

Emanu-El ^S_F



**APR
26**

Reimagine
End of Life



Weaving Hope –
Exclusive story about our new
Torah cover



A mensch for all seasons!

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

YOM HASHOAH

40 YEARS OF DEDICATION, EDUCATION, AND ACTION IN SAN FRANCISCO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018 / 5778

5:15 pm Reading of the Names* 6:00 – 7:15 pm Community Program

JCCSF, 3200 California St., San Francisco

Reception will follow. This community-wide event is free and open to the public.



RSVP TODAY

<https://yhs-sf.eventbrite.com>

Alternatively, call the JFCS Holocaust Center at 415-449-3717.

*To remember loved ones on this day, please email their names to JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES at remember@jfcs.org or call Rabbi Daniel Isaacson at 415-449-1213.

Presented by

JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES HOLOCAUST CENTER

in partnership with JCCSF, LEHRHAUS JUDIACA, and JCRC;
and in cooperation with San Francisco synagogues and schools.

Photo: San Francisco Community Yom HaShoah at Congregation Emanu-El, 1979

Join us for this 40th anniversary of commemorating Yom HaShoah in San Francisco. Our community program honors those who died in the Shoah and educates four generations that have followed about their legacy. Learn how survivors organized the first Holocaust Remembrance in San Francisco, and hear testimony from Hana Berger Moran, born in a concentration camp, who against all odds managed to survive and tell her mother's story of hope and strength.

THINKING ABOUT THE UNTHINKABLE

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer

I am terrible at remembering jokes, but for some reason, this one always stays with me: Jakey has lived a very long, wonderful life, but he lies on his deathbed upstairs at home, mostly unconscious. One morning, as his beloved of 60+ years sits at his side, his eyes suddenly flutter open. "Jakey! My Jakey, what is it?" She asks. Jakey, who doctors predicted might have died days ago, pulls himself upright for a moment and with a beatific smile asks, "Darling, is that your kugel I smell? Oh, that kugel! Yours is the best. Before I die, may I just have a few bites of your wonderful kugel?" She strokes his head and whispers, "I'm so sorry darling. It's for the shiva!"

We Jews love our rituals and perhaps none are quite so helpful as the Jewish rituals that carry us through the choppy waters of grief and loss. Prior to the practices of contemporary medicine that save so many lives and increase our longevity, people experienced the death of loved ones on a much more regular basis. And before there were hospitals, nursing homes, hospice services, and funeral chapels, the families dealt with those deaths directly. The tradeoff, both for longer lives and for memorial chapels handling most of the details, is that it becomes difficult for us to regard death as a natural part of life. That is why I am delighted that Congregation Emanu-El is helping sponsor and host **Reimagine End of Life**. As you will read inside this month's Chronicle, the Reimagine End of Life event explores death, dying, and bereavement, and celebrates life through the arts, spirituality, health care, and innovation. We are grateful to our own Rabbi Sydney Mintz for making Congregation Emanu-El one of the hubs for conversation on this challenging yet vital topic.

Throughout my years as a rabbi, I have noticed that even some Reform Jews who observe few Jewish ritual commandments often feel so bereft in the immediate period following the death of a loved one that the litany of Jewish burial and mourning rituals becomes an indispensable road map for walking through those first painful days, weeks, and months. The Jewish tradition's preference for implementing the burial (or these days, cremation) as soon as possible, the several nights of shiva, the burning of the seven-day (yahrzeit) candle, the practice of reciting the Mourner's Kaddish, and the indispensable gathering of the community all provide essential guideposts. It's worth knowing the Jewish laws even if you choose to improvise. Maurice Lamm's *The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning* is a practical guide to all of these traditions. Another of my favorite books to recommend to congregants struggling with grief is Naomi Levy's *To Begin Again: The Journey Toward Comfort, Strength, and Faith in Difficult Times*. And, of course, every clergy person at Emanu-El is here for you when you need to talk. We will listen.

But don't wait until loss is upon you. Please join the Reimagine End of Life conversation this April 16 through 22.



WELCOME JULIE MAYER, PASTORAL CARE PROVIDER

It is our pleasure to introduce Julie Harrison Mayer, MSW, who will be assisting our clergy. Julie was born in Norfolk, Virginia, and was confirmed at Ohel Sholom Temple. After graduating from George Washington University in Washington, DC in 1987 with a double major of political science and speech communications, she earned her Master of Social Work from New York University. Julie worked as a social worker in New York City for 10 years. She concentrated mainly on geriatric social work, developing and administering Alzheimer's day programs in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Julie also provided individual therapy and group therapy to nursing home residents throughout New York City, as well as managing national elder care resources and referral services for an employee assistance program.

Since Julie and her husband Alain arrived in San Francisco in 2000, they have been members of our congregation, with two children having attended preschool at Emanu-El. Julie has been an active volunteer, both at her children's schools and at the synagogue. She served on the Caring Committee, and most recently worked on the Wise Aging initiative, which offers groups for congregants over age 50 to learn and share in the wisdom of growing older. Julie is looking forward to her new position as the Pastoral Care Provider at Emanu-El.



Congregation Emanu-El is working in partnership with the Reimagine End of Life conference in San Francisco from April 16 through April 22. Reimagine is co-created by a network of interested artists, storytellers, healthcare professionals, innovators, designers, organizations, and individuals, banding together to amplify the end-of-life conversation. This year's End of Life conference will also feature several events right here at Temple Emanu-El.



