Emanu-El s

CHRONICLE VOLUME CLXXI, NO. 23 | DECEMBER 2019 | 3 KISLEV - 3 TEVET 5780









DEC NEW ISRAEL FUND'S David Meyers



JAN ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE **10-12** Rick Lupert

UPCOMING EVENTS

Where Have We Been? Where are We Going?

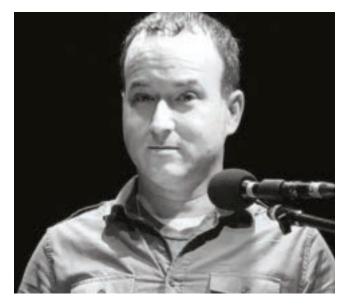
Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 pm

A post-election look at Israel with Professor David N. Myers

Congregation Emanu-El is pleased to welcome David N. Myers, Board President of the New Israel Fund and renowned professor of Jewish history. Professor Myers will explore the present and future landscape of Israel after this year's double elections and in light of key historical trends over the past 50 years.

David N. Myers is the Sady and Ludwig Kahn Professor of Jewish History at UCLA, Director of the UCLA Luskin Center for History and Policy, and the author or editor of 15 books. An alumnus of Yale (1982), Myers undertook graduate studies at Tel-Aviv and Harvard Universities before receiving his Ph.D. with distinction in Jewish History from Columbia University in 1991.





Artist-in-Residence Rick Lupert January 10-12, 2020

Our artist-in-residence extraordinaire — nationally acclaimed Jewish spoken word artist Rick Lupert — will entertain us for a weekend in January. Rick will perform at our Friday evening services, lead us in a musical poetry jam Havdalah on Saturday evening, and perform and teach at our Sunday morning Hebrew School.

Emanu-El Next

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Town Hall meetings about **Emanu-El Next**. If you were unable to attend, or just want more information or wish to provide feedback, please visit our campaign website at **next.emanuelsf.org**



SHALOM RAV FROM OUR RABBI

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer

A t the risk of putting our nonprofit status at risk, as one of your Rabbis, I am going to publicly tell you how to vote! In this case, since I am asking you to vote for me, or for Rabbi Beth, or for anyone on the ARZA Reform Movement slate, I don't think I have much to worry about. However, in the election this January for the World Zionist Organization (WZO), your vote for us WILL make a difference for the good of the State of Israel and the Jewish People.

Five years ago, our Emanu-El membership participated in the WZO campaign, selecting candidates to represent North American Jewry at the WZO Congress and in its committees. The WZO was created as a means of connecting the diaspora more essentially with the State of Israel; it gives diaspora Jews, working with Israelis, an opportunity to affect policy in the promised land. Representation in the WZO is determined by the number of votes a group receives. Representatives then allocate money to different causes in Israel while also advising the Karen Kayemet (the Israeli Jewish National Fund) in its activities.

Our turnout five years ago gave the Reform Movement the largest seat at the table. It enabled Rabbi Mintz to attend the convention where she joined with others to ensure that a female Reform Rabbi would sit at the JNF table along with a male Orthodox Rabbi to influence policy. Our representatives succeeded in directing funding that was essential to helping the nascent Israeli Reform Movement increase exponentially in size. Previously, the Israeli Reform Movement had not received financial support from such an entity. With our victory, however, they were granted \$20 million over a period of five years, which was apportioned to Reform synagogues desperate for funding all over the country. Our WZO representation was also able to join in the debate about how best to support the peace process, encourage rights for LGBTQ Israelis, take a stand against extremism, and ensure that our Reform Jewish values were at the table.

Now, all of that progress is at risk if we do not perform as well, or BETTER, in the upcoming elections (January 21 to March 11). Voting will help those who may feel frustrated about not being able to influence Israeli policy actually make a difference. And voting is even easier this time! When the polls open, all you have to do is go online and register (for a fee of \$7.50); declare that you are at least 18 years old, Jewish, and a permanent resident of the US; and affirm the principles of



the Jerusalem program, which basically states that you think a democratic and secure State of Israel is important.

Rabbi Beth and I ask that you participate and vote for us! Know that, in so doing, you will help us represent a strong, confident Reform Zionism that celebrates the vitality and significance of the State of Israel. You will also be ensuring that the Torah values of loving your neighbor as yourself, embracing a beautifully diverse Jewish people along with an ethnically and religiously diverse Israel, and striving for peace remain core organizing principles of the country. We want Israel to be a light unto the nations in a world that we know is desperate for goodness to shine more brightly.

We are grateful that Aaron Tartakovsky and Kimberly Sanner have agreed to be the campaign captains, with the energetic support of our indefatigable Israeli Action Chair, Jordan Hymowitz.

We will send out the voting links next month, and there will be laptops and iPads available for your use as well. Please let me know if you have any questions.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Jonathan Singer

DO YOU BELIEVE THE REFORM MOVEMENT SHOULD HAVE A STRONGER PRESENCE IN ISRAEL?

VOTE REFORM #VoteReformWZC

Rabbis Jonathan and Beth Singer are the National Rabbinic Chairs of the campaign. Your Vote will help fund Reform Synagogues in Israel.

The World Zionist Congress Elections are coming soon, and your vote is critical to maintaining a large Reform presence in Israel and the United States!

Your vote is the only democratic opportunity you have to influence Israeli society as we continue our efforts towards equality, pluralism and tolerance. Our congregation saw a positive voter turn out last election, but we know that we can do better.

Voting takes place online starting January 21, 2020 to March 11, 2020 and will take less than 90 seconds to participate. If you're 18+ and identify as Jewish, we hope we can count on you to vote Reform.

