son of Julie & Jeffrey
Applebaum and **Cole Nodler**, son of Marc Nodler &
Dorian Nodler

Shabbat Ki Tavo, Deuteronomy, 26:1-29:8 **Friday, August 31st**

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

Saturday, September 1st

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah of **Jenna Paull**, daughter of Christa &
Jonathan Paull
9:00 p.m., Selichot, Proler Chapel

Shabbat Nitzavim, Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20 **Friday, September 7th**

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:00 p.m., Tot Shabbat, Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday, September 8th

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

REMINDER: All Friday night Shabbat services are video streamed on EmanuElHouston.org in addition to our Emanu El Facebook page and Roku channel. Saturday morning services featuring a B'nai Mitzvah are streamed on the Emanu El website and Roku channel.

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

now become ubiquitous in the Jewish world: the “Facebook apology.” “Facebook apologies” are the now-common practice of issuing generic and blanket apologies to one’s whole social network. They are easy to identify in social media posts, generally beginning with phrases like “To anyone I have offended, I am truly sorry...” or “If I have hurt you over the past year, I apologize...” Those who issue “Facebook apologies” do so, I believe, because they offer a relatively safe and easy way to fulfill this Jewish season’s mandate to acknowledge one’s missteps and apologize for them. Jewish tradition and our sages’ teachings caution us, however, against using this particular technique to effect the work of repentance as the High Holy Days approach.

The great Rabbi Moses Maimonides, in his 12th century masterwork the Mishneh Torah, is careful to stipulate that while one is free to acknowledge publicly that one has sinned, one’s work of apology and restitution must be undertaken personally and directly with the people one has hurt. This teaching is especially salient in our current day, when the ease of digital communication makes it simple for us to symbolically perform our apologies online while avoiding the more difficult – and far more important – act of connecting openly with those whom we have wronged in order to seek their forgiveness.

The month of Elul is nearly here, and the High Holy Days are close behind. I hope that the days that lie between us and a new Jewish year will bring many opportunities for us to reflect seriously on the ways we may better ourselves in the year 5779. Only by willingly accepting their invitation for self-reflection, and only by bravely reaching out personally to those we have hurt during 5778, can we move our own souls toward a higher spiritual rung and our community toward a more humble and compassionate future.

FROM THE PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

and planning for a robust future.

My personal spiritual reconnection and introduction to volunteerism started seven years ago when I was approached by Myra Lipper to plan a fundraising golf tournament for the congregation. It was a novel concept that was not only a success, but, inspired congregants to volunteer and participate in this community for the first time, and it was truly exciting for me to witness. This was the beginning of something very meaningful and fulfilling that has led me down this sacred journey to ultimately leading this congregation.

While I personally have enjoyed every second, here is your chance to also reconnect and find something that may interest you. We have numerous committees and subcommittees that are in need of new faces, ideas, and leadership. Here is the list of committees and a brief explanation of their roles and responsibilities. If you have any interest or would like additional information, please call or email David Lamden at dlamden@emanuelhouston.org. Like the old expression goes,

“when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

- **ADULT EDUCATION** – Assists temple’s education staff and clergy in their work to provide meaningful, relevant and fulfilling experiences of adult Jewish learning for our members and the larger community.
- **BROTHERHOOD** – Focused on programming for the congregation, the Brotherhood plans fundraisers that benefit the congregation, social events and other fun activities.
- **BUDGET & FINANCE** – This committee oversees the finances of the congregation and has several components. The finance committee meets three or four times each year during the non-budget cycle to review finances, assist the professional staff and make recommendations. The budget committee, which is typically many of the same people, works on the congregational budget each year in three or four meetings (typically December – March) in conjunction with the staff. The audit committee is involved with the annual audit each year and has two or three meetings.
- **BUILDING, GROUNDS & SECURITY** – This overarching committee oversees the building and grounds of our beautiful congregation and also includes a security subcommittee. The security subcommittee typically meets three or four times each year and the building and grounds work is year-round, but rarely in the form of regular meetings. The group convenes as projects need expertise and attention.
- **CEMETERY** – One of the Emanu El’s shining stars is Emanu El Memorial Park (EEMP). The cemetery committee sets policy and oversees the care of our beautiful property on Bissonnet St. Meetings of the cemetery committee are typically monthly.
- **EARLY CHILDHOOD** – Supports the work of the Becker School as well as programmatic offerings – including worship, learning, and community-building – for children younger than kindergarten.
- **INCLUSION** – We continually work to make sure that our building is accessible to all people, regardless of any physical limitations. The Inclusion Committee meets a few times each year to focus on areas that may require adjustment or improvement.
- **INVESTMENT** – The investment committee manages and monitors the investments of the congregation including the endowment and EEMP perpetual care fund. They meet quarterly.
- **ISRAEL** – Assists with logistical support for the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience trip, and works with program staff to plan and implement educational, cultural, religious and political programming that promote Emanu El’s warm and longstanding relationship with the Jewish State.

- **LEADERSHIP** – This committee plans training for new Board Members each year. It also works to identify and build a pipeline of future leaders for the congregation by running a Leadership Academy. This committee typically meets three or four times each year for planning purposes.
- **LEGACY** – This group is working to increase the number of congregational families who are part of our Leave a Jewish Legacy program. The ultimate goal is to have families leave Congregation Emanu El in their end-of-life giving plans. There are typically a few meetings each year, plus a few community trainings.
- **MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL** – This group meets a few times each year, plus when there are personnel matters that need to be considered. They also work on projects such as updating the Personnel Handbook and reviewing benefits available to staff.
- **MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH** – This committee is focused on recruiting, welcoming and maintaining a strong membership within the congregation. Meetings are typically three or four times each year, plus participation in various membership-based events.
- **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL COMMITTEE** – Focused on how to grow and improve the Helfman Religious School program, the Religious School Committee meets through the year to both create and support programming in the school.
- **RITUAL & MUSIC** – This committee provides a safe and supportive place for members of the clergy to explore and evaluate our religious and musical offerings, and assists in the setting of policy for prayer, life-cycle and Shabbat/holiday services. Members of this committee are added by invitation.
- **SISTERHOOD** – The Emanu El Sisterhood has a longstanding history of providing outstanding programming and fundraising and works to build strong relationships with the women of Emanu El.
- **SOCIAL ACTION** – Social Action has been a vital part of Emanu El’s identity and our mission to the larger community. This committee works with temple staff and assists in the strategy, planning and evaluation of programs for education, advocacy and volunteerism to uphold the Jewish values that underpin our congregation’s holy work.

With your feedback, we will be launching a new leadership committee, lead by our immediate past President Jeff Basen-Enquist. The purpose of the committee is to identify and cultivate new potential leaders. The future success of this congregation not only depends on our committees functioning at a high level but also having a strong and thoughtful succession plan in place. Please be a part of this exciting community as we prepare for our 75th and beyond.

– Rodney Roth, President

High Holy Day Service Schedule

Selichot

Saturday, September 1st

Selichot, 9:00 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah

Sunday, September 9th

Rosh HaShanah Unplugged, 5:30 p.m.

Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 10th

Young Children's Service – A New Beginning, 9:00 a.m.

"A Time to Rejoice" – a Rosh HaShanah Morning Service, 10:30 a.m.

Tashlich at Brays Bayou (Across from the ERJCC), 5:00 p.m.

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, September 14th

Shabbat Shuvah Service, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 16th

Cemetery Memorial Service (at EEMP), 5:00 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 18th

Kol Nidre, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 19th

Young Children's Service – *It's Better to be Better*, 9:00 a.m.

Morning Service, 11:00 a.m.

Afternoon Experience, 1:15 p.m.

Hineini: Confessions and Comfort for Today's World, 3:15 p.m.