REIMAGINE END OF LIFE EVENTS AT EMANU-EL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [HTTPS://LETSREIMAGINE.ORG/](https://letsreimagine.org/)

Death Over Dinner with the Young Adult Community Friday, April 13, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Note: This event takes place a few days prior to the Reimagine End of Life conference.

Miscarriage and Infant Death: Making Sense of What Never Makes Sense Monday, April 16, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Psychedelics and Death with Dr. Richard Miller: New Science, New Understandings Wednesday, April 18, 7:15 – 9:00 pm

A Rabbi, a Priest, a Minister, a Monk, and a Nun walk into a Bar: The Bartender Says, “What is this, some kind of joke?” Thursday, April 19, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Death Ed Shabbat with Drs. Jessica Zitter and Dawn Gross

Friday, April 20, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

“An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power” Film Screening + Remembrance Ceremony for the Environment

Saturday, April 21, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Remembrance for the Environment Saturday, April 21, 8:00 – 10:00 pm

Questions? Contact Monica at mpevzner@emanuelsf.org

In celebration of the 40th Anniversary
of the University of San Francisco
Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice
please join us for

CNN's Jake Tapper “Speaking Truth to Power”

CNN, Chief Washington Correspondent,
Anchor, “The Lead with Jake Tapper,” “State of the Union”

Sunday, April 22, 4pm

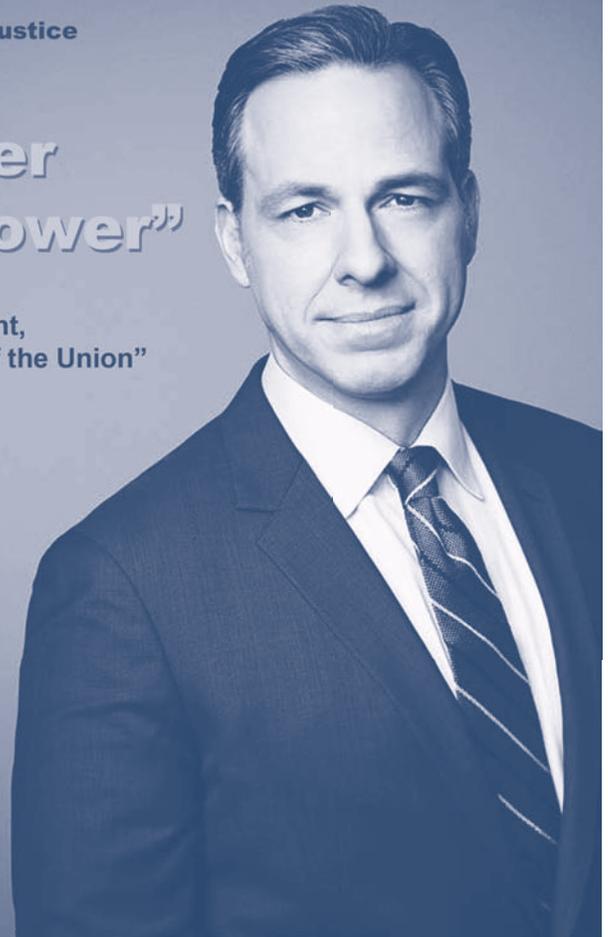
Congregation Emanu-El
2 Lake St., San Francisco, CA 94118

Free Event • Limited Seating •
Entrance Requires Registration

Special Pre-Event Reception with Jake Tapper at
2:30pm • \$118 per person

Register for both events on Eventbrite.com:
“Speaking Truth to Power”

Honorary Co-Chairs
Roselyne C. Swig and Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J.





Mina Miller – President and Artistic Director, Music of Remembrance

Friday, May 4, 6:00 pm, Shabbat Service

Since 1998, Music of Remembrance has remembered the Holocaust through music. At the May 4 Shabbat evening service, founder and artistic director Mina Miller will speak about Music of Remembrance's upcoming concert — *Voices of Witness* — to be held on May 24 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The varied program will feature inspiring music of Holocaust resistance as well as two new commissions exploring the Japanese and Japanese-American wartime experience.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT

Sponsoring an Oneg-Shabbat on Friday evening is a sweet 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, contact Svetlana Leykin at sleykin@emanuelf.org or call (415) 751-2541 x123.

Thank you to the following for co-sponsoring recent Oneg-Shabbat receptions:

- Susan Moldaw and Bob Stallings, in honor of Congregation Emanu-El
- Andy Heller, in honor of the bat mitzvah of Lily Rose Maas-Heller
- Lisa Borah-Geller and Jason Geller, in honor of the bat mitzvah of Lila Helene Geller
- Sponsored in memory of Harriet Mitchell

APRIL

Friday, April 6

5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service (Main Sanctuary)

Saturday, April 7

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service –
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Friday, April 13

6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

8:30 pm, Young Adult Late Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, April 14

10:00 am, Got Shabbat? (Martin Meyer Reception)

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Chapel)

Friday, April 20

6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, April 21

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Main Sanctuary)

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Friday, April 27

6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, April 28

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Main Sanctuary)

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

APPRECIATED STOCK GIFTS

Did you know that you can make charitable donations – including your Emanu-El membership dues and Impact Fund gifts- from your appreciated stock? Now is an excellent time to avoid capital gains taxes while generously supporting the congregation. You may also reduce your taxable estate by donating stock.

