

# Emanu-El <sup>S</sup><sub>F</sub>



## Teen Confirmation 2017/5777



**MAY 19** 6:00 PM ONE SHABBAT SERVICE, LED BY OUR 12TH GRADE CONFIRMANDS



**MAY 25** BRET STEPHENS, NYT COLUMNIST  
MAY 25



**MAY 20** THE CANTOR'S COUCH

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Emanu-El welcomes *NY Times* columnist & Pulitzer Prize Journalist: **BRET STEPHENS**



Thursday, May 25, 2017  
Check-in: 6:30 pm  
Program: 7:00 pm

Subject: Opportunities and Challenges for America and Israel in Today's Political Climate

**Must RSVP. There will be no onsite registration.**

Bret Stephens writes "Global View," the *Wall Street Journal's* foreign-affairs columnist, for which he won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary. He is the Journal's deputy editorial-page editor, responsible for the opinion sections of the paper's sister editions in Europe and Asia, and a member of the editorial board. He is also a regular panelist on the Journal Editorial Report, a weekly political talk show carried nationally by the Fox News Channel.

Mr. Stephens has reported stories from around the world, including Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Gaza and Egypt, and interviewed scores of world leaders, including every Israeli Prime Minister since Shimon Peres. In November 2014 Sentinel Books, published his first book, *America in Retreat: The New Isolationism and the Coming Global Disorder*.

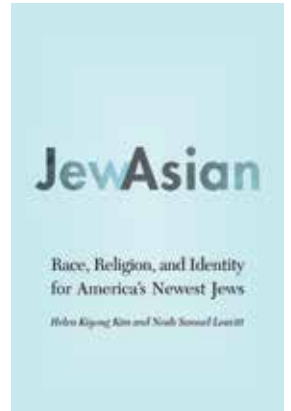
*This program is co-sponsored by AIPAC and Congregation Emanu-El's Israel Action Committee.*

## JEWASIAN

### A "FIRESIDE CONVERSATION" WITH HELEN KIM AND NOAH LEAVITT

Tuesday, May 30, 7:00 pm, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

JewAsian is a qualitative examination of the intersection of race, religion and ethnicity in the increasing number of households that are Jewish American and Asian American. Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt's book explores the larger social dimensions of intermarriages to explain how these particular unions reflect not only the identity of married individuals but also the communities to which they belong. Using in-depth interviews with couples and the children of Jewish American and Asian American marriages, Kim and Leavitt's research sheds much-needed light on the everyday lives of these partnerships and how their children negotiate their own identities in the twenty-first century.



**Helen Kim** is a professor of sociology at Whitman College. She received her B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley, an M.A. from the University of Chicago, and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Her research focuses on the intersection of race and American Judaism in the contemporary era.

**Noah S. Leavitt** is Associate Dean for Student Engagement at Whitman College. He received his B.A. from Haverford College, an M.A. from the University of Chicago, and a J.D. from the University of Michigan. He also serves as a research associate in the Department of Sociology and is one of the college's pre-law advisers. He has worked as an attorney, a teacher and a community organizer.

Helen and Noah live in Walla Walla, Washington and have two kids: 8-year-old Ari Zakkai Kim-Leavitt and 5-year-old Talia Shalom Kim-Leavitt.

# WOMEN IN THE RABBINATE

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer

It was a Friday night in August 1973 and the cantor was just concluding the Aleinu prayer. My bat mitzvah. My father and I sat together on the bimah (no moms allowed). My dad whispered, "How are you doing?" I whispered back, "Kinda sad. I feel like I spent so much time preparing for this bat mitzvah, and now it is nearly over." My dad smiled and whispered back, "Who knows? Maybe someday you will become a rabbi, Beth, and then you can do bat mitzvahs all the time!"

And that is exactly how the idea took hold. From that moment on, I could not imagine myself doing anything else but becoming a rabbi. I loved services. I loved the Jewish people. The first American-ordained woman rabbi, Rabbi Sally Priesand, had been ordained one year before my bat mitzvah and was the assistant rabbi in my grandparents' temple, Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, in New York City. I wrote to Rabbi Priesand shortly after my bat mitzvah and told her of my dream to become a rabbi like her. She must have been having a bad day. Her response, which now resides in the American Jewish Archives, simply said, "Beth, you're young. Think about considering other careers!" Ouch. But think about it. It cannot have been easy to be the only woman among male students and faculty throughout five years of rabbinical seminary. When women were first ordained, senior rabbis, boards of directors and congregants were skeptical of a woman's ability to serve in this leadership capacity. As increasing numbers of women were ordained as rabbis, sociologists decried the fact and warned of the "feminization of the rabbinate," which, to them, equaled a diminution of the stature of the (male) rabbi.

Our country has now ordained women rabbis for forty-five years. After Rabbi Priesand's ordination, the Reconstructionist Movement quickly followed suit and eventually the Conservative movement. A well-regarded Orthodox rabbi in New York started ordaining Orthodox women in 2009. In 2016, Rabbi Daniel Landes began

ordaining Orthodox women in Israel. The history of women rabbis, dating back to Rabbi Regina Jonas' ordination in Germany in 1935, is fascinating. It is all chronicled in a new book that I highly recommend for your home library: *The Sacred Calling: Four Decades of Women in the Rabbinate*.



There are no rabbis in the Torah. In the Talmud, we read of a transformation from prophets to rabbinical sages and scholars. In the Middle Ages, rabbis took upon themselves the role of judges, acting as legal decisors and arbiters. The point is that transformations in spiritual leadership within Judaism have occurred since day one. What is new is the way that many women have transformed the contemporary rabbinate. The Reform rabbi of my childhood entered the rooms in his black robe and we all stood as he ascended the bimah. Women rabbis ushered in innovations such as the idea that rabbis are just people with a sacred calling. We strive to be in relationship with our congregants and not removed from them. We have taught all rabbis the value of work-life balance. These are just a few of the powerful transformations brought to Judaism by women rabbis.