Yizkor & N'ilah, 4:30 p.m.

Community Break the Fast, immediately following N'ilah

Sukkot

Sunday, September 23rd

Sukkot on Sunset, 4:00 p.m.

Erev Sukkot Service

(held at conclusion of Sukkot on Sunset), 6:30 p.m.

Simchat Torah

Sunday, September 30th

Simchat Torah/Consecration, 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 1st

Simchat Torah Service/Yizkor, 10:30 a.m.

Please note that all services this year with the exception of Tashlich (on Brays Bayou, across from the ERJCC) and the Cemetery Service (at Emanu El Memorial Park) will occur at Congregation Emanu El.

HIGH HOLY DAY ADMISSIONS PASSES

Your passes and two guest passes will be enclosed with the High Holy Days packet that will be mailed out the second week of August. We encourage you to offer the guest passes to anyone who might like to attend a single High Holy Day service. **Please note that these passes may not be used on Kol Nidre.** We accept passes from other congregations and also welcome armed services personnel, college students with ID, and out-of-town patients receiving treatment in the Texas Medical Center, along with their families. If you know someone who has moved to Houston within the last six months, please contact Jill Kaplan at (713) 529-5771 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org to arrange for a newcomer pass.

GOING OUT OF TOWN FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS? LET US HELP YOU!

Will you be out of town for Rosh HaShanah and/or Yom Kippur? Through our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), our Congregation enjoys "reciprocity" with hundreds of synagogues nationally.

Please contact the synagogue office at (713) 529-5771 to speak to a member of the synagogue staff about reciprocity. You can also e-mail Jill Kaplan at JillK@emanuelhouston.org or Jason Plotkin at jasonp@emanuelhouston.org. We will work with our partner synagogues to ensure your seat at your destination synagogue.

PARKING

Only individuals with High Holy Days passes or handicap placards will be allowed entry to the Emanu El campus. All parking on Floors 1 and 2 of the Gaylor Parking Facility will be reserved for handicap-accessible use. The West Lot is reserved for Rabbi's Circle members with a required pass. Because there is limited garage parking on Floors 3 and 4, we encourage you to park at satellite locations. Buses will run continually from the satellite parking lots to and from Emanu El.

For Erev Rosh HaShanah and Kol Nidre, park at the Medical Clinic of Houston, 1707 Sunset. The parking garage entrance is on Rice Blvd. On Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur Day, park at Rice University. Due to construction on the west side of the Rice campus, we will use the Rice South Stadium Lot (with overflow in the Greenbriar Lot). A special entrance to the South Stadium Lot will be open between Gates 8 and 9, specifically for our Emanu El guests. This entry point is located off University Blvd. between Montclair and Stockton. Please note that the construction project on Greenbriar between Holcombe and University will still be in progress during the High Holy Days and guests are encouraged to avoid Greenbriar from south of University.

CHILD CARE

Child care for children aged 15 months to 8 years is available during all High Holy Day services, with the exception of the 5:30 p.m. Rosh HaShanah service. Registration and advance payment **MUST** be received so that we can prepare for the appropriate number of caregivers. The cost is \$10 per service per child. A light

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snack will be provided; however, children with allergies are encouraged to bring their own snacks. Registration deadline for Rosh HaShanah is **Wednesday, September 5th**; Yom Kippur registration deadline is **Friday, September 14th**. Visit emanuelhouston.org to register or contact Evon Zions at (713) 529-5771, ext. 255 or EvonZ@emanuelhouston.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCESSIBILITY

For wheelchair or disability accessibility, please contact Elizabeth Townsend at (713) 529-5771, ext. 222 or ElizabethT@emanuelhouston.org and include the services you plan to attend. Preferred seating will be provided to those who give advanced notice. Those requesting special needs seating may be granted a maximum of four additional seats for family members. Special needs seating will be released 15 minutes prior to the beginning of services. Rosh HaShanah deadline for requests is **Wednesday, September 5th**; Yom Kippur deadline for requests is **Friday, September 14th**.

LIVE STREAMING

You can watch all High Holy Day services live-streamed three ways: 1. on our website: www.emanuelhouston.org; 2. on Facebook: www.facebook.com/emanuelhouston; or 3. with a Roku device, search for the Congregation Emanu El Houston channel. Archived videos of services and sermons will be available following services at the same digital locations.

HEARING LOOP

The Barish Sanctuary is equipped with an Induction Loop System, which transmits audio signals directly to one's telecoil (T-coil)-equipped hearing aid.

CLOSED CAPTIONING

Brotherhood provides closed captioning for our High Holy Day worshipers who are hearing impaired. The Brotherhood provides this service at all on-site Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur services with the exception of the children's services.

BOOK OF MEMORY

By the time of this Bulletin's arrival in your email or mail, the deadline for **Book of Memory** will have passed. Due to this publication being handled outside of the synagogue, we have to abide by the deadline. The **Book of Memory** will be distributed on Yom Kippur afternoon as worshipgoers return to the Barish Sanctuary for *Hineini: Confessions and Comfort for Today's World*.

HIGH HOLY DAY BOOK NAMEPLATES

This coming year will be the second in which we have utilized *Mishkan NaNefesh*, the Reform Movement's new prayer books for the High Holy Days. The books based on the post-High Holy Day survey were very well received.

Congregants have an opportunity to dedicate individual volumes (or sets) in honor or in memory of those who are dear to us. Information on purchasing nameplates can be

found online at EmanuElHouston.org or by calling the synagogue at (713) 529-5771. To insure that the nameplates are in the books ahead of the High Holy Days, we ask that you return your form or fill it out online **by Friday, August 17th**.

'TASTE OF EMANU EL' MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

Our annual 'Taste of Emanu El' campaign has kicked off! Have unaffiliated friends and relatives who are interested in establishing themselves with a synagogue? Perhaps you know someone that is new to the city of Houston? They can become a member of Emanu El for a year at an affordable membership rate of \$72. This membership is good through April 2019. Those interested should contact Jill Kaplan at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org.

FLOWER FUND FOR ROSH HASHANAH & YOM KIPPUR

The deadlines to make contributions towards the Flower Fund to be listed in the respective High Holy Day programs for are **Tuesday, August 14th** for Rosh HaShanah and **Tuesday, August 21st** for Yom Kippur. Please contact Donna Fraley at DonnaF@emanuelhouston.org or (713) 529-5771, ext. 212.

A DESCRIPTION OF OUR SERVICES FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS

Young Children's Services: To provide the youngest members of our congregation family with a meaningful and engaging holiday experience, we offer two exciting creative services (A New Beginning on Rosh HaShanah and It's Better to Be Better on Yom Kippur). And it's a thrilling moment for everyone when the children are invited to the pulpit to blow Shofar on Rosh HaShanah.

EREV ROSH HASHANAH, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

5:30 p.m., Rosh HaShanah Unplugged (NEW)

Led by our clergy team and members of the Shabbatoners, this one-hour innovative service is designed for those looking for a more creative and contemporary prayer experience. Worshipers of all ages are welcome.

7:30 p.m., Evening Service

During our traditional service, our clergy and professional choir will lead us in familiar and timeless melodies.

ROSH HASHANAH, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

9:00 a.m., Children's Service, A New Beginning

This service is designed for children ages 8 and under.

10:30 a.m., A Time to Rejoice (NEW)

We are excited to introduce a new, intergenerational morning service which combines traditional sounds and words with graceful new liturgical writing, stirring poetry, transliteration and full translation of the Hebrew texts. The service includes an inspiring and engaging collection of music led by Cantor Simmons. During the service, we offer all 3rd through 5th grade students a unique opportunity to participate with Emanu El teachers in an

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age-appropriate High Holy Day celebration at an alternate location while the adults remain in the sanctuary.