If you are making a stock gift, please use the following 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

Note: Please make the Development Office (tbrown@emanuelsf.org or (415) 750-7554) aware of your stock gift before it is transferred so your donation can be tracked and appropriately directed as you wish.

Corporate Matching

Many Bay Area companies, including Yelp, Clorox, Google, and Salesforce, will match your gift dollar-for-dollar. Please contact your company's matching gifts coordinator to obtain a matching gift form and determine whether your gift to Congregation Emanu-El can be matched.

Thank you to the following companies for matching our member's donations:

- Apple
- Clorox
- Google
- Black Rock
- Deloitte & Touche
- Salesforce
- Visa
- Gap, Inc.
- Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

Donate Online and save postage, paper, and time!

Don't let unexpected *simchas*, *mitzvahs*, and Life-Cycle events catch you off guard!

Donating online is a quick and easy way to honor friends and family while supporting the synagogue. Just go to our website (www.emanuelsf.org), select "Click to Donate," and follow the steps to make a credit card gift over a secure server. Be sure to include all dedication information and let us know if we should notify someone. You will receive an electronic confirmation, followed by an acknowledgment letter in the mail. That's all there is to it! If you need assistance, contact Tyler Brown in the Development Department at tbrown@emanuelsf.org or (415) 750-7554.

YOUTH AND FAMILY

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

We had such fun at our Purim Shushan Bazaar that we are sharing some pictures with you! At least 250 families from our Temple Emanu-El Preschool and Youth and Family Education celebrated with games, food, activities, shows, and so much more. Thanks to everyone who baked for the bake sale and staffed this event! If you missed it, we'll do it again next year!



Purim Shushan Bazaar



INTERVIEW WITH BRAD WOLFE, EMANU-EL CONGREGANT AND FOUNDER OF *REIMAGINE END OF LIFE* CONFERENCE



Congregation Emanu-El is working in partnership with the Reimagine End of Life conference in San Francisco from April 16 through April 22. Reimagine is co-created by a network of interested artists, storytellers, healthcare professionals, innovators, designers, organizations, and individuals, banding together to amplify the end-of-life conversation. This year's End of Life conference will also feature several events right here at Temple Emanu-El. Rabbi Sydney Mintz had the opportunity to interview Reimagine's producer Brad Wolfe to learn more about what makes this conference so unique.

Rabbi Sydney Mintz (SM): What was the inspiration for Reimagine? What in your personal life/history made this so important to you?

Brad Wolfe (BW): Reimagine is a new nonprofit that has partnered with the City of San Francisco to create Reimagine End of Life, a week of exploring big questions about life and death. With over 50 events across the city put on by 100+ collaborators, Reimagine focuses on the many aspects of life's universal truth, from the sense of wonder death evokes, to how we should actually prepare for it, to ways we might honor and connect with those we've lost. Reimagine focuses on the many aspects of life's universal truth, from the sense of wonder death evokes, to how we should actually prepare for it, to ways we might honor and connect with those we've lost.

My personal inspiration for Reimagine is rooted in thinking about how our limited time on earth can serve as a reminder to live more fully in the present, and that is something that actually grew out of my grandparents' experience in Auschwitz. From an early age, I heard their stories firsthand. My grandmother survived and even kept others alive by choosing to divide up a small sandwich — secretly passed to her each day by a Nazi guard — into 18 tiny morsels for her fellow prisoners to share. My grandfather lived by scrounging food from the clothes draped on the bodies he was forced to carry from the crematoriums. I've often wondered, "What is so precious about life that, in the face of death, we are inspired to fight for more time?" The hope with Reimagine is that, if we can learn to stop avoiding death and instead come together to confront or even embrace it, we'll become more inclined to also embrace life, lay our differences down, and celebrate one another while we can.

SM: Why do you think death is such a hard subject to talk about and so taboo for most of us in Western culture?

BW: Western communities aren't as close-knit. Our elderly are often out of site and out of mind, and thus aging and death aren't integrated into the fabric of our lives the way they are in other cultures. We tend less and less to have multi-generational living arrangements, where grandparents, parents, and grandchildren share one space. Death is

something that happens somewhere else, often in hospitals, where we're more focused on fighting against it than acknowledging or accepting it. Relatedly, death has historically been addressed through religion. As our cities have become increasingly secular, there are even fewer reasons for us to immerse ourselves in conversation about death and dying. These are the forces we're tackling with Reimagine.

SM: What do you hope people will get out of the offerings over the course of the week?

BW: There's something for everyone. Whether you're interested in art and entertainment, spirituality, healthcare, or the logistics surrounding death, you'll be sure to find events that resonate for you. But what you'll most likely leave with is a sense of the optimistic, creative, and even sometimes humorous spirit that we generate when our community comes together to explore something so challenging yet so human.

SM: Why is this week different from all the other weeks?

BW: It's rare for a city to come together around something so real. But the universality of death unites all of us, rich or poor, Democrat or Republican, old and young. If we think about experiences where communities do authentically connect, it's often in the face of communal grief — after 9/11 or the recent Florida school shootings, for example. But during Reimagine, we posit that perhaps we can come together in solidarity without a preceding tragedy. Yes, many attendees may join while grieving, processing an impending loss, or reflecting on a past or present relationship, but the uplifting power lies in us simply choosing to make space for this topic, for creativity, and for each other.