On May 16th, Cantor Attie and I will be at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles to honor professional Jewish women's leadership. Think about Cantor Roslyn Barak. Rabbi Sydney Mintz. Cantor Marsha Attie. Rabbi Gayle Pomerantz, Rabbi Michal Bourne, Rabbi Helen Cohn. Rabbi Carla Fenves. And me. As your rabbis and cantors, we are grateful to live in this time, and we hope that you are, too.

## SUMMER COURSE WITH RABBI LAWRENCE KUSHNER

### INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW GRAMMAR

( for people with no short-term memory and who are still fuzzy on English grammar)

**FOUR WEDNESDAY EVENING DROP-IN SESSIONS, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

**June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9**

Owing to the vagaries of summer plans, each session will be stand-alone.  
Pre-requisites: The Hebrew alphabet (preferably in order!).

# YEAR OF SHABBAT

## SHABBAT SCHEDULE:

### MAY

#### Friday, May 5

##### FIRST FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICES!

- 5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service (MMS)
- 6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service (Main)
- 6:15 pm, Simchat Shabbat Dinner (Guild Hall)
- 7:30 pm, One Shabbat Service (MMS)

#### Saturday, May 6

- 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service (MMS)

#### Friday, May 12

- 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service (MMS)
- 8:30 pm, Young Adult Late Shabbat

#### Saturday, May 13

- 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (MMS)
- 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Main)

#### Friday, May 19

- 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service (MMS)

#### Saturday, May 20

- 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (MMS)
- 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Main)

#### Friday, May 26

- 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service (MMS)

#### Saturday, May 27

- 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (MMS)

## SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT

Sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat for Friday evening is a lovely way to honor or remember a loved one or to celebrate a simcha. When you sponsor an Oneg Shabbat, you help us welcome Shabbat with the warmth and community that are characteristic of our congregation.

For more details, please contact Svetlana Leykin at [sleykin@emanuelf.org](mailto:sleykin@emanuelf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x123.

### Thank you to the following for recently sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat reception:

Marief Honigman and Benjamin Goldstein, in honor of their wedding

Karen Pell and Heather Lupa, in honor of Emma Pell

The Fine Family, in honor of Gabriel Fine

Elissa Arons and Bonnie and Wesley Fastiff, in honor of Eli Fastiff

Tatiana and Anatoly Urisman, in honor of Hannah Urisman

The Dowling Family, in honor of Aidan Dowling

Rebecca and Monie Hussain, in honor of Reuven (Robert) Hussain

Rebecca Wyte and Jay Hinman, in honor of Adam Hinman

The Derrick Family, in honor of Reilly Derrick

## IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Please watch for your brightly yellow envelope this month and enjoy the ease of renewing online. You can log into your MyEmanu-El account at [www.emanuelf.org](http://www.emanuelf.org), click a few buttons, and check this off your list. Because we don't store your payment information, annual renewal is required.

Questions about your membership renewal? Contact Director of Membership Services, Terry Kraus at [membership@emanuelf.org](mailto:membership@emanuelf.org) or (415) 750-7552.

# REFLECTIONS ON BIRKAT KOHANIM

by Cantor Arik Luck

In this “Year of Shabbat” at Congregation Emanu-El, we are taking turns as clergy to share a personal notion of Shabbat practice that is particularly meaningful. In that spirit, I share with you my thoughts on “Birkat Kohanim,” the priestly benediction. Every Friday night, it is customary for parents to bless their children at the Shabbat table with these ancient words that Moses’ brother Aaron originally bestowed upon his sons, as it is written:

May God bless you and keep you. May God cause God’s face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God lift God’s face unto you and give you peace. (Num 6:23-27)

This is the oldest biblical blessing that we have archeological evidence of in Judaism. It was in use during the First Temple period in ancient Israel, some 2,500-3,000 years ago. Use of the blessing carried on past the destruction of the Second Temple 2,000 years ago, and into the Rabbinic period. Thereafter, it remained a constant, despite the hardships of Jewish persecution in medieval Europe, the Spanish Inquisition, the pogroms of Russia, and the Holocaust. Its use continues to this day in twenty-first century modernity.

In my childhood home, the ritual of the blessing of Friday night was performed by my father. Each one of the five children would line up oldest to youngest (I was number four), and when it was our turn, he would put his hand on our forehead, and recite the blessing in English. A kiss on the forehead always followed.

Now, at our own Shabbat table, Rachel and I have developed our own tradition around Birkat Kohanim: We cover the head of each child individually from either side and, getting in real close, together we whisper the blessing in Hebrew into both of their ears at once, add a personalized private message (in English) from each of us, and end with two simultaneous kisses on the forehead. This is our Shabbat *minhag* (ritual) for the priestly blessing. The kids have come to expect it as part of our Shabbat table routine, just as I did as a boy. This, and other traditional Jewish in-the-home rituals, passed on from generation to generation, have not only helped perpetuate our survival as a people through thousands of years, but also provide us with spiritual meaning, specifically through their weekly repetition.

Like lighting Shabbat candles or saying the kiddush (sanctification) over the wine, it is the weekly repetition of these Shabbat table rituals, through happy times and sad times, through sickness and health, that help provide a sacred structure for our lives. In other words, we celebrate with the wine in our cup, we cry with the wine in our cup, but no matter the situation we are in, come Friday night, the wine (or grape juice!) is always in our cup.

The last time my father offered upon me the words of Birkat Kohanim was on my wedding day. Just before I walked down the aisle, he put his hands on my head, recited the blessing and gently kissed my forehead.



Had we not had that weekly ritual growing up, and had that instance at my wedding instead been the very first time that my father had given me the priestly blessing, it still would have been a lovely moment, but it pales in comparison to the emotional depth that I experienced, knowing that this was, in a sense, the last time I would receive this weekly blessing from him after 30 years. I had grown up. Now it was time for us to think about starting our own family and blessing our own children.