Intrigued? Visit the ARZA website to learn more: ARZA.org

If you would like to get involved:



ADULT LEARNING

Weekend Learning with 2019 Charles Michael Scholar-in-Residence, Rabbi Jill Jacobs

December 5 - 7

Thursday, December 5, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Young Adult Happy Hour/Text Study Location: Bookstore in the Mission (address provided upon registration) Human Rights for Israelis and Palestinians — A Progressive Zionist Perspective

Friday, December 6, 6:00 pm

One Shabbat Sermon: *The Broken* Shards/Seeking and Human Rights, A T'ruah Call to Justice

Friday, December 6, 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Dinner/Discussion (following service): An intimate dinner and discussion expanding upon the One Shabbat sermon (registration required)

Saturday, December 7, 9:15 – 10:15 am

Torah Study: Vayetze, Encountering the Past and Present – Jacob's Story

Saturday, December 7, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Drinks & Hors D'Oeuvres: Seudah Shlishit - How Progressives Embrace and Struggle with Zionism Location: Book Store in the Mission (address provided upon registration)

Rabbi Jill Jacobs is the Executive Director of T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, which mobilizes a network of more than 2,000 Rabbis and Cantors and their communities to bring a rabbinic moral voice to human rights in North America, Israel, and the occupied Palestinian territories. Rabbi Jacobs is the author of *Where Justice Dwells: A Hands-On Guide to Doing Social Justice in Your Jewish Community* and *There Shall Be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice through Jewish Law and Tradition*, both published by Jewish Lights.

Widely regarded as a leading voice on Judaism and social justice, Rabbi Jacobs regularly lectures at synagogues, Jewish community centers, and conferences, and has written about Jewish perspectives on social justice and human rights for more than two dozen publications. She has been named three times to *The Forward's* list of 50 influential Jews, as well as to *Newsweek's* list of the most influential Rabbis. Rabbi Jacobs holds rabbinic ordination and an MA in Talmud from the Jewish Theological Seminary (where she was a Wexner Fellow), an MS in Urban Affairs from Hunter College, and a BA from Columbia University. She is also a graduate of the Mandel Institute Jerusalem Fellows Program. Rabbi Jacobs lives in New York with her husband, Rabbi Guy Austrian, and their two daughters.

This weekend is made possible by the generosity of the Charles Michael Lecture Endowment Fund.





Torah Learning and Socializing

One Wednesday a month, join either of these no-host learning events in your area where a member of clergy will lead a one-hour text study and discussion around a topic of their choice. Just drop in and enjoy!

Brown Bag

Wednesday, December 4, noon – 1:00 pm, Emanu-El 4th Floor Library

Limonata and Learning

Wednesday, December 4, 4:00 - 5:00 pm, Book Passage, 51 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera

Israel Action Programs

The Israel Action Committee's goal is to increase the engagement of our congregation with the state of Israel through education, celebration, and involvement. The committee will present Israel related programs to the congregation, including political, social, economic, and religious interests.

Our Israel Action Committee (IAC) is committed to creating an atmosphere where our members can engage passionately and respectfully about their views, perspectives, hopes and dreams for the state of Israel.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 pm NIF Board President, David Myers

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30pm Brigadier General (Res.) Professor Jacob Nagel

Wednesday, February 12, 7:00 pm Israeli Innovation, featuring Shani Yossefon of iAngels,Assaf Wand of Hippo Insurance, and Yonatan Weintraub of Space IL

Sunday, April 19, 3:00 pm

American Middle East analyst, author, and negotiator, Aaron David Miller



December Shabbat Calendar

Friday, December 6

5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service *(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)* 6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service *(Main Sanctuary)*

Saturday, December 7 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Main Sanctuary) 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service (Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Friday, December 13 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service (Martin Meyer Sanctuary) 8:30 pm, Young Adult Late Shabbat Service (Main Sanctuary)

Saturday, December 14 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service *(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)*

Friday, December 20 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service *(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)*

Saturday, December 21 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service *(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)* 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service *(Main Sanctuary)*

Friday, December 27 6:00 pm, Shabbat Chanukah Service and Celebration Dinner (*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

Saturday, December 28 10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service *(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)*

SAVE THE DATE

THE EASTERN EUROPE TRIP

JUNE 11 - 22, 2020 Optional extension to Moscow (June 22 - 24, 2020)

FROM \$5,200 LAND ONLY

HIGHLIGHTS

ATRIPTOO

A journey of connection and inspiration Explore the Ukraine and Russia's rich Jewish beritage From Nachman Bialik to Golda Meir – visit the homes of the greats Experience Odessa and St. Petersburg's iconic landmarks Delve into the fascinating history, tales, and traditions of Uman Shabbat in Odessa and St. Petersburg Superb service with top-notch educator

EMANU-EL (da'at

telling the story of Israel and the Jewish World.

ARZA WORLD Days

landmark

TOLL FREE 888-811-2812 Search on arzaworld.com for more details

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@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2541 x123.

CHANUKAH

Celebrate Chanukah with your Emanu-El Community!

As one of the most popular Jewish symbols in existence today, the menorah stands for light, wisdom, and divine inspiration. The flames of each candle act as a symbol of Jewish identity and continuity.

Please join us for Chanukah — there's something for everyone, including families and individuals of all ages!

Young Families Chanukah Pop-up in Hayes Valley

Monday, December 23, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Please join us at a special Chanukah pop-up for young families with children ages 5 and under. The address will be provided after registration.



CHANUKAH BLESSINGS:

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

בָּרוּדְ אַתָּה יִיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֱלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר הֵדְּשֵׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצְוֵנוּ לְהַדְלִיק וֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

> Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

בָּרוּדְּ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֱלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נָסִּים לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּוְּמֵן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim bas'man hazeh.

> Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wonderous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

FOR FIRST NIGHT ONLY:

בָּרוּדְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהַינוּ מֱלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֵיָנוּ וְקַיְמָנוּ וְהַגֵּיעָנוּ לַזמַן הַזֶּה.

> Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.



Chanukah Celebration Dinner

Friday, December 27, 6:45 - 8:30 pm

After our One Shabbat Chanukah Service, we'll be hosting a beautiful dinner of Chinese food and latkes, along with dreidels and other fun. Following the dinner will be a circus act for the whole family in Guild Hall!

Registration is required for the Chanukah dinner: emanuelsf.org/chanukah



A Guide to Lighting Your Menorah

We light the menorah for eight days to remember the miracle of the human spirit, honor the light of rededication and the Maccabees who put their trust in God. Small lights push back darkness just as a small vial of oil for eight nights helped redeem our hope.

What kind of menorah?

The menorah can be any size and made of any material. All eight candles (except the Shamash) should be at the same height, and preferably in a straight line.

How many candles?

One candle is added each of the eight nights — plus the extra helper candle called the "Shamash" (the center candle).

Why 8?

Chanukah is celebrated for eight days, even though the miracle of the oil was really only seven (the first day's light shouldn't count — it's natural) to teach us that everything in the "natural" world is really a miracle. Nothing happens without God willing it.

Where to light?

To publicize the miracle, many light the menorah outside their front doorway. Otherwise, the menorah should be lit in a window facing the street.

What to light?

The candles must be big enough to burn for at least 30 minutes. Many use olive oil, to recall the original miracle in the Temple.

How to light?

Light the Shamash. Recite the blessings. Use the Shamash to light the Chanukah candles.

When to light?

The first opportunity to light is at nightfall. Many wait until later, when all the members of the household are present.

Who lights?

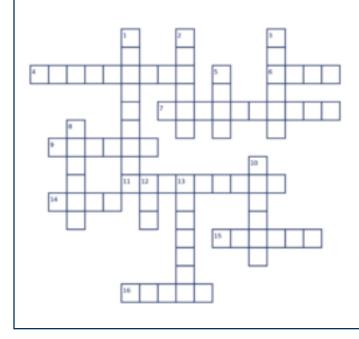
In Ashkenazi tradition, each person lights his own menorah. Sephardic tradition is one menorah per family.

Reprinted from aish.com



Chanukah Fun!

A crossword puzzle challenge, for kids from 5 to 125!



Across

- 4. The tyrant in the Chanukah story.
- 6. Chocolate-covered coins.
- 7. What the word "Chanukah" actually means.
- 9. The best letter to get when you spin the dreidel.
- 11. Sivivon, _____
- 14. _____ of ages, hear our song.
- 15. A food we eat to celebrate Chanukah.

The number of nights of Chanukah.

Down

- 1. The family of Chanukah heroes.
- 2. The Hebrew month in which Chanukah is celebrated.
- 3. Chanukah is the festival of _____
- 5. When the dreidel lands on _____, you "put one in."
- 8. Where we display the chanukkiyah (Chanukah menorah).
- 10. What are sufganiyot?
- 12. Chanukah celebrates the miracle of the _____
- 13. The helper candle.

Source: reformjudaism.org

DOWL HARWALE 1 WARCHERS 2 BEFEAR 3 TERMS 2 SHIFT AT 20 DOWL 2 DIT 13 DHIVEN

ReformJudaism.org

CHANUKAH

Family Activities

Want to add more fun to your Chanukah celebration? Here are some games and activities that will help you focus on the miracle, the light, and the sense of renewal that families everywhere want to observe during their eight nights of celebration.

"A Great Miracle Happened There" Album or Collage — Each side of the dreidel is an acronym for this phrase, and you can celebrate miracles big and small with a photo collage that you frame or put in a special Chanukah celebration album to share with family.

Chanukah Reader's Theater — Grab some Chanukah-themed books (mix it up with some from the library or loaned from friends), assign parts or pages and read a book together in reader's theater style.

Menorah One Act – Have children make headpieces from construction paper (blue for the band, yellow for the flame) and entertain the family with the story of the Chanukah menorah.

Motto of the Maccabee — The word Maccabee is an acronym for the Torah verse that was the Maccabee battle cry. Make a family "battle cry" or motto and put them on banners to celebrate the holiday.

Upcycled Gift Holders — Encourage the giving of small gifts by having each member of the family create a Chanukah gift holder, whether that be eight socks, eight hats, eight recycled coffee cans, etc.

Matzah Temple — A fun twist on the gingerbread house, create a Jerusalem Temple out of Matzah and icing with gold and silver wrapped candy to decorate (don't forget to include a candy flame burning bright!). Mazel tov!

Handprint Menorah — Great for younger children, make a print with blue paint on the palm, white on the fingers (for preschoolers, just do all blue), with a yellow thumbprint "flame" at the top. (Combine the thumbs into one flame for nine flames.) Give to a special family member or display.

Edible Dreidels — Make your own edible dreidels from a pretzel stick, marshmallow, and Hershey's kiss as the spinner (attach with a small dollop of frosting). Yum!

Found Materials Craft — Find sticks, old pencils, pipe cleaners, craft sticks — whatever is around the house — and fashion a Star of David from each to hang or display on the mantel.

Latke Platter — Need to get out over the holiday break? Find a local paint-your-own-pottery store and create a large platter with your family name and decorate it together as a keepsake (plus serving wear) for years to come.

Dreidel Instagram Garland — Print out favorite photos from your account from the past year and attach them to dreidels cut from colorful paper that serves as frames. Hang the garland of dreidels on the bannister or mantel for the family to enjoy.