SM: Why should an Emanu-El congregant attend Reimagine?

BW: You have to come. Emanu-El is hosting the most incredible week of events. Rabbi Mintz and Monica Pevzner have poured

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ADULT EDUCATION SPRING 2018 TRIMESTER COURSES

NEGLECTED NARRATIVES: A CLOSE READING OF THE EARLY PROPHETS

With Taube Scholar Rabbi Stephen S. Pearce, PhD
Tuesdays, April 24 and May 1 & 8, 7:00 – 9:00 pm



The biblical accounts of Samson and Delilah, Samuel, Deborah, Saul, David, Solomon, Goliath, Jonathan, Jezebel, and Queen of Sheba are well known. Nevertheless, their narrative sources are obscure because they are found in the often-overlooked books of the Early Prophets — Joshua, Judges, I Samuel, II Samuel, I Kings, and II Kings — books that are sandwiched between the regularly studied Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) and

the well-known Late Prophets — Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and so forth. This course will provide a close reading of the Early Prophets in a time frame that spans the entrance into and the conquest of the Promised Land by the Israelites following 40 years of wandering, the development of the Aaronide Priesthood, the construction of the Temple, the ascendancy of the kingship, and the division of the Holy Land into the independent nations of Israel and Judah.

For more information and registration, please visit:
<https://www.emanuelsf.org/learning/adult-education/>

YOGA AND THE SACRED SEFIROT

With Julie Emden of Embodied Jewish Learning
Tuesdays, April 24 and May 1 & 8, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Enrich your life with this gentle Iyengar-based yoga and movement class infused with Jewish wisdom. Explore and embody mystical teachings about the Sefirot, divine attributes for balance and harmony in your life. No previous yoga experience or knowledge about the Sefirot is necessary. Yoga props will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own yoga mat if you have one.



Class One: Hesed (Lovingkindness) and Gevurah (Strength)
Class Two: Netzach (Perseverance) and Hod (Humility)
Class Three: Yesod (Foundation) and Malchut (King/Queen)

Julie Emden, RYT-500, is the Founding Director of Embodied Jewish Learning. A graduate of five fellowship and teaching certification programs related to her work as a Jewish educator, Iyengar-based yoga instructor, and movement/expressive artist, Julie has two decades of experience guiding others in exploring Jewish wisdom, text, and practices via the body in a variety of settings.



Register for Adult Education Courses online at:
www.emanuelsf.org/learning/adult-education/

Cost: \$54 for non-members; \$36 for members

BRAD WOLFE continued from page 7

their hearts into creating an unbelievable set of experiences at the temple — for Emanu-El congregants, but also for the broader San Francisco community. Reimagine week will be a chance to welcome all of San Francisco into our place of worship and make them feel comfortable. By attending, you'll meet people from all walks of life and hopefully come to see your own life and death differently, as well.

Check out the Reimagine Emanu-El calendar, and you'll immediately be surprised. An Emanu-El death over dinner party? A reading of Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax*? A talk about psychedelics and death? Thoughtful discussions around miscarriage and teen loss? A special Earth Day event with the creators of the film "*An Inconvenient Truth*?" Yes, the subject matter is life and death, but this isn't like anything you've seen before.

A MENSCH FOR ALL SEASONS!

By Byron Gordon, Communications Manager

Dylan Keleman was no stranger to bar mitzvah. He'd attended previous ceremonies and saw first-hand the experience of stepping up to the bima and delivering in Hebrew the scripture, prayers, and chants associated with this religious rite of passage. But what he didn't know was

how challenging it would be to prepare for his bar mitzvah "virtually" and, in turn, unexpectedly raise several thousand for Emanu-El's Community Service Fund.

"It was my idea to create a fund. I had this one conversation with my dad about what could I do for Tikun Olam and help make the world a better place," said Dylan. "I proposed to my father that, instead of receiving more traditional type gifts, why not have people donate to a good cause? It made me feel satisfied knowing that I did something for this bar mitzvah."

It all began back in September 2015 when Dylan's family decided to move to Santiago, Chile. "My parents wanted us to be able to experience another culture, another way of life," said Dylan. A big soccer player, having demonstrated skill and talent as early as age 3, Dylan now plays for one of Santiago's top professional football clubs, the Club Deportivo Universidad Católica.

Dylan had already turned 14 when preparations began for his bar mitzvah. In response to the Keleman's request for a date, Emanu-El offered December 16, 2017, and according to Dylan, "that's when the fun began."

For the duration of 2017, Dylan corresponded via Skype with Rabbi Jason Rodich and Cantor Arik Luck as he trained for chanting his Torah portion — the story of Joseph, Parashat Mikets, book of Genesis, chapter 4, verses 15–32. "It was challenging, no doubt about it," said Dylan. "We had discussions about how many verses I planned to do. Fifteen verses was long, but after a discussion with my dad, I was like, "let's go for it!" Dylan didn't meet either Rabbi Rodich or Cantor Luck in person until the Wednesday before his bar mitzvah!

"I was definitely nervous the night before," said Dylan, "Really nervous. But then, in the morning, I put on my suit, went to the temple, met with a whirlwind of friends and family, and then began the service. It was over before I knew it."

For Dylan, repairing the world is one of Judaism's most important tenets. Figuring out a way to help people was also a way to help him find closure with his bar mitzvah. Living in Chile made things a bit more complicated, but he eventually proposed the idea of having guests donate to a good cause in lieu of giving him presents.