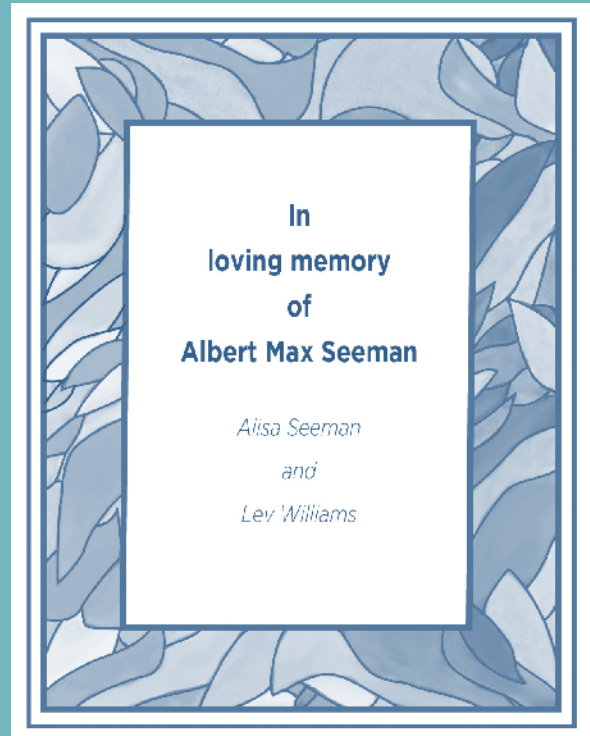
I can’t help but wonder, how will our kids one day interpret this tradition, should they become parents? Do you have a tradition around the Priestly Benediction? If so, please share it with me! If not, it is never too late to start a new one! Try it every week and see what it does for your spiritual self.

# BOOKPLATES FOR OUR NEW HIGH HOLY DAY PRAYER BOOKS!

During the High Holy Days of 2017 (5778), our congregation will be using the wonderful new set of prayer books (machzor). This High Holy Day prayer book (Machzor), comes in two volumes, one for Rosh Hashanah and one for Yom Kippur. These beautiful and inspiring editions represent the first new High Holy Days texts to be introduced in the Reform Movement in nearly 40 years

Members have an opportunity to sponsor personalized bookplates to remember a loved one, celebrate a lifecycle occasion, or honor clergy, family and friends. These bookplates, inspired by the Emanu-El stained glass windows, are beautifully designed by a local Judaic artist and will be placed in each of the volumes.

Spring is an ideal time to recognize those who have inspired you in your life. It is also a time to celebrate the graduation or promotion of a child or grandchild.



## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

40 (forty)	"Tekiyah Gadolah"	\$1,000.00
12 (twelve)	"Teruah"	\$540.00
8 (eight)	"Shevraim"	\$360.00
4 (four)	"Tekiah"	\$180.00
1 (one)	"Shofar"	\$54.00

**You may sponsor your bookplates online at [www.emanuelf.org/bookplates/](http://www.emanuelf.org/bookplates/) or email [tbrown@emanuelf.org](mailto:tbrown@emanuelf.org) for more information.**

## STOCK DONATIONS

Did you know that you can make charitable gifts, including your Emanu-El membership dues and your Impact Fund gift, by donating appreciated stocks? With the Dow hovering at a record 20,000+ mark, this could be a good time to avoid potential capital gains taxes while fulfilling pledges to the temple or making new gifts. If you own marketable securities that you have held for at least one year, and whose value has increased, you can deduct the full market value and avoid paying capital gains taxes. This benefit could mean that you can make your donation for as little as fifty cents on the dollar! We encourage you to consult your personal financial adviser to review your options and make decisions. Please contact the Development Office at [tbrown@emanuelf.org](mailto:tbrown@emanuelf.org) or (415) 750-7554 before your stock transfer is made so that your gift can be tracked and appropriately directed as you wish.

To make a stock gift, please use the information below:  
 Stock Transfer Information  
 First Republic Securities Co, LLC  
 Account Name: Congregation Emanu-El  
 For Further Credit to Account Number: 33L064574  
 Clearing Firm: Pershing LLC  
 Pershing LLC DTC# 0443

## “WE WERE ALL AT SINAI” SHAVUOT AT EMANU-EL

Please join us for a light dinner, festival service, a fireside chat with Rabbi Bauer and the authors of JewAsian, and delicious dessert.

Shavuot is our festival celebrating the giving of Torah at Sinai as well as the summer harvest in the land of Israel. It is traditional to celebrate this festival by learning and praying in community and also eating dairy treats! We're going to do all of those things and we hope you'll join us.

5:45pm - Light Dinner

6:15pm - Shavuot Festival Service (chapel)

7:00pm - Race, Religion and Identity: We Were All At Sinai  
Fireside chat with the authors of JewAsian

8:30pm - Dairy dessert and schmooze

Register online at: [www.emanuelsf.org/shavuot](http://www.emanuelsf.org/shavuot)

### SOUR CREAM CHEESECAKE

#### Crust:

- 1 3/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar



Blend graham cracker crumbs, sugar, and butter together. Press crumbs on sides and bottom of a well-greased 10-inch springform pan.

#### Cheesecake Filling:

- 3 8-ounce packages Philadelphia Original cream cheese, softened
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 tablespoon vanilla

Mix softened cream cheese and sugar 3-5 minutes. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat the entire mixture for 30 minutes. (!!) Pour the cream cheese batter into the graham cracker crust. Bake at 300 degrees for 50-60 minutes. Remove from oven. Cool at room temperature 20 minutes before finishing with sour cream topping.

#### Sour Cream Topping:

- 1 1/2 cups sour cream
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Blend sour cream, sugar, and vanilla together. Pour on top of cooled cheesecake, return to 300 degree oven for 10 more minutes.