Festival of Lights Luminaries – These can be made from white paper bags decorated by the family or tin cans with holes poked in the shape of a Star of David and put outside for guests to enjoy as the arrive.

Photo Menorah — Create a menorah-shaped photo gallery on your wall with painter's tape and nine vertical 4x6 pictures as the candle holders (add nine slender paper candles with flames on top), and build your menorah down to the floor with more pictures of family. Great for practicing names of faraway family members!

Your Own Shamesh Candle – Just like the menorah has eight candles and a ninth "worker candle" (Shamesh), get a special yellow hat (representing the flame) and each night of Chanukah the person who wears the hat is the special helper, assisting with the meal and picking a special activity.

Chanukah Coasters – Create gifts for family members or useful coasters for your holiday table with white tiles from the home improvement store, dreidel or Star of David cutouts, or tissue and crafting glue to seal your work.

Source: SignupGenius, www.signupgenius.com/church/hanukkah-games-activities.cfm

Chanukah Recipes for the Whole Family!



Mom's Potato Latkes

Ingredients

3 cups shredded potato
1/4 cup grated onion
2 eggs, beaten
6 saltine crackers, or as needed, crushed
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/2 cup vegetable oil, or as needed

Directions

Mix potato, onion, eggs, crackers, salt, and pepper together in a large bowl.

Pour enough vegetable oil into a skillet to fill about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep; heat over medium-high heat.

Drop spoonfuls of the potato mixture, first pressing potato mixture against the side of the bowl to remove excess liquid, into the hot oil; slightly flatten the latkes into the oil with the back of your spoon so they are evenly thick.

Cook in hot oil until browned and crisp, 3–5 minutes per side. Drain latkes on a plate lined with a paper towel.

Recipe by Lindsay from allrecipes.com

Chanukah Star Challah

Ingredients

cup water
 eggs
 1-1/4 teaspoons salt
 tablespoons white sugar
 2-2/3 cups bread flour
 teaspoon active dry yeast
 egg yolk
 tablespoon water
 tablespoon sesame seeds, or more if desired

Directions

Place 1 cup of water, eggs, salt, sugar, bread flour, and yeast into the pan of a bread machine in the order

recommended by the manufacturer. Select the dough setting and start the machine.

When cycle is completed, remove dough from the machine, and set onto a floured work surface for 15 minutes to rest. Cover



dough with a towel or large bowl to prevent drying out.

Knead the dough several times and cut into 6 equal pieces. Roll each piece out into a rope about 10 inches long and 1 inch in diameter.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Lay 3 ropes of bread onto the prepared baking sheet, and pinch ropes together firmly at the ends to form a pointed triangle. Weave 3 more ropes over and underneath each point of the first triangle to make a second, interwoven triangle. Pinch it closed tightly at the edges to make a 6-pointed star. Set the baking sheet in a warm place, and allow to rise until doubled, 30–45 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Whisk egg yolk with 1 tablespoon of water and brush the mixture over the loaf; sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Bake in the preheated oven until the challah is shiny, golden brown, and sounds hollow when tapped, about 35 minutes.

Recipe by AMG from allrecipes.com

Dreidel-shaped Pizza

Materials

Pizza dough or Gefen Puff Pastry

Tuscanini Pizza Sauce

Cheese

Chanukah-shaped cookie cutters

It's dinner and an activity! Using the cookie cutters, cut the dough into Chanukah shapes. Set in front of the children and allow them to coat them each in sauce, cheese and whatever toppings you have. Bake the pizzas at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 25-20 minutes until bubbling.

Reprinted with permission from kosher.com



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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. 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:

Randi Fields (rfields@emanuelsf.org, x119) Senior Director of Membership & Engagement Operations

Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris (sparris@emanuelsf.org, x124) Director of Congregational Engagement Ariana Estoque (aestoque@emanuelsf.org, X111) Director of Member Experience

Leah Shapiro (Ishapiro@emanuelsf.org, x136) Senior Engagement Associate

Ann Jackson (ajackson@emanuelsf.org, X138) Membership & Engagement Assistant Georgina Garcia (ggarcia@emanuelsf.org, x0) Front Desk Officer

Rebecca Reiner (rreiner@emanuelsf.org, x170) Community Engagement Coordinator & Assistant to Rabbi Bauer

CONGREGANT GATHERINGS Weekday Activities at the Temple—choose one or more and participate!

Cooking for Congregants

Thursdays, December 5 and 12, 9:00 - 11:00 am, Emanu-El Kitchen

No charge.

Be one of two volunteers, under the guidance of former restaurant owner Gail Laghi and chef Sari Swig, helping to make meals for congregants in need. New participants are always welcome. Registration is



required on the Temple website by the Tuesday before cooking day. Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner at (415) 751-2534 x170.

Here's just one of many expressions of appreciation:

"Thank you so much. Sari just dropped off a week's worth of meals for my family and me. I can't tell you how surprised I am by this generosity. Please let the Cooking for Congregants team know that I am so grateful for this lovely gift. With lots of gratitude."

Volunteer slots are limited due to the layout of our kitchen, but you can still help by calling the Temple office if you learn of a congregant who is grieving or ill or has become a new parent. (By law, hospitals will not release patient information, so clergy and staff rely on YOU to enable us to reach out.)

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

Mondays, December 9, 10:00 am - noon, Room 53 No charge.

This is a great opportunity for self-reflection and the chance to tell your unique story while also getting to know other warm and wonderful members of our congregation. Join this friendly group that meets monthly to share stories on assigned themes. It's about the story, so no writing experience is necessary. New participants are always welcome! Online registration is required. For more information, contact the group facilitator Nancy Alpert, LCSW at nalpo@igc.org.

Scrabble

Mondays (except when the Temple is closed), 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, 5th floor

No charge; drop in.