Dylan then sent out a follow-up email invitation to all of his guests, listing a number of organizations, including Emanu-El's Community Service Fund, which promotes and supports social justice and community service programs. To date, guests of Dylan's bar mitzvah have contributed a total of approximately \$3,800 to the temple fund.

"One of the things that drives me as a person is the desire to help people have good experiences in life," said Dylan. "It's something that this whole bar mitzvah experience has



helped crystallize for me. As I think about what I want to do with my life, this is but one step of many I plan to take and hope will never end. I want to help others; helping people who need support will make this world a better place. I know I want to do something on a large scale."

As far as becoming a bar mitzvah, Dylan says it was a beautiful process. "I really hope that every person who desires a bar mitzvah in the world takes advantage of it. It's challenging, but in the end it's just really fun. You have to appreciate what you're going through, but you won't expect what's coming. Above all else, it will exceed your expectations."

DAYTIME PROGRAMS AT THE TEMPLE

Meet other congregants at these weekday opportunities at the temple! Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner.

All Daytime Events below are at Temple Emanu-El

Cooking for Congregants

Thursdays, April 5, 12, and 26, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Kitchen

Do you enjoy working in the kitchen and helping others at the same time? Sign up for *Cooking for Congregants*, led by two Emanu-El members, where you will prepare meals for congregants facing a recent illness, death, or birth.

When someone we know is going through a challenging time, our natural reaction is to help, although we may not know exactly what to do. For those in need, food frequently becomes a low priority, so the support provided by Cooking for Congregants can make a huge difference! As volunteer Sari Swig says, "There is no better gift to yourself than to help others," while a recipient of meals expresses how "It is such a lovely gesture of community... I was most grateful."

Register now to fulfill this mitzvah! All menus, ingredients, and storage containers are provided. And if you know a congregant who would benefit from a few delivered meals, please let us know.

The Stories of Your Life: Guided Autobiography and Life Review Writing

No charge; any skill level welcomed.

April 2, 10:00 am – Noon

Join this monthly group to share your unique life in writing while getting to know yourself and others better. The writing is done at home, and then shared in class in a safe and structured way.

Scrabble

No charge; drop in; all ages and experience levels welcomed.

Mondays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Do you enjoy the challenge of putting letters together to form words? Join the Scrabble group and play a rousing game or two! Expand your vocabulary along with your social circle. Bring a Scrabble set (optional) and, of course, your appreciation of words.

Mah Jongg

No charge; drop in; all levels welcomed.

Rinder Chapel

Tuesday afternoons, April 3 and 17, 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Tuesday evenings, April 10 and 24, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Join us for Mah Jongg! There will be no teaching at these Tuesday sessions; play time only.

Bridge Club – Lessons and Game

Drop in; Cost: \$15 for members, \$20 for friends of members.

Tuesdays, April 3, 10, 17, and 24, 10:00 am – Noon,

If you are beyond the level of beginner, join this very popular and lively group for duplicate-style bridge. Play while improving your game. No partner needed. Deborah Murphy is the instructor.

COMMUNITY

CONGREGANT GROUPS & GATHERINGS

Meet other congregants at these weekend and evening opportunities! Please register online. Questions? Contact Rachel Schonwetter.

MISHPACHA

Programs for families with children ages 0–5.

Got Shabbat?

**Saturday, April 14, 10:00 – 11:30 am,
Martin Meyer Reception**

Families with young children (birth to 5 years old) are invited to join with Mimi Greisman, Early Childhood and Family Educator, as we celebrate Shabbat with family and friends. Activities will include a Torah Parade, singing songs and playing musical instruments, playing with toys, reading Shabbat stories, eating yummy snacks, and watching a puppet show! Last but not least, Got Shabbat? will also include a parachute and bubble time!

THE TRIBE FOR WOMEN

The Tribe for Women is for moms with children ages 0–18.

Challah Baking

Wednesday, April 25, 6:30 pm, Temple Emanu-El

Join us in an intimate evening of learning how to make and braid challah and exploring the importance of Shabbat. At the end of the evening, you'll have a freshly baked challah to take home for your own Shabbat table!

Dietary restrictions? We'll have regular, vegan, and gluten free ingredients on hand! Please check our website for registration details.

THE TRIBE FOR MEN

A group of active and committed Emanu-El dads ages 30–50 with children ages 0–12, regardless of gender and/or sexual identity.

Earth Day Celebration at Hamilton Families Garden

**Sunday, April 22, 1:00 – 3:00 pm,
Hamilton Families Transitional Housing**

Join the Tribe for Men for a special Earth Day with Hamilton Families, a San Francisco nonprofit organization that works to prevent and end family homelessness, providing shelter for families in crisis as well as helping families get back into permanent housing quickly. This Earth Day, bring your kids and join your fellow Tribesmen as we revitalize and beautify Hamilton's Transitional Housing garden with new plants, flowers, and signage! Emanu-El volunteers have been taking care of this garden for over a year, and we invite you to continue to build community and, together, end family homelessness in San Francisco! (Please note that after you register to join, you will receive an email asking you to sign up to bring specific starter plants and/or supplies for the garden.)

ENGAGEMENT

CONGREGANT GROUPS & GATHERINGS

EMANU-EL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Build Emanu-El in your community with neighborhood gatherings.