Yield: 1 10-inch cheesecake

*Recipe contributed by Rob Freedman, Director of Marketing, Congregation Emanu-El*

## HOLIDAY: SHAVUOT

Shavuot is the Hebrew word for “weeks” and refers to the Jewish festival marking the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, which occurs seven weeks after Passover. Shavuot, like many other Jewish holidays, began as an ancient agricultural festival that marked the end of the spring barley harvest and the beginning of the summer wheat harvest. In ancient times, Shavuot was a pilgrimage festival during which Israelites brought crop offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem. Today, it is a celebration of Torah, education, and actively choosing to participate in Jewish life.

Many people stay up all night studying Torah. This custom evolved from the story that says that when the Israelites were at Sinai, they overslept and had to be awakened by Moses. As a result, many modern Jews stay up all night to study and celebrate receiving the Torah. These events, known as Tikkun Leil Shavuot, which literally means “Rectification for Shavuot Night,” are understood as the custom of studying with a community in order to re-experience standing at Mount Sinai, where the Jewish people received the Torah. The Tikkun Leil Shavuot was developed by 16th century mystics in Safed, who believed that by studying on Shavuot, they were symbolically preparing Israel to enter into a sacred relationship with God. Modern interpretations and versions of this practice include study on a wide range of topics.

It also is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot because Jewish tradition compares the words of Torah to the sweetness of milk and honey. Blintzes and cheesecake are among the popular foods to make and enjoy for the holiday. Source: [reformjudaism.org/shavuot](http://reformjudaism.org/shavuot)

**You stand this day (Atem nitzavim hayom), all of you, before the Eternal your God — you tribal heads, you elders, and you officials, all the men of Israel, you children, you women, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to water drawer...those who are standing here with us this day before the Eternal our God and ...those who are not with us here this day...to enter into the covenant of the Eternal you God” (Deuteronomy 29:9-14)**



## EIMATAI: IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

By Byron Gordon  
Communications Professional  
Congregation Emanu-El

Back in February, Rabbis Rodich and Mintz, along with congregants Benji and Jason Friend, launched our new innovative program Eimatai: Disruptive Judaism for Future Leaders. This is a year-long project bringing together 25 young adults. I talked with Benji and Rabbi Rodich to learn more about this initiative and the impact it's having on participants.

**Byron:** Take us back to the beginning. What was the genesis for Eimatai?

**Rabbi Rodich:** This all started at lunch more than a year ago with Benji and Jason Friend, and [Emanu-El executive director] David Goldman. Both Benji and Jason were expressing some irritation about a lack of depth in young adult Jewish programming in the Jewish world. Both shared a desire to see something more meaningful and at a higher level of commitment from participants aside from just the typical one-off stuff. That conversation eventually led to Eimatai, our program for 25 young adult members of Emanu-El who are committing to a year of intense Jewish learning and growth together as a cohort.

Eimatai comes from the quote by Rabbi Hillel in the Talmud, "If not now, when?" Hillel is asking: "When are you going to claim your tradition? When are you going to claim your place at the table?"

**Benji:** Jason and I did an analysis. We'd been frustrated. In the Jewish world, everyone asks for everything without a true plan. From our perspective, we felt we could bring an energy that we'd been blessed with. My dad [Emanu-El president, Donny Friend] and mom gave us a Jewish upbringing. Eimatai was our collective response to feeling that more could be learned from studying our tradition now that we were young adults. We were not afraid to dive into the text and explicitly call it a learning program. That is what is special about it and what makes me so excited to go back.

**Byron:** Let's talk about that first session and retreat.

**Benji:** We met at Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma. The opening session was titled, "Together, With Love, We Can Change the World: Jewish Learning as Counter-Cultural Rebellion." The rabbis started us off by studying a passage in Exodus. In this case, the first lesson we covered was "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," and how its meaning has evolved over time.

**Rabbi Rodich:** At the retreat, it was unexpectedly powerful. The responses that we got were incredible. There was a very good feeling established among the cohort. That particular exercise really showed how the rabbis were able to take a teaching in Torah that seems to argue for the death penalty and instead change its meaning to the idea of compensatory damage rather than something retributive.

We wanted to show the group how rabbis read Torah. And how rabbinic history actually takes up the ancient biblical tradition and uses it to change things. We have this idea that everything is static and fixed in ancient Judaism but in fact the earliest rabbis were radical reformers.

**Byron:** Asking questions is central to Judaism. What I've always loved about Reform Judaism is its encouragement to think critically and its embrace of diverse opinion.

**Benji:** Well, Judaism is rooted in the sea of tradition. But that is not to say it doesn't continue to evolve and that we can't continue to make our own mark on it. That's why it felt so empowering. For example, we went on to watch a movie called *The Tribe* and it prompted a very moving discussion about everyone's own Jewish identities. It helped us to set the framework. We had a very emotional and stirring conversation about our own Jewish identity. Here is something we've been given and here is what works and what may not work. But we can create a Judaism that is both relevant and speaks to us.



**Byron:** What do you hope a Jewish practice might look like for the program's participants once it's finished?

**Rabbi Rodich:** I don't have a particular place I need for people to arrive at other than to be able to articulate more clearly for themselves what their Jewish life looks like and will look like. Towards the end of the year, we will do a session on articulating one's own Jewish values and practice but it's not one defined act. It's educating people and letting people choose. It's Reform Judaism at its best.

**Benji:** It gives people information to arm themselves to make whatever decision they want. We started from such different levels. We have some people in the class who've already had some Jewish religious education while others have never even looked at a machzor (High Holy Days prayerbook) or read any of the Torah in their life. The spectrum is so large and to hear everyone's perspective has been very rewarding.

**Rabbi Rodich:** If we can equip the next generation of Jewish leaders with deeper Jewish knowledge, it should inform their leadership in profound ways. We definitely are going to be tackling some big issues.