5:00 p.m., Tashlich, 5601 S. Braeswood Blvd.
We gather on Brays Bayou across from the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center and symbolically cast our sins into the water while singing traditional melodies and reflecting on beautiful poetry.

KOL NIDRE, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

7:30 p.m., Kol Nidre
Our traditional Kol Nidre service will be led by our clergy accompanied by our professional choir and Brinton Smith, Principal Cellist, Houston Symphony.

YOM KIPPUR, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

9:00 a.m., Children's Service, It's Better To Be Better
This service is designed for children ages 8 and under.

11:00 a.m., Morning Service
We offer a traditional morning service with music by our Cantor and Professional Choir.

Afternoon Service Options (NEW)
In place of our traditional Afternoon Service, we will offer several options to provide special meaning and to enhance your Yom Kippur afternoon experience.

Study at 1:15 p.m.
Take an in-depth look at the Book of Jonah and encounter new facets of this familiar text, which will illuminate our own journeys from despair toward hope.

Community Conversations at 1:15 p.m.: Join us as we sit together to share stories on the topic of "home" that will help inspire and shape Emanu El's year of social justice programming.

Healing at 1:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.: Focus on the themes of healing and wholeness through poetry, song and prayer.

Study at 2:15 p.m.: Explore sin and repentance through writings of the prophets and ancient rabbis to acquaint you with new ways of thinking about the spiritual work of repentance on the High Holy Days and all year long.

Stories of Inspiration, Hope & Perseverance at 2:15 p.m.: Gather to hear the personal narratives of three of our members and learn about the unique roles that Judaism has played in their lives' journeys.

3:15 p.m., Hineini: Confessions and Comfort for Today's World (NEW)
This new service will combine the beloved tradition of Confessions for our Times with contemporary, relatable and stirring music, silent reflection and relevant readings that speak to the issues of the day.

4:30 p.m., Yizkor & N'ilah
Our traditional Yizkor Memorial Service will be followed by our concluding N'ilah Service, where we will hear the final blast of the shofar.

Break the Fast immediately following N'ilah
The community is invited to break the fast together.

Welcome Our Newest Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest members to our congregational family. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

- Carlyn Burton & Robert Scherer, daughter Sydney
- Cathy & Soman Chacko
- Jeffrey & Susan Koch
- Jeffrey & Ellen Kottler
- Jordan Miller
- David & Rachael Pepper, daughter Maddy, son Wylie
- Matthew Reichenthal
- Amar Saati & Sarah Haasis, daughter Audrey
- Dan & Carol Silvestain

New members will be shared in the Temple *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 Jill Kaplan at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org.

Annual Commitment Forms

Annual Commitment forms for 2018-19 arrived in congregant mailboxes in mid-to-late March. Congregants are encouraged to fill out the form and return it.

Individuals who have questions, needing assistance in filling out the form or needing another form are encouraged to call the synagogue office at (713) 529-5771.

Thanks to those congregants whom have already responded to date!

Membership Portal Currently Unavailable; New Website Launched – One Step Closer!

Our new website has launched! What does this mean? We're now one step closer to making the membership portal available again.

We continue to apologize for the inconvenience but our membership portal is currently unavailable as part of our transition to a new membership database software for the first time in over a decade. Our staff is currently in the process of familiarizing themselves with our new software so that they can better serve you upon launch of the membership portal. Additional information will be shared here as it becomes available.

EMANU EL AT A GLANCE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23RD

The below information contains a listing of events at Emanu El exclusive of our Temple worship and Shabbat schedule, which can be found monthly on page 2.

As a Congregation, we communicate in many different ways: this calendar is supplemented by information that can be found throughout this edition of the Temple *Bulletin*, in the weekly Shabbat program, available in your weekly Wednesday eLetter, on the Emanu El website: www.emanuelhouston.org and/or on our Facebook page.

AUGUST

- 8/2 – Emanu El Mahjong Night, 5:30 p.m.
- 8/3 – Tot Shabbat & Dinner, 5:45 p.m. (dinner) & 6:30 p.m. (service)
- 8/7 – Emanu Elders, 11:30 a.m.
- 8/9 – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.
- 8/12 – Brotherhood Garage Sale Opening Weekend, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (5645 Beechnut)
- 8/17 – Pop-Up Shabbat in the Heights: Prosecco & Prayer, 7:30 p.m. (at Gallery 3, 2101 Winter St)
- 8/19 – Brotherhood Garage Sale Second Weekend, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (5645 Beechnut)
- 8/19 – Houston Jewish Singles' Does Kids Meals, 10:30 a.m. (at Beth Israel)
- 8/21 – Kids Meals, 9:30 a.m.
- 8/22 – Hurricane Harvey, A Year Later: Moment of Decision, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/26 – Emanu El Perspective Member Open House, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- 8/26 – Helfman Religious School Open House, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- 8/26 – Emanu El Teens' Boardwalk Favorites Kickoff Event – 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- 8/28 – Sack Lunches for SEARCH, 9:30 a.m.
- 8/28 – Young Professionals – Torah on Tap: The Art of the Celebrity Apology, 6:30 p.m. at Under the Volcano (2349 Bissonnet)
- 8/29 – Sisterhood Opening Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/30 – Faith During & After Harvey – One Year Later, 7:00 p.m. (at Rice University, location TBA)
- 8/31 – Widow 2 Widow Shabbat Dinner & Speaker, following services

SEPTEMBER

- 9/4 – Sisterhood New Traditions' Resumes Regular Hours, 9:00 a.m.
- 9/4 – Emanu Elders, 11:30 a.m.
- 9/6 – Emanu El Mahjong Night, 5:30 p.m.
- 9/13 – Work of Our Hands, 10:00 a.m.
- 9/13 – Book Review: *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*, 7:00 p.m.
- 9/14 – Shabbat Shuvah with guest D'var Torah by Stephanie Wittels Wachs, 6:00 p.m.
- 9/16 – First Day of Helfman Religious School, 9:00 a.m.
- 9/23 – Sukkot on Sunset, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**NEXT BULLETIN TO BE ISSUED:
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th**

OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

BIRTH

Remy Elyse Walker, daughter of Stephanie & Tommy Walker; granddaughter of Sherry & Michael Van

DEATHS

Ralph Balasco, husband of Sybil Balasco; brother-in-law of Bea & Herschel Premack

Richard Brown, husband of Isabelle Brown; father of Anne & Edward Borne, Lawrence Brown; grandfather of Matthew and Megan

Cari Cowen, step-daughter of Leonard Tatar; sister of Jonathan Cowen; Kerry Silver & Jim Cowen; step-sister of Erin & Edmund Tatar

Shirley Goodman, mother of Gastonia & Gordon Goodman; grandmother of Daniel Groot, William Goodman, Allison Goodman & Lowell Pickett, Emma Goodman & Cian Riordan, Daya Meyers-Hurt & Laura Myers-Hurt; great grandmother of several.