Do you love your local coffee shop or farmers market? And does bringing a little Emanu-El into your neighborhood appeal to you? If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity close to home, consider becoming a neighborhood liaison to reach out to congregants in need, coordinate neighborhood events, and welcome new congregants in the city. Or volunteer to host a local community get-together in your home. Interested? Let us know!

FRONT PORCH

This innovative program assembles congregants into groups and gives them the tools they need to build deep and meaningful relationships at home-hosted gatherings. The gatherings include short videos filmed by one of our rabbis and discussion questions on Jewish topics relevant to life today. Would you like to join a Front Porch group this fall? Fill out the interest form at <https://www.emanuelsf.org/front-porch/>

Second Annual Blessing of the Animals and Walk to Dog Park

Saturday, April 28, 1:30 pm, Emanu-El Courtyard to Mountain Lake Dog Park in the Presidio

Gather in our courtyard and bring along your furry or fluffy friends — even your cats! The blessing of the animals is popular in many religions, so make sure you don't miss this opportunity to pal around with your four-legged buddies. Afterwards, we'll walk to the Mountain Lake Dog Park in the Presidio to share Shabbat with other animal-loving folks. Register online!

Two Baby Groups Available!

Drop in with your little one (birth to 18 months) and spend time with other parents. Join us as we prepare to welcome Shabbat on Fridays and celebrate Havdalah on Mondays. Enjoy music, stories, puppets, and more with early childhood educator Mimi Greisman. Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents and create lasting friendships!

Bagels and Babies

Fridays throughout the year, 9:30 – 11:00 am, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Mazel Tots!

Mondays throughout the year, 9:30 – 11:00 am, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Members: No charge; Non-members: \$10/session (first session free)

TZEDEK COUNCIL

Meet your fellow congregants for these social justice opportunities! Questions? Contact Monica Pevzner.

What is the Tzedek Council?

The Congregation Emanu-El Tzedek Council was launched in August 2015 as a congregant-, board-, and clergy-run group, charged with the task of raising our participation and impact in the social justice arena. The Tzedek Council comprises four working groups, covering the following topics: Economic Justice, Education, Environment, and Human Rights.

HUMAN RIGHTS

UNITY GROUP

Congregation Emanu-El and First African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church sponsor an African-American/Jewish Unity Group that meets monthly.

**Second Thursdays of the month, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
African American Art & Culture Complex,
762 Fulton Street, San Francisco**

For the past two years, a group of Emanu-El congregants have met monthly with members of the Bay Area African-American community – for fellowship and to advance the cause of racial justice in the Bay Area and beyond. This year, the Unity Group will partner with other organizations to push for bail reform legislation in California. We believe that this legislation, if passed, will make an enormous difference in the lives of many poor people and people of color. We would love to have you join us in this effort. You are welcome to come to meetings simply to learn more about the topic, after which you can decide how involved you'd like to be.

continued on page 13

As a large congregation, we recognize the importance of small group connection, so we create many opportunities for learning, socializing, and enjoying local culture together. These group gatherings generally occur in the evening hours or on weekends. Refer to the Community or Social Justice pages on our website for more information and staff contact information. Remember to register online in the MyEmanu-El portal for all of these programs (unless otherwise noted below) so we know to expect you.

Your Community Engagement Team:

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Jean Pierre Larochette and Yael Lurie in their studio in Berkeley

FROM WITNESSING DESTRUCTION TO WEAVING HOPE

By Byron Gordon, Communications Manager

An exquisite, multi-colored, custom-designed Torah scroll cover was formally delivered to Congregation Emanu-El this month, having been lovingly designed and hand-crafted by the finest tapestry designer/weaver duo in the United States: Yael Lurie and Jean Pierre Larochette.

"I want to echo just how grateful I am to Jan and Bob Newman for taking the lead, along with Anita Barzman in making this possible. The Torah is beautifully covered and will be used in such a meaningful way in our community," said Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer.

The completed tapestry features a Star of David at its center in various shades of blue surrounded by green and gold lettering. The Star of David extends out to a grid of smaller six-pointed stars. The stylized letter shin (symbolizing the name of God) creates an upward movement. At the base of the design is the word *Zachar* (remembering), which acts as a symbol for connecting the past with the present. "The overall color palette and design motif follows the existing ensemble of the four daily Torah covers we created back in 1992 and 1993," said Yael, who created the image that Jean Pierre then wove.

The new Torah cover was recently "cut off" from the warp in a ceremony at the Lurie-Larochette studio in Berkeley. The warp (the lengthwise threads on a loom) is a basic constituent of all textiles, along with the weft (the threads that pass over and under the warp to make the cloth).

The new cover will be placed on the Czech Torah scroll that now reside in the temple's Reuben R. Rinder chapel.

The intricate job of designing a tapestry begins with the use of a pencil, according to Yael. "There are no clear-cut ideas, just lines at the beginning. All of it is done by hand. I use color pencils and then we enlarge that design via a printer. We invert the image and I outline every shape and color transition as to give the most specific of instructions to Jean-Pierre to weave."

The material used in a Lurie-Larochette tapestry is exactly the same as that used 50 years ago in Israel: merino wool/yarn from Australia and a very high-quality cotton processed in Sweden. "We work together on combinations with more than

one strand of yarn," continues Yael. "We work out the colors and then you weave the colors centered. I always know that pencil won't imitate yarn. But when I work with the pencil I already have the yarn in mind." Silks are used for the warp, and according to Jean-Pierre, "the warp is the soul of any tapestry."