**Byron:** Like what, for example?

**Rabbi Rodich:** At the retreat, we read David Hartman's famous essay, *Auschwitz or Sinai*, which, in a provocative way, asks whether Auschwitz or Sinai will be our orienting framework for Judaism. Will we allow the ethical call to be people of Torah and people of Israel to be our primary purpose in the world, or will working to preserve the memory of those who died at Auschwitz and say "never again" be our singular purpose? Both need to be done but Hartman pushes us to return to something bigger and bolder than the memory of Jewish suffering to do Judaism in the world.

**Byron:** Does better understanding our own Judaism help us get closer to finding solutions to problems that seem insoluble in the world today?

**Rabbi Rodich:** Well, we're going to be doing an extra special long session in August that deals with how to address the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, for example. I'd like for participants to come out of this being better equipped to have this difficult conversation in a community, and to develop leaders who can help the conversation be more functional and productive. It's easy to debate but it's harder to facilitate a meaningful exchange of opinions and ideas.

**Byron:** Any final message about a program that's looking to craft the Jewish leaders of tomorrow?

**Rabbi Rodich:** What's important here is that the participants of Eimatai weren't lured by any shtick that is often used to try and engage young adults. It was just Judaism and the promise of deep community. The Jewish world spends a tremendous amount of resources trying to engage the young adult community with what I think are a lot of gimmicks. It often doesn't work well. Our program has quickly proven to us that when you give people something real and you hold out for something more challenging, people will respond.

The Wexner Foundation's model of cohort learning, and other group-based learning, served as an inspiration to me when starting this program. I know the power of this type of learning.

**Byron:** Benji?

**Benji:** What's our North Star? Are we scared of the past? Or are we ready to spring into the future? Think of a rock band you really love. Think of the energy and passion coming at you on stage. That is what it has been like. As we calibrate it, we have set it up so the clergy can deliver some real meaningful content for all of us.

**Byron:** It will be interesting to keep track of all the participants in this program.

**Rabbi Rodich:** There is the hope to do this again. We do want to keep tabs on everyone who is participating in this. It's a long-term investment. I also want to give a special shout out to Rabbi Sydney Mintz. None of this would have happened without her and her amazing work establishing a framework for working with young adults at Emanu-El going back 18 years now. She's been a critical partner of mine from the ground up. And even more importantly, nothing happens without strong lay leadership. Benji and Jason Friend have been tremendously supportive in taking a risk in trying out this experiment with us and I've been tremendously grateful. I'd also be remiss to not thank our senior rabbis and board of directors who also enthusiastically supported this effort, especially through approving the use of resources from the Matzger Fund, a donor-directed fund established several years ago to support young adult leadership education. It is amazing what can happen when a whole community comes together to support a new idea.

**Byron:** Thank you both for this inspiring discussion!

## WANT TO LEARN HEBREW THIS SUMMER?

### Enroll in the 3-week USF Summer Ulpan Program

Ulpan San Francisco is a three-week intensive Hebrew language program offered by the Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice at the University of San Francisco.

The program welcomes anyone interested in the Hebrew language, and offers multiple levels of instruction in small class settings. Students of all ages thrive in this supportive, high energy, learning community while receiving individual attention. As an aside, our own Rabbi Sydney Mintz is an alumnus!

**If five current Emanu-El members enroll, USF will offer a special price.** Grab a group of Emanu-El friends and learn some Hebrew this summer!

Register at: [usfca.edu/summer-ulpan](http://usfca.edu/summer-ulpan)  
For more information, please contact Monica Doblado at [mmdoblado@usfca.edu](mailto:mmdoblado@usfca.edu) or (415) 422-6601

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## THE TRIBE FOR MEN AND THE TRIBE FOR WOMEN

The Tribe for Men & The Tribe for Women BBQ and Family Fun Day at the Vineyard Club  
*Sunday, May 21, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm*

\$20 adults; \$10 children  
Open to congregants/members of The Tribes

Join Rabbi Fenves and Cantor Luck along with familiar and new Tribe families for a special fun-filled day at the Vineyard Club celebrating the end of another great year. Moms will have a chance to relax and mingle, while the dads barbecue and the kids play. The whole family can spend the entire day enjoying the lake and surrounding scenery and grounds together.

You'll be able to swim, jump on a water trampoline, play tennis, basketball, (bring your own gaming balls) and pétanque. We'll have a large grassy area for games (bring your own), a large sandy beach area, and a full playground! You're welcome to bring kayaks, stand up paddle boards, or any fun water toys.

Lunch and snacks provided.  
Space is limited, so register online soon!

## WOMEN'S GROUP

50/50 Day  
***In partnership with the Human Rights  
Tzedek Council Working Group***  
*Wednesday, May 10, 7:00 pm*

Congregation Emanu-El's Women's Group and the Tzedek Council's Human Rights Working Group are coming together for "50/50 Day: Rethinking the Past, Present & Future of Women + Power." We will view a short film by Emmy-nominated filmmaker Tiffany Shlain and engage in thoughtful discussions about what it will take to get to a more gender-balanced world across all parts of society: business, politics, economy, culture, home and more.  
Please register online!

## MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group Meeting  
*Sunday, May 21, 9:30 - 11:30 am*

Men of Congregation Emanu-El have a monthly opportunity to socialize and study with a member of the clergy at a private home. This month features Emanu-El Scholar Rabbi Lawrence Kushner. This cross-generational group provides a small group experience so important to building community. Men's Group events are congregant-only and require registration.

Please register online for the exact address location.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING  
MEN'S GROUP EVENTS:

Men's Group Meeting  
*Sunday, June 4, 9:30 - 11:30 am*

Praise, Raise, or Fold (Poker Games)  
*Thursday, June 8, 7:00 pm*  
San Francisco member home

Join Rabbi Jonathan Singer and fellow Men's Group Members at a congregant's home for engaging study and discussion over a fun game. Sign up soon, as registration is limited!

If you're interested in hosting a Men's Group Sunday morning event or volunteering to bring the breakfast (you will be reimbursed) please contact Valerie Bishop at (415) 751-2541 x177 or vbishop@emanuelf.org.