Stanley Grabois, husband of Pauline Grabois; father of Richard Grabois, Monique & Perry Grabois, and Matthew Grabois; brother of Ellen & Martin Grabois; and grandfather of Jarred, Aaron, Antonin and Zacharie Grabois

David Kapiloff, husband of Amy Kapiloff; father of Tracy & Brian Kapiloff, Robyn & Kevin Rosenblatt; grandfather of Andie and Lauryn Kapiloff, Ellie, Talia and Ian Rosenblatt

Marcia Brooks Lewis, mother of Andrea & Dan Cook, Judith Turpie, Cynda & Stephen Lewis, Ralph Levin Lewis, Mitchell Levin Lewis; grandmother of Elizabeth & Jordan Lewis, Anna K. Lewis, Lindsay & David Bozeman, Julia Lewis, Julia Lewis, David Turpie; great grandmother of six; sister-in-law of Lenore Brooks; mother-in-law of Cynthia Young, Judith Ann Lewis, Betsy Lewis

Roni Light, wife of Robert Light; sister-in-law of Patrice & Neal Donner

Johanna Wilkenfeld, mother of Mallory Hoffman, Randi & Marty Rosenkrantz; grandmother of Jillian Rosenkrantz, Katie Rosenkrantz; sister of Carol Sue Finkelstein

Lynn Zimmermann, sister of Ilene & Jack Zimmermann, Madalyn & Bobby Zimmermann, Linda & Jerry Zimmermann

Rabbi Fixler Joins Faith Leaders for Interfaith Call to Prayer

Rabbi Josh Fixler stood with other faith leaders in late June as part of an “interfaith call to prayer” at 419 Emancipation Ave. This group prayed for the rapid reunification of children separated from families and moral courage of our leaders to act with mercy and compassion as they seek a legislative solution to this human struggle.



What Does The View from the Fourth Floor of the Gaylor Parking Facility Look Like?

On July 4th – absolutely spectacular! Despite rains earlier in the day, the show still went on. Over 250 members of the community joined Emanu El atop the fourth floor of the Gaylor Parking Facility for fireworks and a sing-a-long with Cantor Rollin Simmons. Prior to the ascent to the top of the garage, guests had a free dinner (provided by PrefCo) cooked by volunteers, an ice cream social and a family-friendly movie.

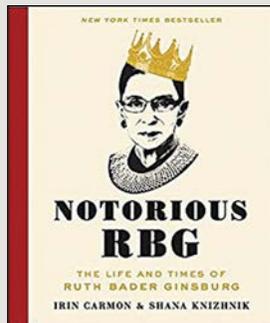
Snakes Visit Becker School!

The summer is a time when our synagogue receives visitors of all kinds: College students and adult children of members coming home. Friends from Greene Family Camp stopping by between sessions. Former members who moved out of town visiting old friends. And snakes! Here’s Becker School director Paula Katz with one of the snakes that stopped by our Becker School in mid-July.



Sisterhood News & Happenings

August 2018



BOOK REVIEW:

Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg,

by Irin Carmon & Shana Kniznik

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

7:00 PM

Reviewed by Justin Nelson, former law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

The authors compiled a charming picto-biography of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, champion of the right of equal protection of law for all persons.

This book review is free and open to the public. A reception will take place following the review. For more information, contact the Sisterhood office at (713) 529-5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.

Remembering the Past, Looking Forward to the Future: Sisterhood Opening Dinner

75th Anniversary of Sisterhood!

If you slow-danced to “Cherish” in Feld Hall at your bat mitzvah party . . .

If the Sisterhood cookbook guided you through your very first dinner party . . .

If you walked from Temple to Southhampton Drugstore for a shake and fries . . . only to walk back for mandelbrot . . .

If you carpoled from Bellaire High for Hanukah latkes . . .

If you broke out your new Pappagallos for a Sisterhood Luncheon . . .

If you rescued your tap shoes from the cedar chest to star in a Lipper/Miller/Wilkenfeld production . . .

If you needed a fourth for Mah Jongg or 104 friends for life . . .

. . . Then, through the past 75 years, you have been touched, one way or another, by Emanu El Sisterhood. Please join us for the celebration of “75 Years of Sisterhood” on **Wednesday, August 29th, at 6:30 p.m.** for food, fun, champagne and music!

We'd love to hear from you by **Wednesday, August 22nd** either by phone (713) 529-5771, ext.233 or at sishood@emanuelhouston.org. Registration is also available at www.emanuelhouston.org.

Member fees are \$15, non-Members, \$20. Please make your check payable to Emanu El Sisterhood. All are welcome! New friends and old memories await you on this special anniversary of comradery and sisterhood.

Sisterhood New Traditions to Resume Regular Hours

Tuesday, September 4th

The Sisterhood gift shop – New Traditions – will resume its regular hours of business beginning **Tuesday, September 4th. The hours will be 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m – 12:00 p.m. when Helfman Religious School is in session.**

New items are arriving and we look forward to your visiting! The month of September will feature 25 percent off on all talit. We have a wonderful selection of both men's and women's tallit.

Your purchases help Sisterhood fulfill its commitment to the support of our congregation and the community. For more information, contact (713) 529-5771, ext. 234.



Helfman Religious School

Helfman Religious School to Host Open House

Sunday, August 26th from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Please join us at the Helfman Religious School Open House on **Sunday, August 26th from 10:30-11:30 a.m.** Come with your child and meet our faculty, clergy and Religious School staff. Class assignments will be posted. If you have not yet registered your child(ren), please contact Gail Shapiro at gails@emanuelhouston.org.

A Letter from Stefani Carlson



As I write this message, I am still feeling the excitement of having spent the last four weeks in Poland and Israel with 26 of our rising 11th and 12th graders on the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience.

Each day of this amazing journey was filled with learning and laughter – and some tears – as we relived more

than 1,000 years of Jewish history through visits to sites as ancient as the tunnels beneath the Temple Mount and as modern as Warsaw's brand-new POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and looked to a bright Jewish future through visits with members of the Krakow JCC and countless Israeli innovators.

Along the way, we built strong bonds of community between students, faculty and clergy, upon which we look forward to building in the school year to come.

We were fortunate to be joined by several visitors on our journey, as well, two of which gave our students glimpses into what their own Jewish futures might hold: Helfman alumna Noa Gutow-Ellis met with us in Krakow, where she is interning at the Galicia Jewish Museum, and SBMIE14 alumni Aaron Feldstein and Adam Dreyfus took time out of their Masa Israel internships to meet us for dinner in Jerusalem.

The group was particularly glad to meet up with David Barish twice during our time in Israel: for lunch and a tour of the Roman ruins at Caesaria, and for a visit to the Armored Corps Museum at Latrun and our closing drum circle and dinner in Abu Gosh.

We cannot begin to express our gratitude to the Barish family, whose generosity makes this transformative experience possible for our students.

As powerful as the Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience is, the trip is only one of many chapters in the stories that our Helfman Religious School students

write during their time in our school.

This coming year, as our congregation prepares to celebrate its 75th anniversary, we will be encouraging our students and families to tell “Our Emanu El Stories” in many different ways. From Consecration to Graduation, B’nei Mitzvah to Confirmation, Second Grade Torah Project to Fourth Grade Wedding, and everything in between, we look forward to celebrating together the milestones, big and small, that frame our stories and build our community.

The best stories blend the familiar with the new. Our plans for the coming Religious School year do the same. We are excited to welcome back many beloved teachers and programs, and to introduce a few new ones as well. We are thrilled to be continuing our partnership with the Institute for Southern Jewish Life (ISJL) for curriculum and program support, and to be building on last year’s success with Hebrew Through Movement for grades PK-2 by expanding to 3rd grade. Our 4-6 graders will have the opportunity to learn in some new ways this year, also, as we prepare to introduce a Chugim (electives) program on Sunday mornings.

For the last half hour of each session, students will be able to select from mini-courses taught by our faculty and clergy, including Youth Choir, small-group Hebrew, Technology/Coding, and a “Taste” track of our classic specials (art, music, Israeli dance and cooking).

Our 2018-19 Helfman Religious School story begins on Sunday, August 26th with an Open House. Class lists will be posted, and our faculty and ISJL fellow will be on hand to greet our students and their families.

Come and meet your children’s teachers and the families of their classmates! Classes for students in PK-7th grade will begin on **Sunday, September 14th** (the Sunday between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur); Midweek Hebrew School for grades 4-6 and Upper School for grades 8-12 will begin after the fall holidays, on **Wednesday, October 3rd**.

If you have not yet registered, it’s not too late – please visit www.emanuelhouston.org or contact Gail Shapiro at gails@emanuelhouston.org for more information or to register.