Do you enjoy the challenge of putting letters together to form words? Join our 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. All ages and experience levels are invited!

Mah Jongg

Tuesdays (except when the Temple is closed), 1:30 – 4:30 pm, Rinder Chapel

No charge; drop in.

Join us for American Mah Jongg! Open to players at all levels — from beginner to expert — but you must have some knowledge of the game as there will be no teaching at this time. Please arrive in the first half-hour if you have any questions.

Bridge Club - Lessons and Game

Tuesdays, 10:00 am - noon, Rinder Chapel

Cost: \$20 for members; \$25 for friends of members

Drop in.

If you are beyond the level of novice, join this very popular and lively group for duplicate-style bridge. Play while improving your game. Certified bridge instructor and American Contract Bridge League champion Deborah Murphy is the instructor.

Baby and Toddler Groups Available! Bagels and Babies

Mondays and Fridays, 9:30 - 11:00 am, Martin Meyer Reception

Cost: FREE for members; \$10/session for non-members (first session free)

Drop in with your little

one (birth to 2 years) 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.

Side By Side

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Cost: \$360 for members; \$485 for non-members

Emanu-El's Side by Side program introduces our youngest children (18 months to 2.5 years) to a preschool environment with their parent or caregiver by their side. Our Side by Side program is rich in Jewish content, celebrating Jewish traditions and holidays. This program is a wonderful introduction to preschool that deepens relationships in our community and launches a meaningful beginning to the school experience for both parents and children.

There are two sessions per week for 8 weeks (16 total sessions). Register now for the winter 2019 program – contact Katie Saleh, Administrative



Coordinator, via email at KSaleh@emanuelsf.org

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Men's Group

Sunday, December 8, 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 cross-

generational group provides a small group experience so important to building community. This month, you will have the opportunity to study with Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer.

Men's Group events are congregant only and require registration. All events are from 9:30 to 11:30 am, unless otherwise noted. If you have questions, contact Rebecca Reiner at rreiner@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2534 x170.

Thanks to a donation from a member of the Men's Group, the majority of gatherings are now offered for free.

Interfaith Families — Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 3, 6:00 pm

It's time to dress up, stand out, and celebrate our diversity! There's no right or wrong way to celebrate the holidays, so why not have a little fun? Join our Interfaith Community for a potluck-style holiday party! Bring a food that reminds you of your fondest winter holiday memories. This event is open to the whole family – bring the kids! Childcare and a movie will be offered in a separate room so we can also have some adult time. We hope to see you there! Please RSVP for the address.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (cont'd.)



What is the Tzedek Council?

The 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.

Larkin Street Youth Services

Sponsor a Sunday night dinner for homeless youth: Cook, eat, and socialize with residents of G-House, a transitional housing program of Larkin Street Youth Services.

Dinners at G-House

Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

G-House, run by Larkin Street Youth Services, is a 20-bed housing program for San Francisco homeless young adults (ages 18-24) who are transitioning from adolescence to adulthood. G-House provides residents with tools to remove obstacles in their life that threaten a successful transition to independent living. Emanu-El has partnered with G-House to support the youth integrating into the community by bringing volunteers on Sunday evenings to cook, eat, and build meaningful relationships with the residents.

Congregants Filled the Room at Hamilton Families Benefit Honoring Rabbi Bauer!

Thank you to our Emanu-El members who attended the Hamilton Families Benefit at Bimbo's 365 Club to honor Rabbi Bauer in September. This award is a reflection of all the work Emanu-El has done over the past two years in building social justice programs that focus on reducing San Francisco's homeless population. With the presence and assistance of Emanu-El, Hamilton Families exceeded its



fundraising goal — a testament to what is possible when communities come together in efforts to better the world!

TODA RABA

Thank you to the more than 400 congregants who attended our "Homeless Crisis in San Francisco" Panel on Yom Kippur. It means a great deal that such a large part of our community chose to devote part of their Yom Kippur fast to focusing on repairing our broken world at this critical moment!

We also wish to acknowledge our guest speakers who so generously shared their expertise and personal experiences with us. It was an honor to hear you speak:

Larkin Street Youth Services

Sherilyn Adams, Executive Director Suzi Alexander, Board Chair Emanuel, current client

Homeless Prenatal Program

Martha Ryan, Founder & Executive Director Carrie, former client and now a staff member

City and County of San Francisco

Jeff Kositsky, Director of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (also an Emanu-El congregant) London Breed, Mayor



THANK YOU

We would like to thank the following people for their special participation at the High Holy Days:

Candle Lighters:

Donny Friend Ann Lazarus Mark Schlessinger Rita Semel Ben Spiro Leah Spiro Hal Stein Lisa Stern Gunda Trepp Becca Wolf

Honors:

Barrett Cohen Tria Cohen Ellen Fleishhacker William Fleishhacker Doug Goldman Jordan Hymowitz Adela Keleman Irina Kovriga Sasha Kovriga Maribelle Levitt Steve Levitt Helen Manber Gary Shapiro **Bradley Solomon** Valli Benesch Tandler **Bob Tandler** Sam Yolles

Teen High Holy Day Service Leaders:

Simon Aks Ava Becker Peri Charmatz Olivia Felson Lilah Ferris Maddie Garfinkle Jack Hochschild Denia Mittleman Mica Schillinger-Hyman Lilah Segal-Angel Raya Shveyd Sasha Steiner Will Sugar Lucy Ugar

Musicians/Singers/Torah Readers:

Dillan Arrick Anita Barzman **Davis Breitbard** Andy Colvin Brigitte DeMeyer Steven Dinkelspiel Larry Edelman Michael Edelman Lilah Ferris Don Friend Jason Friend Adela Keleman **Bernard Levin** Judith May **David Orleans** Sunny Orleans Pamela Rose Sam Spieth Zosha Sugarman **Bennett Wintroub** Paul Zarefsky