Yael and Jean Pierre are no strangers to Emanu-El, as they received one of their first commissions from our congregation back in 1977. They have designed five tapestry covers for the Torahs residing in Emanu-El's Main Sanctuary, and have completed more than 80 works for temples throughout the world. "Whenever we work with synagogues with new projects, it always feels like it has to come from the heart. Not from any other place. It is soulful work," said Yael. "I always feel very grateful when working on a project for a synagogue. It feels so full."

Last year, the Emanu-El SF Chronicle documented member Anita Barzman's personal journey of sponsoring and transporting Czech Torah scroll MST #221 (one of the few surviving scrolls saved from Nazi destruction from the city of Ostrava) from the Memorial Scrolls Trust Collection in London. It was a moving journey that also inspired members who participated in Emanu-El's very special trip to central Europe to explore the rebirth of Judaism in such cities as Prague and Warsaw.

"The journey of this Torah scroll to Temple Emanu-El is a beautiful expression of remembrance...remembrance of the Holocaust victims that once prayed with this Torah," said trip participant Jan Newman. "I was thinking about a meaningful gift to the temple from our group in honor of the memorable trip we took to Europe. The Czech Torah scroll Anita brought back from London needed a new cover. Immediately I thought about the handwoven, custom-made covers that adorn the Torahs in the Main Sanctuary. But we had to act fast," said Jan. And act fast they did; in a little under two months, due to the generosity of European trip members, they were able to raise the funds necessary for Yael and Jean Pierre Larochette to begin their work.

A good portion of the history of tapestry in the United States, especially in the latter half of the 20th century, can be traced directly to Yael and Jean Pierre. Jean Pierre was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the son of Armand Larochette, a third-generation French Aubusson tapestry weaver. Jean Pierre apprenticed at his father's workshop in Nazareth, and

from 1962 to 1964, at the invitation of the Israeli government, he studied and worked under the direction of internationally known French tapestry artist Jean Lurcat. "For me, it was a remarkable experience," said Jean Pierre. "I was born into this tradition and it has never left my blood."

Yael was born and raised in Givat Brenner Kibbutz (in the central district of Israel). Apprenticing with her father, she later studied with painter Jacob Wexler, who was head of the Avni Institute of Art and Design in Tel Aviv for nearly 20

for individual collectors and organizations. For Jean Pierre, executing the intricate patterns created by Yael is all about "being in the moment" as he stands for up to 10 hours on any given day working on his loom and methodically bringing Yael's designs to light. "It's like a journey. You have to be fit for this type of work. Luckily, Yael is an excellent cook. We eat mostly a vegetarian diet," said Jean Pierre. "We also practice meditation. Our son, JG Larochette, began the Mindful Life Project, which has taught meditation to more than 9,000 schoolchildren in the Bay Area."



Congregant Jean Newman holds the new Torah cover with Jean Pierre Larochette

years. She later studied at the Leshem Mosaic Workshop. Jean Pierre was invited by one of the founders of the Dada art movement, Marcel Yanco, to teach at Ein-Hod Artist village near Haifa. During his stay in Israel, Jean Pierre visited Givat Brenner Kibbutz where he was introduced to Yael Lurie and her paintings. The rest is history.

By the mid-1960s, both Yael and Jean Pierre had established themselves in the art milieu of Mexico City. They became a team, bonding in design and execution. Having exhibited many times in Mexico, they began taking time to visit the United States where, by the early 1970s, the workshop tapestry industry had dwindled.

When Yael and Jean Pierre arrived in San Francisco, they met up with Mark Adams, creator of the large stained-glass windows in our main sanctuary. The spark of professional European workshop tapestry would reestablish itself with a blockbuster collaboration between Adams and the Larochettes at the Palace of the Legion of Honor. The opportunity to teach tapestry at San Francisco State soon followed as Jean Pierre became co-founder and director of the San Francisco Tapestry Workshop at the university's textile program in the 1970s and 80s.

By word of mouth, their work has expanded, with both Yael and Jean Pierre having completed some 300+ commissions



Designer Yael Lurie, next to weaver Jean Pierre Larochette, cuts the Torah cover from the warp.

Yael and Jean Pierre continue to conduct weaving workshops in Mexico and are opening up a studio up in the Sierra Nevada where they will schedule retreats to lead a new generation of weavers in a craft that remains the domain of a privileged few.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT continued from page 11

Please contact Saundrah Anjali (sanjali@emanuelf.org) for more information or to be added to our Unity Group mailing list.