Many of our most beloved stories are those not written in books, but passed down orally from generation to generation. If you have a story to tell, or a question to ask, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by phone at (713) 535-6400, ext. 251, by email at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org, or in person – my door is always open. I’d love to hear your story!

– Stefani Carlson, Director of Congregational Learning

Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience Teens at the Dead Sea

A group of Emanu El teens on the recently completed Shirley Barish Memorial Israel Experience enjoying the Dead Sea while in Israel.



Emanu El Teens' Boardwalk Favorites Kickoff Event Sunday, August 26th from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Our end of summer get together for Emanu El's 8th through 12th graders will occur on **Sunday, August 26th** on the Temple's front lawn (affectionately known as

'Sunset Beach,' from **12:00-2:00 p.m.**

Come join us for "Boardwalk Favorites" and a chance to make new friends and see old friends. Enjoy pizza and ice cream while playing popular midway games.

Any questions? Contact Jamie Aaron at [jamiea@emanuelhouston.org](mailto:jamiaea@emanuelhouston.org) or (713) 529-5771, ext. 204. RSVP on the Facebook event or by contacting Jamie.

College Student Addresses Sought for 2018-19 School Year

Is your child away at college this year? We send care packages and organize student meet ups at various times through the year. Send us your child's contact information so we can help keep them connected to Congregation Emanu El! (Even if you have sent us your child's information previously, please send it again because we use new lists each year.) You can send the contact information to collegestudents@emanuelhouston.org.

YOUNG FAMILY NEWS

Tot Shabbat 2.0 Launches Friday, August 3rd

After hearing feedback and suggestions, we are excited to announce the relaunch of Tot Shabbat. The first Tot Shabbat 2.0 will take place on **Friday, August 3rd at 5:45 p.m.**

In an effort to emulate the Shabbat experience at home, we will begin each dinner by joining together as one big congregational family at 5:45 p.m. to recite the traditional Shabbat blessings over the challah, candles and juice and then allowing time for everyone to eat before the service begins at 6:30 p.m.

The dinner for August will feature Star Pizza and a "create your own salad" bar. The cost is just \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

While we will be serving kid-friendly food, we also welcome you to bring your own dinner and join us if that makes it easier to accommodate your family's specific dietary needs.

Starting in August, we will also have blessing cards available on the tables to make it easy to follow along. We encourage you to take a set of these cards home to help foster teachable moments at your own Shabbat tables. A short and sweet dessert oneg will immediately follow services. As we continue to improve our Tot Shabbat experience, we hope you'll recognize all the different ways we are working to make this a

meaningful, vibrant and engaging experience for ages kids 0-6.

Please note that due to final High Holy Day preparations around the building, the September Tot Shabbat on **Friday, September 7th begins at 6:00 p.m.** and there will not be a dinner option. Dinner resumes ahead of our October Tot Shabbat on **Friday, October 5th.**

Calling Young Families! Emanu El Seeks Tot Shabbat Hosts

Are you looking for a way to get more involved? Do your kids want to lead blessings at Friday night services? Is your son or daughter having a birthday and you'd like to honor them in a unique way? The first Friday of each month we are pleased to have a special Tot Shabbat service, geared towards families with little ones ages 0-6.

Each Tot Shabbat presents a rare opportunity for families to interact with each other and get to know our clergy on a more personal level. Each month, Emanu El extends the privilege of hosting a Tot Shabbat to our Young Families who may be interested in becoming more involved.

We also invite you to pair up with other families and host as a cohort if that's what you'd prefer. For more information on hosting responsibilities and what this may entail, contact Jill Kaplan at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org.

Emanu El Monthly Mahj **First Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. – Next Gathering** **on Thursday, August 2nd**

Responding to popular demand by members of the congregation, we are happy to announce a recurring casual night of mahjong. We will meet on the **first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m.** in the Stillman-Lack Library or in the Board Room, unless otherwise noted. There will be a nominal \$5 fee to cover drinks and dinner. Novice and advanced players welcome!

For more information and to RSVP, please email Jill Kaplan at JillK@emanuelhouston.org or call (713) 529-5771, ext. 262.

Hurricane Harvey, A Year Later: **Moment of Decision** **Wednesday, August 22nd**



Bill Fulton

Congregation Emanu El and the Rice University's Kinder Institute for Urban Research are partnering to host "Hurricane Harvey, A Year Later: Moment of Decision" on **Wednesday, August 22nd at 6:30 p.m.** at Emanu El, 1500 Sunset Blvd.

The presentation will feature the Director of the Kinder Institute, William Fulton and occurs just three days before a Harris County bond election in which residents will be asked to approve \$2.5 billion to finance critical flood-control projects.

The bond election takes place on the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey and should it pass would include more than 150 potential projects according to the Harris County Flood Control District.

Members of the community are invited to join Fulton as he gives a high-level presentation reviewing what Houston has done and what could possibly be done moving forward post-Harvey to prevent a similar episode from happening.

Following Fulton's presentation, there will be an opportunity for members of the audience to ask questions.

Fulton has served as the Director of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University since 2014. He is a former mayor of Ventura, California and director of planning and economic development for the city of San Diego.

In his career, Fulton has also served as vice president for policy at Smart Growth America, principal in the California-based urban planning firm now known as PlaceWorks and senior fellow at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California.

He is the founding editor and publisher of *California Planning & Development Report* and author of five books, including, *Guide to California Planning*, the standard urban planning textbook in California, and *The Reluctant Metropolis: The Politics of Urban Growth in Los Angeles*, which was an *L.A. Times* best-seller. His most recent book is, *Talk City: A Chronicle Of Political Life In An All-American Town*. He holds master's degrees in mass communication from The American University and urban planning from UCLA.

In order to properly prepare for the evening, Emanu El is asking for RSVPs at www.EmanuElHouston.org.

For more information on the program, please contact Emanu El program director Jason Plotkin at (713) 535-6414 or JasonP@emanuelhouston.org.

Emanu El Hosting Open House **Sunday, August 26th**

Emanu El is excited to open our doors on **Sunday, August 26th from 10:00-11:30 a.m.** for an "Open House" for prospective members. If you know of anyone who is interested in membership, have friends or family who would be a good fit for our community, or know of anyone who is new to town, please help us spread the word!

We will serve breakfast and coffee, have clergy available to meet new faces and answer questions, and staff will be on hand to facilitate building tours. Feel free to send contact information of prospective members to Jill Kaplan at jillk@emanuelhouston.org or (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 so that we can send them a personal invitation.

Program Director Plotkin Participating **in "Faith During and After Harvey: One** **Year Later"** **Thursday, August 30th at 7:00 p.m.**

The Religion and Public Life Program (RPLP) at Rice University, with support from the Boniuk Institute for the Study and Advancement of Religious Tolerance, is organizing a panel event at the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey's landfall in Houston.

The event to be held on **Thursday, August 30th at 7:00 p.m.** will take place on Rice University's campus with a location to be announced in upcoming publications.

continued next page

Religious organizations have often been tapped for support after natural disasters; and following Hurricane Harvey, they are increasingly in the public eye and judged for their ability to respond quickly.

Emanu El Program Director Jason Plotkin is one of a trio of representatives along with Paula Pipes of Pipes Research & Consulting and Omar Samji of the Ismaili Council for the Southwestern USA that will serve as expert panelists for the evening. The group will address how faith communities have assisted with continued Harvey recovery efforts as well as how they are preparing for future disasters.

Framed by relevant social science research on disasters and religion, this will be a conversation on preparing for and executing disaster relief through the lens of faith. For more information, visit rplp.rice.edu. The panel will be moderated by Elaine Howard Ecklund of Rice University.