Sukkah Builders:

Dovid Coplon Mike Dans Eric Fastiff Tess Fastiff Lauren Fox Jaime Guzman Penny Mika Ina Pottorff Mark Rosen Andrea Rupprecht **Bill Rusitzky** Isabelle Rusitzky Leo Shvevd Scott Snow Sam Snow Yefim Sverbilov Fabian Vazquez

Ushers:

Ariel Abramsky Suzi Alexander Matthew Bertenthal Alvce Brown Charles Cirgenski Dana Corvin Alan Fisher Miriam Freedman **Robert Freedman** Paul Ginocchio Gabrielle Ginocchio **Frances Hurwitz** Larry Israel Marjory Kaplan Gail Laghi Karen Leigh Gershon Levinson Jean Levinson Sharon Miller Pamela Mishkin Barbara Moser Lisa Nahmanson **Roslyn Rhodes** Samantha Rhodes **Diane Scheiman** Stuart Scheinholtz Lisa Stern Tori Starks Gary Stolzoff Natalya Sverbilov Vefim Sverbilov

Gunda Trepp Rebecca Wolff

DONORS

Thank you to all of our donors. The following gifts were received from September 1, 2019 - September 30 2019

GENERAL FUND — used where the need is greatest at the Temple

Vladimir Adler

Susan Balin in observance of the Yahrzeit of Marty Balin

Shira Blatt

Jerome Braun

Victoria Dobbs in observance of the Yahrzeit of Stephen Dobbs

Steve Geiger

Jayde Inspektor

Margaret Jandl in memory of Jane Bryk

Robert & Sharon Krinsky

Paul & Arlene Leiber in observance of the Yahrzeit of Rose Holtz

Robert Rosner & Julie Goldman

Susan L Rothstein & John Koeppel in observance of the Yahrzeit of Sylvia Rothstein

Andrea Rupprecht

Henry & Carol Winetsky in observance of the Yahrzeit of Ruth Schutz

FLOWERS FOR THE BIMA

Lisa & Chris Babel in celebration of Noah Babel's Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & Mike Derrick in celebration of Nola's Bat Mitzvah

Rebecca & Phil Susser *in celebration of Leo's Bar Mitzvah*

CANTORS' MUSIC FUND — supports the Congregation's music programs and is used for charitable giving at the Cantors' discretion

Lisa & Chris Babel in celebration of Noah Babel's Bar Mitzvah

William M. Auslen & Ethena P. Auslen Trust in celebration of Michael Boussina's Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & Mike Derrick in celebration of Nola's Bat Mitzvah

Marsha Felton in observance of the Yahrzeit of Paul Mark Felton

Gary Grossman & Michelle Sintov in celebration of Julianne's Bat Mitzvah

Pamela Lyss-Lerman & Jason Lerman in celebration of Noah Lerman's Bar Mitzvah Andrea Rupprecht

Rebecca & Phil Susser *in celebration of Leo's Bar Mitzvah*

EMANU-EL COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND — promotes and supports social action and community service programs

Stella Daniels *in observance of the Yahrzeit of Louis Goldstein*

Stuart & Debra Eisendrath *in observance of the Yahrzeit of Steve Eisendrath*

James & Diana Rogers in observance of the Yahrzeit of Ernest S. Rogers

EMANU-EL LIFE-CYCLE FUND — enables all congregants to celebrate significant milestones, regardless of economic circumstances

Lisa & Chris Babel in celebration of Noah Babel's Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & Mike Derrick in celebration of Nola's Bat Mitzvah

Rebecca & Phil Susser *in celebration of Leo's Bar Mitzvah*

EMANU-EL PRESCHOOL FUND — provides scholarships and support for our Preschool

Caren Alpert

ONEG SHABBAT AND KIDDISH SPONSORSHIP FUND — provides for the weekly Shabbat Oneg, Kiddush, and other congregational receptions.

Lisa & Chris Babel in celebration of Noah Babel's Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & Mike Derrick in celebration of Nola's Bat Mitzvah

Gary Grossman & Michelle Sintov in celebration of Julianne's Bat Mitzvah

Pamela Lyss-Lerman & Jason Lerman in celebration of Noah Lerman's Bar Mitzvah

Eve Maremont

Rebecca & Phil Susser *in celebration of Leo's Bar Mitzvah*

Noah & Carey Wintroub in celebration of Bennett Grace Wintroub's Bat Mitzvah

RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND — used for charitable giving at the Rabbis' discretion

Lisa & Chris Babel in celebration of Noah Babel's Bar Mitzvah William M. Auslen & Ethena P. Auslen Trust in celebration of Michael Boussina's Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & Mike Derrick in celebration of Nola's Bat Mitzvah

Brenda Friedler in honor of Rabbi & Mrs. Stephen Pearce and Family

Brenda Friedler *in honor of Jim Sansone and Joe Martone's recovery from illness*

Brenda Friedler in honor of Gabby Cartliglia's recovery from illness

Nancy Fudem in observance of the Yahrzeit of Dr. Mark Miller

Pamela & Paul Ginocchio in memory of Lawrence J Ginocchio

Ann Goodman in honor of Rabbi Jonathan Singer

Gary Grossman & Michelle Sintov in celebration of Julianne's Bat Mitzvah Gabriel & Liz Kind in memory of Phyllis Kind

Pamela Lyss-Lerman & Jason Lerman in celebration of Noah Lerman's Bar Mitzvah

Rebecca & Phil Susser *in celebration of Leo's Bar Mitzvah*

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND — supports special programming and materials for the Youth and Family Education Program

Daniel & Alla Klionsky in observance of the Yahrzeit of Macia Feldman

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

William M. Auslen & Ethena P. Auslen Trust to support the Pre-School's Playball Program

Eric & Gayle Starr in honor of the LifeStream Program

Jewish Community Federation to support the Integrity First for America event

DEVELOPMENT_

Donate Online!