## THE TRIBE FOR MEN AND THE TRIBE 2.0

The Tribe for Men: Annual Summer Camping Trip  
Friday, August 18 - Sunday, August 20 at Camp Newman  
Early bird pricing: \$136 until May 24  
Regular pricing: \$155 until August 9  
Registration available online.

Join your Tribe for Men for our annual camping trip, led by Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Cantor Arik Luck! Enjoy two nights away, including Shabbat dinner in the woods. Tribe dads and their children (ages 3+ recommended) are invited! This year we will have time for swimming, a ropes course with instructors, and a service learning project.

Prices listed are per family. All meals/activities included in price. More information regarding packing and a weekend itinerary will be sent after you register.

If you are coming for just one night, we recommend you come early Saturday morning so you can enjoy the ropes course and swimming pool activities. (No price adjustments available for one night.)

Early bird registration is open now and closes May 24. All registration closes August 9.  
No refunds will be offered after August 9.

## SMALL GROUP

### COOKING FOR CONGREGANTS

*Thursdays, May 4, 11 and 25,  
9:00 - 11:00 am, Emanu-El Kitchen*

Participate in this mitzvah led by congregant and former restaurant owner Gail Laghi and congregant and chef Sari Swig. These volunteers run a two-hour cooking session with up to ten congregant volunteers to make meals for congregants in need, because of a recent illness, death or birth. All congregants are welcome to join. Menu, ingredients and storage containers are provided.

Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner at rreiner@emanuelf.org or (415) 751-2541 x170.

## THE STORIES OF YOUR LIFE: A GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND LIFE REVIEW WRITING GROUP

Occurring monthly on Mondays from 10:00 am - noon  
Congregation Emanu-El

May 8, June 5, July 10, August 7, September 11

Join our ongoing group of adult peers to explore, share and preserve your unique life in writing. Get to know yourself and others better. The stories are more important than the writing, so don't worry about skill level. Past topics have included Turning Points, Your Relationship with Money, Pleasant Surprises, and more. The writing is done at home and shared in class in a safe and structured way. Our friendly group welcomes newcomers. Facilitated by fellow congregant, Nancy Alpert, LCSW. For more information and to register, contact Valerie Bishop at [vbishop@emanuelsf.org](mailto:vbishop@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x177. New participants are always welcome!

## SCRABBLE

Monday afternoons except on Federal holidays,  
Scrabble will not take place on May 29  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm, 5th floor  
No charge; Drop in

Do you love Scrabble and the challenge of putting letters together to form words? Join the congregation's Scrabble Group and play a rousing game or two. Perfect your word skills and expand your social circle. Bring a Scrabble set (optional) along with your enthusiasm and a love of words. All ages and experience levels are invited. For more information, contact Valerie Bishop at [vbishop@emanuelsf.org](mailto:vbishop@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x177.

## MAH JONGG

Upcoming Summer Schedule: Between June 15 – August 21, Mah Jongg will take place from 1:30 – 4:30 pm on Tuesdays  
*Mah Jongg will not take place in the month of May.*  
No charge; Drop in

Enjoy playing Mah Jongg? Come and join us! Arrive by 6:30 pm if you have any questions. Play starts at 7:00 pm and lasts till 9:00 pm. Open to players at all levels from beginners to expert, but you must be able to play as there will be no teaching at this time. For more information, contact Valerie Bishop at [vbishop@emanuelsf.org](mailto:vbishop@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x177.

## BRIDGE CLUB - LESSONS AND GAME

Weekly Tuesdays  
10:00 am - noon; Rinder Chapel  
Members \$15; Friends of members \$20

If you are more than a beginner, you are welcome to join this very popular and lively group for duplicate-style bridge. Play while improving your game. No partner needed. Deborah Murphy is the instructor. For more information, contact Valerie Bishop at [vbishop@emanuelsf.org](mailto:vbishop@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x177. You may also contact her if you have interest in a beginner's course or class.

## YOUNG FAMILIES

Park Playdates! + Got Shabbat  
Saturday, May 20, 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Emanu-El's monthly Park Playdates is joining forces with Got Shabbat? and the Jewish Baby Network SF for a Havdalah PJ Party at Congregation Emanu-El!

The Jewish Baby Network SF is providing goodie bags with items from Jewish Baby Network, PJ Library, and Interfaith Family for the first 24 families to sign up.

Join us from 4:00 – 5:30 pm on Saturday, May 20 for music, dancing, playing, and Havdalah. Come dressed in your best PJs! Register so we know your family is coming.

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Sunday Dinners at G-House  
Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

This Larkin Street Youth Services site in the Richmond District helps former foster youth and homeless youth between the ages of 18 and 24 to make successful transitions into adulthood and living independently. Each Sunday, congregants from Emanu-El plan, cook and serve dinner and then join the G-House residents for food and conversation. We are currently looking for committed leads to organize these Sunday efforts. Please contact Rebecca Reiner at [rreiner@emanuelsf.org](mailto:rreiner@emanuelsf.org) to train to be a lead.

Weekly Food Bag Distribution to Local Families  
Mondays, 2:00 – 5:00 pm, at Roosevelt Middle School

We are looking for volunteers to help facilitate Emanu-El's weekly Food Bag Distribution Program in partnership with the San Francisco Food Bank at Roosevelt Middle School. Volunteers set up and facilitate this farmer's market-style food pantry. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your community and help others fill a basic need that they may be struggling to meet. This program is completely volunteer-run and we cannot do it without your help! Please contact Rebecca Reiner at [rreiner@emanuelsf.org](mailto:rreiner@emanuelsf.org) to volunteer.