Stephanie Wittels Wachs to Share with Congregation on Shabbat Shuvah Friday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m.



Shabbat Shuvah has historically served as an opportunity for the congregation to learn from and with a member of our community. On **Friday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m.** during our Shabbat Shuvah services, the congregation is invited to hear from author, actress, public speaker and fellow congregant Stephanie Wittels Wachs as she shares the story of how she got

herself up after the darkest moments of her life and how Jewish ritual helped her to find the strength to move forward.

She will connect the High Holy Days to the themes of her 2018 book, entitled *Everything Is Horrible and Wonderful: A Tragicomic Memoir of Genius, Heroin, Love, and Loss*.

Sukkot on Sunset Registration Has Opened!

Annual Event Sukkot Celebration To Occur
Sunday, September 23rd, 4:00 p.m.

Sukkot on Sunset Registration Has Opened! Annual Sukkot Celebration to Occur Sunday, September 23rd

Come join us for Sukkot on Sunset – our annual Sukkot Celebration. The fun begins at **4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 23rd** for our annual Sukkot Celebration!

Family entertainment abounds – BBQ supper – music and lots of fun for every age and stage. Hayrides, bounce houses, ponies and a rock wall! This year's music will feature Mike Kahn's band Double Vision. The evening will conclude with our Erev Sukkot Service in the Sukkah along with s'mores provided by our Brotherhood and Scout troops.

There's no charge for this event, but reservations are a must! Reserve by calling the Temple at (713) 529-5771 or by registering on EmanuElHouston.org.

Emanu El Volunteer Choir

The Emanu El Volunteer Choir has been active group this year, holding performances at various venues across town and taking part in the congregation's Purim Schpiel. An active fall and spring are in the works!

All members of the congregation are invited to join the choir by contacting Richard Zoll at Richard.Zoll@yahoo.com. The choir traditionally rehearses on **Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** at the synagogue. Please make sure to contact Richard to verify the rehearsal schedule for the month.

Upcoming Programming Offerings for Affinity Groups at Emanu El

Congregation Emanu El is actively seeking to create groups within our community that serve different ages, stages and interests. Are you interested in forming a group like the offerings listed below?

Contact Jill Kaplan or Jason Plotkin at the synagogue. Jill can be reached at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org and Jason can be reached at (713) 535-6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

Emanu Elders Hosting Faithful Paws Tuesday, August 7th

Emanu Elders will host its monthly gathering on **Tuesday, August 7th at 11:30 a.m.** The program will begin with a lunch cooked by our team of Sisterhood volunteers followed by a program with Faithful Paws.

Faithful Paws features a group of certified pet therapy teams that visit facilities including hospitals, nursing homes, rehab centers, schools, universities and community groups.

The cost of lunch is \$7 and your spot can be reserved by calling (713) 529-5771, ext. 233 or mailing a check to the attention of the Sisterhood to 1500 Sunset Blvd, Houston, TX 77005.

Those interested in being added to or removed from the Emanu Elders mailing list can contact Leda Karchmer in the the Sisterhood office at (713) 529-5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.

Young Professionals & The Middle's Pop-Up Shabbat in the Heights: Prosecco & Prayer Friday, August 17th

We are pleased to announce the first of several Shabbat experiences to take place outside of the walls of the synagogue. Join us for an evening of worship and mingling in the Heights on **Friday, August 17th from 7:30-10 p.m.** at Gallery 3, 2101 Winter St., for an adult-only Shabbat experience that will feature a unique blend of prayer and service accompanied by dessert and wine.

Located in the Historic Winter Street Studios in Houston's First Ward Arts District, Gallery 3 will serve as our home for worship for the evening in addition to our traditional offering in the Proler Chapel. Co-sponsored by our Young Professional and The Middle groups in addition to our friends from Jewston, the evening will be an intimate, contemporary and spiritual option for your Friday date night.

Community-Wide Jewish Singles Group for 50s and 60s to Make Lunches for Kids Meals Sunday, August 19th

The Houston area Jewish singles' group for those in their 50s and 60s will have its next gathering on **Sunday, August 19th at 10:30 a.m.** at Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood Blvd.

The August meeting will feature a social action project, as the group of singles will make lunches for Kids Meals, one of Emanu El's on-going community partners.

Kids Meals is a local organization with a mission to end childhood hunger by delivering free healthy meals to Houston's hungriest preschool-aged children and through collaboration, provide their families with resources to end the cycle of poverty.

Prior to the social action project, a light breakfast will be served.

A coalition of synagogues which includes Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Congregation Emanu El and HCRJ are behind the community-wide singles' group. Previous programs have included social gatherings and a Shabbat dinner.

To RSVP for this event and/or get on the mailing list for information about future gatherings, please contact Justin Deutsch at admin@hcrj.org or (713) 782-4162.

The Middle Women's Breakfast Group Friday, August 24th at 7:30 a.m.



Join The Middle's Women's breakfast group for our next event, a morning of service! We will head to Undies for Everyone, 4019 S. Braeswood, to learn more about the organization while we help pack underwear that will be distributed to various school districts and organizations such as the Houston Area Women's Center, City of Houston Back-to-School Fest and HISD homeless, to name a few.

Once we are finished packing and learning, breakfast will be served while everyone schmoozes before heading out for the day. Our approximate timeline will be: 7:30-8:30 a.m. (packing and learning more about UFE), 8:30-9:00 a.m. (breakfast and schmoozing). If you need to skip out early or arrive late, we are happy to accommodate you! The cost is \$5 per person to cover breakfast.

continued next page

Please RSVP at www.emanuelhouston.org by Monday, August 20th. For more information, contact Jill Kaplan at JillK@emanuelhouston.org.

Young Professionals – Torah on Tap: The Art of the Celebrity Apology



Join the Emanu El Young Professionals for Torah on Tap: The Art of the Celebrity Apology, hosted by Rabbi Josh Fixler on **Tuesday, August 28th at 6:30 p.m.** at Under the Volcano, 2349 Bissonnet St.

From Rabbi Fixler, “It’s the Hebrew month of Elul – the season for *t’shuvah* (repentance). But why is it so hard to say I’m sorry? And what makes a good apology? Using the wisdom of Jewish tradition, we will analyze celebrity apologies to develop tools for doing repentance right. Join us for beers and an informal and engaging conversation that will help prepare us for the High Holy Days.”

Feel free to bring friends as we use a bit of pop culture to connect our conversations to the meaningful and spiritual work that the holidays as us to do. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jill Kaplan at (713) 529-5771, ext. 262 or JillK@emanuelhouston.org.

Widow-to-Widow Shabbat Dinner & Guest Speaker

Friday, August 31st

(following 6:00 p.m. Shabbat services)

Congregation Emanu El’s Widow-to-Widow group will have a Shabbat dinner and special guest speaker on **Friday, August 31st** following the congregation’s 6:00 p.m. Shabbat worship.

The dinner will begin at approximately 7:15 p.m. with guest speaker Lauren Manning Salomon presenting a talk entitled, Finding a Path Forward, at the conclusion of dinner. Salomon’s talk will be interactive as she will walk attendees through an exercise in order to gain self-awareness and set goals that can be worked upon immediately.

Salomon has a Ph.D. in Industrial & Organizational Psychology from the University of Houston. A certified executive coach, she has over 20 years of experience in consulting and coaching to help organizations and individuals envision short term and long-term goals and achieve success.

All members of ‘Widow-to-Widow’ as well as widows within our community are invited to join us for dinner, see old friends and make new ones.

The cost of the dinner is \$12 and can be paid on the Emanu El website at www.EmanuElHouston.org by the **RSVP deadline of Wednesday, August 29th.**

For more information on the dinner, contact Jason Plotkin at (713) 535-6414 or JasonP@emanuelhouston.org. For more information on Widow-to-Widow, please contact Marlene Rubin at mrubin4@gmail.com.