Making a contribution to Emanu-El is a meaningful way to honor friends and family while supporting the synagogue. Please visit our website (www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/), select "Donate Now or Annual Giving," and follow the steps to make a gift. You will receive an electronic confirmation, followed by an acknowledgment letter in the mail. If you need assistance, contact Shelby David in the Development Office at sdavid@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2541 ext. 177.

Appreciated Stock Gifts

Did you know that you could make charitable gifts — including your Emanu-El Membership Dues and Impact Fund gifts — by donating your appreciated stock? This is a great way to avoid capital gains taxes while supporting the Congregation.

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 aware of your stock gift before it is transferred so your donation can be tracked and appropriately directed as you wish. Email Shelby David at sdavid@emanuelsf.org or call (415) 751-2541 ext. 177

Corporate Matching

Many Bay Area companies 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.

YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION (YFE) The Short and Long of Things



was recently sitting in Guild Hall for a Saturday morning learning service with 75 6th graders and their parents when a student had a question for Rabbi Rodich: "Why should we bother learning Hebrew if hardly anyone speaks it anyways?" Parents quietly laughed under their breaths at the direct question, but the Rabbi smiled widely. The short answer could be that, in fact, about 9 million people worldwide speak modern Hebrew

proficiently. And while you could travel to Israel and get by in English, the depth of your experience and connections would be limited. Hebrew is the language of Israel, both the country and the Jewish people around the world.

When I was in college studying abroad in France, I traveled to the new Czech Republic and visited a synagogue where I was quickly welcomed by a man speaking in the Czech language. I shook my head and asked "English?" He shook his head and asked, "Deutsch?" Again, I shook my head and tried, "Français?" The game was getting old at this point as we were losing on both sides. But when I offered "Ivrit? Hebrew?," his eyes lit up and he smiled. A connection! Across miles, generations, and nationalities, we had found a starting place.

A Rabbi had once theorized with me that if we taught only the Hebrew language to YFE students, everything else would follow: an understanding of blessings and services, direct access to the Torah as a primary text, and cultural words that have no real translation (think "shofar", "Shabbat", "lulav, and "chutzpah"). Though we cannot learn an entire language in a couple hours a week, I find the 6th-grader's question inspiring in a larger sense. Instead of "Why bother learning Hebrew?," I hear "Why bother being Jewish?" And for this existential question (for each Jew as well as our people), I offer four answers (to start with):

1. Know Where You Come From

So much of our unconscious lives comes from our history. This includes the foods we eat, our common names, our sense of humor, values, mannerisms, and on and on. These get passed on from generation to generation without schools or classes. Judaism is sometimes described as a civilization, not just a religion. And often, when you meet a stranger who is Jewish, even from another country or culture, there can be that familiarity and recognition. Knowing where you come from is important for selfawareness, pride, community, and being a part of a multicultural society like America.

2. Wherever You Go, There's Always Someone Jewish

More than a lyric from a children's song you may remember, it is pretty true. Like when I was trekking in the mountains of Nepal and came upon a group of Israelis on their gap year, it can be a magical connection. And while I had met, befriended, and traveled with many people from all parts of the world on that trip, even I was surprised at the difference it made to run into new Jewish friends. We really do belong to a larger mishpacha (family) which can prove as joyful, and sometimes as frustrating, as our actual families. This connection is not grounded in genetics, but rather in a shared cultural continuity of language, traditions, values, and history... that is, if we know them.

3. AntiSemitism

Throughout history and even today, whether or not we practice, celebrate, or identify as Jewish, there will be others who see us exclusively that way. In such cases, we don't always get to choose how we are identified or labeled. But having a strong community, pride, and understanding of what has come before prepares us to defy prejudice, discrimination, and hatred.

4. There Comes a Time

Life milestones can both uplift and challenge us. From making a life commitment to a partner, to the birth of a new baby, to losing a loved one, these moments inherently feel bigger than ourselves. Traditions and practices help us process these peak experiences, grasp universal mysteries, and survive tragedy. Belonging to a community with shared values and traditions makes all the difference. And in these moments, even if we have not felt "observant" before, most feel comfort, joy, peace, and even transcendence in these communal traditions that wouldn't be available to us otherwise. But if we wait until these moments to learn the words or connect to community, their power is significantly diminished. Jewish knowledge, experience, community, and identity have the power to enhance and support us in the everyday routine and in life's peaks and valleys.

Back to my Saturday morning with the 6th grade, after our morning service, we cleared away all the chairs and dove into a "Values Fair" activity in which family groups had to make tough choices between all of their wants and needs while operating on a limited budget. We found that more intangible things (such as community, learning, identity, faith) only grow in value based on what we invest in them (time, intention, energy, resources). Like a soul savings account, what we put into them today (or put in for our children) will bear fruit in the future.

This is why Emanu-El prioritizes its education programs. This is why parents get kids dressed and out of the house on Sunday mornings. This is why teachers, who have full-time Monday-to-Friday jobs, come to teach on their days off. This is why I smile when students ask "Why?!", generation after generation. And this is why we bother.

Lom Friedman Director of Education



Gratitude

November 4, 2019

Emanu-El,

Please accept our deepest gratitude to you and everyone at Congregation Emanu-El for helping to make sure that everyone in our community has enough to eat!