## MAY 2017 B'NEI MITZVAH

### **Elena Fields**

Bat Mitzvah: May 6  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Tony Fields & Emily Ozer  
Torah Portion: *Ahare Kedoshim*



### **Adam Hinman**

Bar Mitzvah: May 13  
Chapel  
Parents: John Hinman & Rebecca Wyte  
Torah Portion: *Emor*



### **Emma Pell**

Bat Mitzvah: May 13  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Karen Pell & Heather Lupa  
Torah Portion: *Emor*



### **Asher Thomson**

Bar Mitzvah: May 20  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Mic & Joanna Thomson  
Torah Portion: *Behar Behukkotai*



### **Jenna & Jessie Satovsky**

B'not Mitzvah: May 27  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Joel & Julia Satovsky  
Torah Portion: *Bemidbar*



## HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CONGREGATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN?

*We invite you to become a member of the Emanu-El Legacy Circle. If you have included Congregation Emanu-El in your estate planning through a bequest or as a beneficiary of an insurance or retirement plan, you already qualify as a member of our Legacy Circle. Just let us know that you have done so.*

As a member of this esteemed circle of supporters, you will join others in proclaiming your commitment to the life and mission of Congregation Emanu-El.

If you have made a provision for Congregation Emanu-El in your will, or would like to speak with someone at the congregation about the Emanu-El Legacy Circle, please contact Development Director Lani Zinn at (415) 750-7557.

## CELEBRATING A SHEHECHEYANU MOMENT?

Congregation Emanu-El is an ever-present partner in the transitional moments of our members' lives. Be it a baby naming or brit milah, bar or bat mitzvah, conversion or wedding ceremony or a recovery from illness, the temple clergy and staff strive to ensure that each sacred 'Shehecheyanu Moment' is deeply fulfilling and personal. A donation to the Emanu-El Life-Cycle Fund is a lovely way to mark a personal life-cycle experience, to honor friends or family celebrating a happy milestone or in gratitude for the services the clergy provide during these profound moments.

Please donate online at [www.emanuelf.org](http://www.emanuelf.org) or call the Development office at (415) 750-7554.

## MAZEL TOV TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED JOY

Sophie and Matthew Schwab on the birth of their son, Meyer Schwab

Katherine Khor-Lopatin and Uri Lopatin on the birth of their son, Isaac Jakob Kai Lopatin

Brittany Youngman-Rein and Daniel Rein on the birth of their daughter, Michaela Elizabeth Rein

Lauren Weitzman and Bruce Falck on the birth of their son, Vander Avi Falck

Alexis Gevanter and Robert Gould on the birth of their son, James Alexander Gould

Maxine and Justin Raphael on the birth of their daughter, Sedona Hepburn Raphael

## CONDOLENCES TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUFFERED RECENT LOSSES

Mia Mitchell (Andy Zittel) on the death of her father, M.S. (Mitch) Mitchell

Robert Freinkel (Denise) on the death of his mother, Meriam Freinkel

David Levin (Shelley) on the death of his grandfather, and Sophie and Hayley Levin on the death of their great-grandfather, Donald Constine

Jennifer Berland (Noah) on the death of her father, and Jacob and Zoe Berland on the death of their grandfather, Robert Fink

Kenneth Covinsky on the death of his father, Marvin Covinsky

Steve West (Aimee) on the death of his father, and Taylor and Spencer West on the death of their grandfather, Barry West

Steve West (Aimee) on the death of his grandmother, and Taylor and Spencer West on the death of their great-grandmother, Edith Westermann

Itay Levy (Heike Kaiser) on the death of his grandfather, Menashe Kadir

Dan Spier (Emily) on the death of his grandfather, and Elijah and Leora Spier on the death of their great-grandfather, Ruvim Shrebeck

Jacob Bockelman (Elisette Weiss) on the death of his grandfather, Richard Elfenbein

Susan Friedman (Michelle Jean) on the death of her father, and Ian Friedman on the death of his grandfather, Marvin Friedman

Elliott Felson (Suzanne) on the death of his uncle, and Sophie, Olivia and Jacob Felson on the death of their great-uncle, Stan Felson

Lisa Faulkner (Geoff) on the death of her grandmother, and Jackson and Hannah Faulkner on the death of their great-grandmother, Clara Miller

John Rosenbaum on the death of his father, and Ben and Adam Rosenbaum on the death of their grandfather, Joseph Ivan Rosenbaum

Susan May on the death of her husband, and Matthew (Jessica) Colvin and Michael Colvin on the death of their uncle, and Lev and Shai Colvin on the death of their great-uncle, and Andy and Suzy Colvin on the death of their brother-in-law, Robert May

Benjamin Schalit on the death of his partner, Bert Upton

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Roselyne Chroman Swig on being the 2017 recipient of Shalom Bayit's Changing Lives award for her twenty-five years of dedicated efforts to ending domestic violence and advocacy on behalf of Shalom Bayit

Rita Semel on the naming and establishment of the Rita Semel Chair of the United Religions Initiative Global Council, taking place at their Circles of Light 2017 Gala

Pamela Rose on her new multimedia production, "Blues is a Woman"

## NEW MEMBERS - Welcome!

Mr. Aleksander Bekker, Mrs. Mariane Bekker, Leonidas Bekker • Mr. Albert Boniske, Zane Boniske • Mr. Akiva Felt, Mrs. Lindsey Felt, Emek Felt • Naomi Roach, Mr. John Roach • Miles Brennan, Mr. Jim Brennan, Naomi Brennan, Ms. Rachel Kay • Ms. Jennifer Leibick, Mr. Seth Leibick, Joseph Leibick, William Leibick • Calliope Solimine-Smolon, Ms. Kaitlin Solimine, Mr. Joseph Smolon • Mrs. Emily Stillman, Mr. Jacob Stillman, Nico Stillman, Milo Stillman