Lauren Solamon

Houston Jewish Dog Play Group

Calling all pups . . . bring your humans to Houston Jewish Dog Play Group. The new Houston Jewish Dog Play Group. It’s really cool. We get to play at the dog park (sometimes there is even water involved) and our humans kibbitz with each other. After, we even get to go for drinks.

If you’re interested, have your human give Pam Kutner a ring and she’ll send the details when available. pamelaekutner@gmail.com.

My Generation Bus Trip to the Bush Library in College Station

Take a special step back into our nation’s history when My Generation takes a bus tour to the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library in College Station on **Sunday, October 7th.**

The full day of activities for our social group for members of our congregational community that are 65 and older **will leave from the synagogue on an air-conditioned bus at 9:45 a.m.**

Upon arriving in College Station, the group will lunch at the Olive Garden. This lunch includes bread, salad, an entrée, dessert and drink before heading to the Presidential Library for a self-guided tour. The tour will take approximately 90 minutes.

Time permitting, the group will walk to Barbara Bush’s gravesite before returning to the synagogue by approximately 5:00 p.m.

The cost for the entire trip including lunch and admission to the Presidential Library is \$25 per person. Space is limited to the first 40 people who register due to limitations on the bus. Please note that the trip as a whole features a fair share of walking.

To secure your space, please register online at www.EmanuElHouston.org or call (713) 529-5771 to pay over the phone. For more information, contact Jason Plotkin at (713) 535-6414.

Cleaning the Headstone of a Loved One

As the High Holy Days near, many of us plan visits to our loved ones who are no longer living, including during the Cemetery Memorial Service, which takes place on **Sunday, September 16th at 5:00 p.m.**

Before the service, or at any point throughout the year, you may want to take special care of your loved one's grave, particularly cleaning the headstone. Cleaning the headstone is fairly simple and straightforward, and just one of the ways that we fulfill the mitzvah of kavod hamet, respect for the dead. We've provided simple steps and explanations below to help guide you.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

- Medium bristle brush for scrubbing
- Garden hose (stored at Emanu El Memorial Park)
- Spray bottle filled with 50/50 mix of bleach and water OR spray bottle with water only if anything is affixed to the stone (porcelain picture, Holocaust survivor medal, etc.)

STEP 1: Soak headstone with garden hose. If there is mud on the headstone, scrub it down with the brush.

STEP 2: Spray with bleach mix and let sit for a few minutes. Then scrub the stone softly with scrub brush.

STEP 3: Rinse with garden hose. Bleach mix will likely splash, so keep that in mind and wear clothing that you don't mind if they get bleached or ruined.

For those who are planning to visit Emanu El Memorial Park before the Cemetery Service, we will leave all of the garden hoses out on the **two Sundays prior (September 2nd and 9th)**. If you are planning to visit and clean headstones at another time, please just let Alisha Klapholz know (alishak@emanuelhouston.org, (713) 529-5771, ext. 213 and we will ask the caretaker to leave a garden hose out for you.



Emanu El Receives Scientists in the Synagogue Grant



Rebecca Lunstroth (left) and Rabbi Oren Hayon (right) attended a conference about the “Scientists in the Synagogue” grant the synagogue recently received. Emanu El is one of a dozen synagogues across the country to receive the grant. The duo is pictured with Rabbi Marcia Plumb at a conference held in New York that brought all the synagogues that received the grant together. More information on programming tied into this grant to be announced soon.

Congregation Emanu El Archives Seeks Documents, Photos Ahead of 75th Anniversary

As Congregation Emanu El approaches its 75th anniversary celebration in 2019, a group of lay members and staff are actively working on projects related to this milestone in the congregation’s life.

Photos and documents from archives will be utilized at various programs throughout the anniversary celebration, on the web site and as part of a social media campaign later this year.

If any members of the congregation or community have items they would like to donate to the congregation’s archive, please contact Maxine Reingold at archives@emanuelhouston.org or Jason Plotkin at (713) 535-6414 or jasonp@emanuelhouston.org.

New Roof Installation Underway; Two Parking Areas Impacted During Project

The installation of the new roof began the week of July 22nd. The most significant impact on our congregants will be the closure of the small parking lot adjacent to the Proler Chapel and the parking spaces behind the temporary buildings – primarily utilized for ‘accessible parking’ – during the duration of this project. These areas will be used by our roofing company for their needs throughout the installation including, but not limited to storage of materials.

Adult Hebrew

Hebrew is for you! Whether you're an absolute beginner or seeking to improve your ability to read more proficiency, we have two great year-long Hebrew classes beginning in late September. Learn the alef-bet and read simple words in the beginning level class on **Sunday mornings from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

For those who know the Hebrew alphabet and are seeking to increase their reading fluency and ability to participate more actively in services, the intermediate level class meets on **Sundays from 9:00-10:30 a.m.** Both classes are taught by Nomi Barancik, a skillful and experienced instructor of adult Hebrew.

Contact Donna in Rabbi Silk's office at (713) 529-5771, ext. 212 or DonnaF@emanuelhouston.org for more information and to register. A \$180 fee applies.

Basic Judaism

Ever wonder why we light two candles for Shabbat? Curious why the Hebrew bible is called the Tanach? Need a refresher in Jewish history, theology, or ritual practice? Join us for Basic Judaism, an engaging class taught by our clergy team for anyone seeking to learn more about Judaism. A start date will be announced shortly for the Sunday morning class. Contact Donna in Rabbi Silk's office at (713) 529-5771, ext. 212 or DonnaF@emanuelhouston.org for more information and to register.

Melton & More Adult Jewish Learning Classes at Emanu El



Congregation Emanu El will once again serve as home to a series of courses offered in collaboration with the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center of Houston and created by the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning as well as local Houston faculty. Each of the classes is offered on **Mondays from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.**

Information about Melton & More at the J, specifics about the cost of registration or how you can register for this class at Congregation Emanu El can be found at www.erjchouston.org/cjll with discounted pricing available through the month of August.

Becoming Americans: The Jewish Immigrant Experience in America

Dr. Joshua Furman | 10 Sessions

October 8th–December 17th

Examining the forces that drove Jewish immigrants to American shores over the past three and a half centuries, we will discover the opportunities and challenges that America presented for new Jewish arrivals and consider how this history informs our understanding of what it means to be and become Americans in the 21st century.

Sustainable Eating: What Your Jewish Mother Never Told You

Ms. Nancy Pryzant Picus | 10 Sessions

January 28th – April 1, 2019

This course will explore food-related issues through the lens of Jewish values and Jewish texts. Topics will include kashrut (Jewish dietary laws), food justice, vegetarianism and veganism, sustainability, blessings, and more.

Resilience: In Search of an Ancient Virtue

Rabbi David Segal | 6 Sessions

April 8th – May 13, 2019

What does it take to find a new normal after a trying time? We all carry stories of tragedy and rebuilding, from personal hardships to communal suffering. In the books of Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Job, we find many diverse and authentically human responses to suffering. What can these ancient writings teach us about surviving struggle and loss – and even finding joy?

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.