Stay tuned to future editions of the Chronicle for information on gatherings with our:

- Men's Group (a group for men of Congregation Emanu-El focused on Torah study and socializing)
- Women's Group (a group for all adult women of Emanu-El)
- Interfaith Group (gatherings for interfaith members and families of Emanu-El)

APRIL 2018 B'NEI MITZVAH

Rye Kushner

Bar Mitzvah: April 7
Martin Meyer Sanctuary
Parents: Will Kushner & Mardi Dier
Torah Portion: *Pesach VII*



David Kremer-Kulberg

Bar Mitzvah: April 21
Main Sanctuary
Parents: Tanya Kulberg
& Dmitry Kremer
Torah Portion: *Tazria Metzora*

Marco Attie

Bar Mitzvah: April 21
Martin Meyer Sanctuary
Parents: Marsha Attie & Doug Kaplan
Torah Portion: *Tazria Metzora*



Alexandra Klionsky

Bat Mitzvah: April 28
Martin Meyer Sanctuary
Parents: Daniel & Alla Klionsky
Torah Portion: *Ahare Kedoshim*

Shaia Saraf

Bar Mitzvah: April 28
Main Sanctuary
Parents: Daria Saraf & Jonathan Horn
Torah Portion: *Ahare Kedoshim*



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*, a bar or bat mitzvah, a conversion or wedding ceremony, or a recovery from illness, Emanu-El 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 beautiful way to mark a personal milestone, to honor friends or family celebrating a happy experience, or to show gratitude for the services provided by our clergy during these profound moments. Please donate online at www.emanuelsf.org or call the Development office at (415) 750-7554.

MAZEL TOV TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED JOY

Svetlana and Vladimir Leykin on the birth of their granddaughter, Hannah Sophia Leykin

Scott and Marjorie McDonald on the birth of their son, and Terry Magnin on the birth of her grandson, Jacob Magnin McDonald

Meital and Daniel Karlsberg on the birth of their son, Yonatan Karlsberg

Brittany Carlson and Benjamin Forman on the birth of their son, Theodore Wilson Forman

CONDOLENCES TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUFFERED RECENT LOSSES

Ruth Stein on the death of her husband, Alan Stein

Jennifer Futernick (Bob) on the death of her stepfather, and Jacob and Sarah Futernick on the death of their step-grandfather, Jerry Ornstein

David Arrick on the death of his wife, and Dillon and Zachary Arrick on the death of their mother, Andi Arrick

Tracy McKendell on the death of her brother, and Alec McKendell on the death of his uncle, Andrew Tilin

Lisa Pritzker on the death of her uncle, Alan Stone

Albert Fraenkel on the death of his wife, and Jeffrey Fraenkel on the death of his mother, Ellie Fraenkel

David Goodstein on the death of his wife and son, and Sophie and Daria Goodstein on the death of their mother and brother, Olga Perkovic and Aaron Goodstein

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Adam Seligman on his new position as Vice President of Developer Relations at Google

Doivid Coplon on being named a new member of the Starr King Open Space Board of Directors

NEW MEMBERS - Welcome!

Mrs. Sasha Burstein, Elizabeth Burstein, Mr. Paul Burstein, Daniel Burstein • Ms. Simona Dumitru-Rose, Mr. Jeffrey Rose, Sophia Dumitru-Rose, Sidney Dumitru-Rose • Mr. John Minervini • Aviva Reim

REJOINED MEMBERS - Welcome Back!

Mr. Mark Roach, Ms. Amy Lesnick, Ariana Roach • Mr. Brad Wolfe



**CELEBRATING
ISRAEL @70**
FEATURING HADAG NAHASH

YOM HA'ATZMAUT CELEBRATION AND CONCERT WITH HADAG NAHASH, ISRAEL'S HOTTEST HIP-HOP BAND!

Sunday, April 29, 4:00 – 7:30 pm, Temple Emanu-El

General Admission: \$18
Students/Children (ages 10–17): \$10
Children under 10: No charge

Enjoy an Israeli “shuk” (market) with activities for the whole family, including music and food for purchase! Then join in a torchlight ceremony and groove to a musical performance by Israel's biggest hip-hop/funk band, Hadag Nahash! The shuk will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, with the torchlight ceremony starting immediately afterward, followed by the Hadag Nahash performance.

RSVP by Friday, April 20.

Purchase tickets online at the Jewish National Fund website, or call (415) 677-9600 x964. **Advance registration is required and walk-ins cannot be accommodated.**

Note: For security purposes, you will be asked to present a valid ID before entering.

No oversized bags or backpacks allowed.

This event is presented by the following organizations: Congregation Emanu-El, Jewish National Fund – JNF, San Francisco based Jewish Community Federation, Israeli American Council – IAC, San Francisco, Israel Consulate in San Francisco, Jewish Community Center of San Francisco

This event is also proudly co-sponsored by the following organizations:

American Associates, Ben-Gurion
University of the Negev
American Friends of the Hebrew University
American Jewish Committee (AJC-Global
Jewish Advocacy)
American Technion Society
Brandeis Marin
The Brandeis School of San Francisco
Congregation Beth Sholom
Congregation Sherith Israel
Jewish Community High School of the Bay
Jewish Community Relations Council -
JCRC of San Francisco
StandWithUs



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.

Beth Singer,
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi
Jonathan 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, Ben and A. Jess Shenson Cantor
Roslyn Barak, Senior Cantor Emerita
Stephen Pearce, PhD, Sr. Taube Scholar and
Rabbi Emeritus
Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, Emanu-El Scholar
David N. Goldman, Executive Director
and General Counsel
Terry Kraus, FTA, Director of
Membership Services
Elena Gary, Chief Financial Officer
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Please help our very own Cantor Marsha Attie and Doug Kaplan welcome their son Marco Attie into the covenant of bar mitzvah on April 21. Services will begin at 10:30 am in the Main Sanctuary and will be followed by a delicious Kiddush lunch.

All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, May 18, 2018

Confirmation 5778/2018

12th grade Havurah Ephraim leads our community in Shabbat service.