## REJOINED MEMBERS - Welcome Back!

Nathan Kushner, Marlowe Kushner, Rye Kushner, Mr. William Kushner

# MAY CALENDAR

For more information, please call us at (415) 751-2535 or visit [www.emanuelf.org](http://www.emanuelf.org). All events take place at Temple Emanu-El unless marked Not at Temple (NAT).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 YOM HAZIKARON</p> <p>9:30 am Mazel Tots (MMR)</p> <p>5:00 pm Yom H'Atzmaut Celebration with the Maccabeats</p>	<p>2 YOM HAATZMA'UT</p> <p>9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>10:00 am Morning Bridge</p>	<p>3 Noon Brown Bag</p> <p>Noon Study with Clergy</p> <p>4:00 pm Learning and Limonata (NAT)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am Cooking for Congregants</p> <p>9:30 am Side By Side</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00 am Faith Leaders Meeting with Chief Scott</p> <p>9:30 am Bagels and Babies (MMR)</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICES!</p> <p>5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service (MMS)</p> <p>6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service (Main)</p> <p>6:15 pm, Simchat Shabbat Dinner (Guild Hall)</p> <p>7:30 pm, Late One Shabbat Service (MMS)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:15 am Torah Study (Library)</p> <p>9:30 am YFE-Shabbat Experience</p> <p>10:30 am Adult B'nei Mitxvah (Main)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service- Elena Ozer Fields (MMS)</p>
7	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 am Mazel Tots (MMR)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>10:00 am Morning Bridge</p>	10	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Cooking for Congregants</p> <p>9:30 am Side By Side</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 am Bagels and Babies (MMR)</p> <p>6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service (MMS)</p> <p>8:30 pm, Young Adult Late Shabbat</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:15 am Torah Study (Library)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Adam Hinman (Chapel)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Emma Pell (MMS)</p> <p>7:00 pm PS Art Gala</p>
14 LAG BAOMER	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am Mazel Tots (MMR)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>10:00 am Morning Bridge</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Noon At the Rabbis' Table (NAT)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 am Side By Side</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 pm One Shabbat 5777 Teen Confirmation</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:15 am Torah Study (Library)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service (Main)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Asher Thomson (MMS)</p>
<p>21</p> <p>11:00 am The Tribe for Men &amp; The Tribe for Women BBQ and Family Fun Day at the Vineyard Club (NAT)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am Mazel Tots (MMR)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>10:00 am Morning Bridge</p>	<p>24</p> <p>YOM YERUSHALAYIM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 am Cooking for Congregants</p> <p>9:30 am Side By Side</p> <p>6:30 pm Emanu-El Special Guest Speaker: Bret Stephens New York Times Columnist &amp; Jerusalem Post Pulitzer Prize Journalist</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am Bagels and Babies (MMR)</p> <p>6:00 pm One Shabbat Service</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:15 am Torah Study (Library)</p> <p>9:15 am Torah Study with Rabbi Kushner (R55)</p> <p>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Jenna &amp; Jessie Satovsky (Main)</p>
28	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>30</p> <p>EREV SHAVUOT</p> <p>9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>10:00 am Morning Bridge</p> <p>7:00 pm JewAsian with Helen Kim and Noah Leavitt (MMS)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>SHAVUOT OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>JUNE</p> <p>1      9:30 am Side by Side</p> <p>2      9:30 am Bagels and Babies</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICES! 5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service (MMS) 6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service (Main) 6:15 pm, Simchat Shabbat Dinner (Guild Hall)</p> <p>3      9:15 am Torah Study (Library) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Sam Lewin (Main) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service - Andrew Kay (MMS)</p>		

# Teen Confirmation 2017/5777



## CONFIRMATION 2017-5777

Friday, May 19, 6:00 pm

Join our community in recognizing our outstanding teens. This service will be led by 12th grade Havurah Judah students. We will also honor teens who participated in the Jewish Teen Foundations, the San Francisco Diller Teen Fellowship program or the Maccabi Games.





Congregation Emanu-El  
Two Lake Street  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
www.emanuelsf.org

PERIODICAL

**We are a vibrant, sacred Jewish community that is dedicated to advancing our members' lifelong involvement in Judaism through worship, learning, good deeds, and congregant to congregant connections.**

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Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi  
Beth Singer,  
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi  
Sydney B. Mintz, Rabbi  
Ryan Bauer, Rabbi  
Carla Fenves, Rabbi  
Jason Rodich, Rabbi  
Marsha Attie, Cantor  
Arik Luck, Cantor  
Roslyn Barak, Senior Cantor Emerita  
Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, Emanu-El Scholar  
Stephen Pearce, Senior Rabbi Emeritus  
David N. Goldman, Executive Director  
and General Counsel  
Terry Kraus, FTA, Director of  
Membership Services  
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**Special Concert Event**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 20**

**“THE CANTOR’S COUCH”**  
**STARRING**  
**CANTOR JACK MENDELSON**  
**MUSICAL DIRECTION BY**  
**JONATHAN COMISAR**

Cantor Jack Mendelson, who helped lead the installation of Cantor Arik Luck, returns to Emanu-El! *The Cantor’s Couch* is a delightful one-man show performed by the expert performer and storyteller, Cantor Jack Mendelson. Directed by Tony-nominated Eleanor Reissa, the show will take us on a colorful musical journey to Jewish life in Brooklyn during the 1950s. Original music by Cantor Jonathan Commisar. A night you won’t want to miss!

*This concert series is made possible by a generous grant from the Laszlo N. Tauber Family Foundation, Inc*

*The Cantor’s Couch is presented in memory of Jean Hartman*

You won’t want to miss this delightful one-man show featuring Cantor Jack Ben-Zion Mendelson. A master of Jewish liturgical music and a charming raconteur, he is the mentor to our own Cantor Arik Luck. Cantor Mendelson’s personal story harkens back to a simpler time in Brooklyn, and his thrilling voice and commanding presence have influenced and trained a generation of today’s cantorial talent. His mastery of Jewish sacred music is unparalleled. We are thrilled to bring it to our congregation, rounding out this first new Jewish music concert season.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-cantors-couch-tickets-31610372475>

**“A voice that heralds a culture...”**  
-The New York Times

**“A star-quality soloist with a voice that reverberates in performance halls as well as synagogues...”**

- JWeekly