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

**AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB
COMMUNITY SERVICE
FUND**

To support small and emerging organizations that improve life for underserved Houstonians
In Memory of
Marcia Lewis
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**BECKER EARLY
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To provide Becker Early Childhood Center scholarships
In Honor of
Patti Hanfling
Susan & David Morris

In Memory of
Dan Hawkins
Avrim Fishkind
Joyce Stone
Renee & Alan Helfman
Joanie Murland

BROTHERHOOD FUND
To enhance and sustain Brotherhood programming
In Honor of
Diane Puschett – 2018
Ernest Krautkopf
Congregant of the Year
Diana Brackman

**CERSONSKY CEMETERY
BEAUTIFICATION FUND**
To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park
In Memory of
Ralph Balasco
Eileen Cersonsky

**CLERGY'S GOOD WORKS
FUND**

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

Rabbi Pamela Silk
Robert & Mitch Hutter,
Jean Carney, Ellen
Gerson Tagtmeier &
Lori Gerson Gorewitz

In Memory of
Helen Blumberg
Lorraine & Ed Wulfe
Marlene & Lloyd Matzner
Lenore Fenberg
Lorraine & Ed Wulfe
Kathy Hutter Gerson
Robert & Mitch Hutter,
Jean Carney, Ellen
Gerson Tagtmeier &
Lori Gerson Gorewitz

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Susan & Alan Garber
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Goldie Mann
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Saranne Kosberg
Royce Ann Sline
Karen Hurwitz
Johannah Wilkenfeld
Rozanne & Howard Rubin

**DOLORES & BUDDY
WILKENFELD
COMMUNICATIONS FUND**
To enhance Emanu El's communications with congregants
In Memory of
Johannah Wilkenfeld
Ralph Balasco
Dolores Wilkenfeld

**EDIS LEWIS PARKANS
EMANU ELDERS FUND**

To provide programs for Emanu Elders
A Donation
Hilda Herzfeld

In Honor of
Rose Zoll's Birthday
Diane Puschett

In Memory of
Goldie Mann
Shirley Schnoll

**EDWARD WAYNE HUNGER
FUND**

To feed the hungry of Houston
In Memory of
Joyce Stone
Linda & Paul Lynn

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

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

To enhance musical programming
In Memory of
Marcia Lewis
Tania & Rick Oshman
Joyce Stone
Dorita & Hertzel Aron
Bercutt Physical Therapy & Wellness Center
Ruthe & Morton Berman
Bonnie & Howard
Drazner

Sandy Kamine
Deborah & Brad Sondock
Gene, Jenny & Mark
Spellman, Kristen,
Drew & Sophie Bonder
& Jan Berg
Alan Willig
Johannah Wilkenfeld
Ina Perlman

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MORGENSTERN ADULT
EDUCATION FUND**

To provide adult Hebrew education programs
In Honor of
**The Speedy Recovery of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
Reva & Bruce Edison

**GREENE FAMILY CAMP
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To support Greene Family Camp
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Stanley Grabois
Suzanne & Howard
Marblestone
Diane Puschett

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To provide arts programs for children
In Honor of
Ralph Berkman's Birthday
Sondra Ross

**JULIUS NATHAN MUSIC
FUND**

To provide musical programs
In Honor of
**The Speedy Recovery of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
Sharon & Harvey Zinn

In Memory of
Joyce Stone
Expedia
Cruiseshipcenters, OVC
Dana Massett
Johannah Wilkenfeld
Bonnie & Michael
Grossfeld
Sharon & Harvey Zinn

JULIUS ZINN FUND
*To provide and enhance
congregation programs*
In Memory of
Johannah Wilkenfeld
Harriet Zinn

**PHILIP G. LUSKY
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
*To provide Helfman
Religious School
scholarships*
In Memory of
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Sara Astrich

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ENRICHMENT FUND**
*To support spiritual and
cultural enrichment*
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Lynn & Armand Shapiro
Arlyne Gimble's Birthday
Joan Suchart
**The Speedy Recovery of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
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Mitch & Robert Hutter,
Jean Carney, Ellen
Gerson Tagtmeier &
Lori Gerson Gorewitz
Joanie Murland
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In Memory of
Ralph Balasco
Brad & Milton Wagner
Helen Blumberg
Judith & Barry Wuntch

Kathy Hutter Gerson
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Gerson Tagtmeier &
Lori Gerson Gorewitz
Stanley Grabois
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SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
*To provide Helfman
Religious School
scholarships*
In Memory of
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Jennifer & Stuart Garber
& Family

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*To provide Greene Family
Camp scholarships*
In Memory of
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Gayle Schnurr

**RIVA BURSTEN CARING
CONGREGATION FUND**
*To support programs
that assist people in the
community*
In Honor of
**The Marriage of Leah
Cohen**
Myra Mayer

**ROBERT I. KAHN GALLERY
FUND**
*To maintain and enhance
the Robert I. Kahn Gallery*
In Honor of
**The Speedy Recovery of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
Libby & Buz Marvins

In Memory of
Sylvia B. Kaufman
Pamela Kaufman &
Dennis Keierleber

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL
JUSTICE FUND**
*To send congregants to the
Consultation on Conscience
at the Religious Action
Center*
In Memory of
Stanley Grabois
Jackie Gutierrez
Reva & Bruce Edison

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**
*To enhance preschool
education*
In Memory of
Joyce Stone
Janet Weissman

**SARAH & ADOLPH
BLUMENFELD KLEI
KODESH SACRED OBJECTS
FUND**
*To purchase and maintain
Emanu El's sacred objects*
In Memory of
Adolph Blumenfeld
Norman Blumenfeld

TEMPLE FUND
*To support the needs of the
temple and to fulfill the
mission of Congregation
Emanu El*
In Honor of
Larry Cohen's Birthday
Claudia & Joel Selzer
**Rabbi Robert Loewy's
Retirement**
Aliza & Jason Plotkin
**Marilyn Waldman's
Birthday**
Sandy & Randy Herzstein

In Memory of
Ralph Balasco
Patricia & William Allen
Debbie & Morris Lippert
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W.
Royce
Bobbie & Stanley
Weinstein

Helen Blumberg
Diana Brackman
Stanley Grabois
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grat·i·tude

/gradə,t(y)ōd/ noun

Definition: the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

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-Barbara Bejeault

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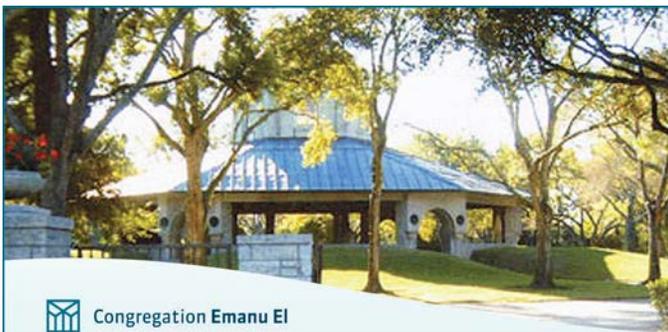
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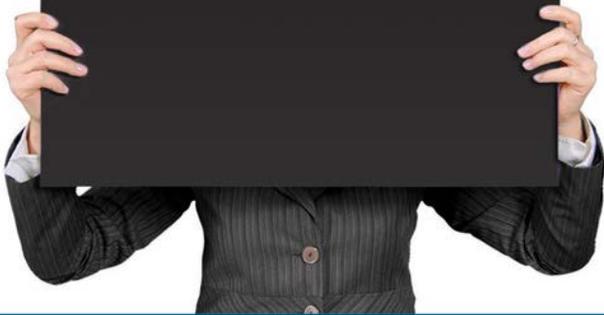
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- Joshua R.S. Fixler, Assistant Rabbi
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- Rollin Simmons, Cantor
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SAVE THE DATE!

Flu Shots & Shred Day at Emanu El on Wednesday, October 3rd

The Texas Vaccine Institute will be at Emanu El to give flu shots from **9:00 – 11:30 a.m.** The price is \$25 for the flu shot. Those with Medicare as a primary insurance do not have to pay anything. Others will be given a receipt to claim reimbursement with their insurance provider. Please be prepared to present your insurance card. No RSVP required.

That same day – we will host our annual **“Shred Day”** from **9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** As we provide this service for free to our congregants, please note that businesses are not allowed to take advantage of this service as the shred company offers the synagogue a non-profit rate.



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