We deeply appreciate your generous contributions to the JFCS Food Bank during the 5780 High Holidays. Your gifts were part of an outpouring of support from the Jewish community that filled our food bank shelves in all five of JFCS' service regions. This year, we received more than 75 barrels' worth of food from across the regions. With each barrel weighing around 125 pounds, that's **9,375** pounds of food!

Seniors and persons with disabilities on fixed incomes, young families struggling to make ends meet, individuals overwhelmed by temporary financial setbacks, all visit our food bank on a weekly basis. Thanks to you, we can help to meet their basic needs, so they can face life's challenges with strength and hope.

Thank you so much for your support of members of the JFCS community!

Your friends and partners at JFCS



LIFE-CYCLES

Mazel Tov Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

Jennifer Ehrlich and Alex Simon on the birth of their son, Simon Zade Cohen

Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

Gregg Lynn on the death of his nephew, Joshua Charles Assor

Judith Williams on the death of her husband, Jennifer Williams and Anne Quaintance (Tim) on the death of their father, and Paige Quaintance on the death of her grandfather, Robert Williams

Dr. Vanessa Jacoby (Dr. Alison) on the death of her father, and **Scott Jacoby** and **Theo Jacoby** on the death of their grandfather, Larry Teplin

Anna Kovinsky (Michael) on the death of her grandmother, and Rosie Kovinsky and Tessa Kovinsky on the death of their great-grandmother, Zora Elka Gropper

Janis Radar on the death of her mother, and Stephanie Strick on the death of her grandmother, Natalie Rader

Laurie Green on the death of her mother, Tim Campbell (Barbara Eisler-Campbell) on the death of his mother-inlaw, and Reed Campbell on the death of his grandmother, **Dorothee Eisler**

Congratulations to Our Members on Their Achievements

J**oseph Glass** on being nominated to the Union for Reform Judaism National Board as an At-Large Trustee

REMINDER: Please bring your Chanukiot and candles to light at our Shabbat Chanukah service beginning at 6:00 pm on Friday night, December 27 in the Martin Meyer Sanctuary. Don't forget to register for the Chanukah Shabbat dinner that same evening. Shabbat services will be held on December 28 at 10:30 am.

Temple offices will be closed beginning December 24 through January 1.

New Members

Mr. Alec Arbit Doralice Bibas Mr. Ellie Bibas Mrs. Marilyn Brenner Mr. Vincent Celli Mrs. Alana Cree Mr. Peter Friedland Mrs. Heather Friedland Benjamin Friedland Lily Friedland Ms. Gwendolyn Litvak Ms. Briana Quindazzi Mr. Levin Weinstein

Rejoined Members

Ms. Amy Curcio Ms. Julia Kaplan Mr. Francisco Melli-Huber Mr. Jeffrey Osofsky Tyler Osofsky

> r er g. 0:30 am. 24

B'NEI MITZVAH

Samuel Bowen

December 21, 2019

Bar Mitzvah:

Parents:

Lauren and

Vaveshev

David Bowen

Torah Portion:

Eliana Bailin

Bat Mitzvah:





Parents: Andrew and Lauren Kowal

Torah Portion: Vavetze

Rachel Rosenzweig

and Carl Rosenzweig



Bat Mitzvah: December 7, 2019 Parents: Frances Wittman-Rosenzweig

Torah Portion: Vayetze



Nathan Fell Bar Mitzvah:

Parents: Alexandra and Samuel Fell

Torah Portion: Mikketz



Parents: Dave Thau and Kirsten Menger-Anderson

Torah Portion: Vavishlah



Bring Smiles To Elder Congregants Celebrating a Birthday Milestone!

The Torah considers old age a virtue and a blessing. Throughout the Torah, "old" (zakein) is synonymous with "wise"; the Torah commands us to respect all elderly because the experiences that come with each additional year of life bring a wisdom which is unlike any other.

In embracing this belief, we are looking for caring volunteers who can send handwritten birthday cards to fellow congregants who are celebrating a birthday of 85 years old or older. Each volunteer sends about 6 cards per month, and we supply the cards and envelopes. If you are interested in this very special at-home volunteer opportunity, please email Georgina Garcia at ggarcia@emanuelsf.org.





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

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, Senior Associate Rabbi

Ryan Bauer, Senior Associate 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 Emanu-El Scholar and Rabbi Emeritus

Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, Emanu-El Scholar

David N. Goldman, *Executive Director and General Counsel*

Members of the Board of Directors

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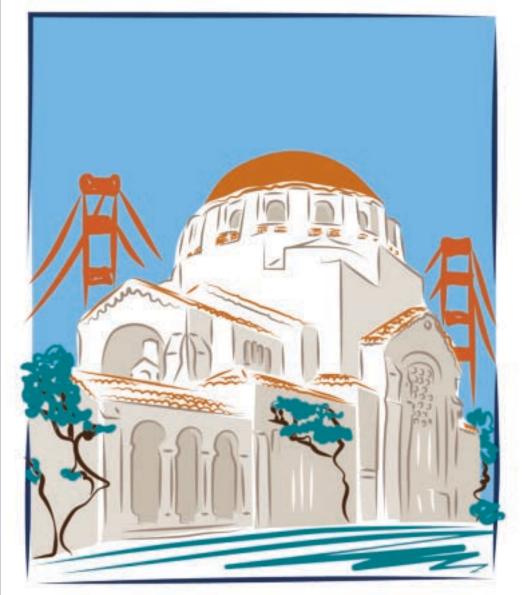
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The Temple Chronicle (USPS 023-317) is published monthly except June and July for \$36 per year by The Congregation Emanu-El, Two Lake Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Francisco, CA, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Temple Chronicle at Congregation Emanu-El, Two Lake Street, San Francisco, CA 94118.



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