

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

CHRONICLE VOLUME CLXXII, NO. 24 | JANUARY 2020 | 4 TEVET - 5 SH'VAT 5780



January 17 - **MLK Pulpit Exchange**  
January 19 - **Sunday Morning Service**  
January 20 - **City-wide MLK March**

Remembering the beginning of slavery 400 years ago, and honoring the perseverance and courage of African Americans as we stand together in hope.



## World Zionist Congress Elections

JANUARY 21 - MARCH 11

# SAVE THE DATE

## Entrepreneurial Chutzpah

**Wednesday, February 12, 7:00 pm**

The Israeli innovation ecosystem has given rise to a unique environment, within which the Israeli entrepreneur flourishes and thrives. With a population of just 8 million, Israel has the highest concentration of startups per capita worldwide, and is raising generations of entrepreneurs who are disrupting markets around the globe and bringing change to the world.

Come hear from three leading Israeli pioneers—

Shani Yossefon, Business Affairs and Investor Relations Director, Assaf Wand of Hippo Insurance, and Yonatan Weintraub of Spacell—who, together, are reshaping industries and rewriting the rules.



Assaf Wand  
Hippo Insurance

Yonatan Weintraub  
Spacell

Shani Yossefon  
Business Affairs and  
Investor Relations Director

## Aaron David Miller

**Sunday, April 19, 3:00 pm**

Aaron David Miller, former U.S. State Department Middle East Negotiator and Woodrow Wilson Scholar, will speak on the role of the United States in the Middle East. Aaron David Miller, a Global Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center, is among America's foremost experts on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and U.S. policy in the Middle East. A former adviser to six secretaries of state (George Schultz to Colin Powell), he helped shape America's policy in the region for more than two decades. He is the author of five books, including the national best seller *"The Much Too Promised Land: America's Elusive Search for Arab-Israeli Peace,"* and most recently, *"The End of Greatness: Why America Can't Have (and Doesn't Want) Another Great President."*



## Shabbat Calendar JANUARY

### Friday, January 3

5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five Service

(*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service

(*Main Sanctuary*)

### Saturday, January 4

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service

(*Main Sanctuary*)

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service

(*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

### Friday, January 10

6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service

(*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

8:30 pm, Young Adult Late Shabbat Service

(*Main Sanctuary*)

### Saturday, January 11

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service

(*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

### Friday, January 17

7:00 pm, Martin Luther King Shabbat Service

(*Main Sanctuary*)

please note start time for this service

### Saturday, January 18

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

### Friday, January 24

6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service

(*Martin Meyer Sanctuary*)

### Saturday, January 25

10:00 am, Saturday Morning Young Families Service

(*Chapel*)

10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service

(*Main Sanctuary*)

## 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](mailto:sleykin@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2541 x123.



# SHALOM RAV FROM OUR RABBI

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer

Between January 21 and March 11, I'm asking you to do something that will have a powerful impact in making Israel a place for ALL expressions of Judaism, whether Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform. What I'm asking is that you click on the link in an email we'll be sending out later this month and VOTE for the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) slate to attend the World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem this October. Voting for the ARZA slate will take less than 10 minutes of your time, and an expenditure of only \$7.50. And by the way, the slate includes your two Senior Rabbis!

Rabbis throughout the U.S. are working toward a goal of 50,000+ American Jewish community votes for the ARZA slate. Why? First, earning over 50,000 votes will ensure funding for Reform and other pluralistic Israeli organizations. And second, it will give Israeli Reform Jews a voice and a place at the decision-making table alongside our Orthodox brothers and sisters. At Emanu-El, our audacious goal is 500 to 1,000 votes—so please VOTE ARZA, and ask all of your congregant friends to VOTE ARZA, either via the email voting link or at the Temple between January 21 and March 11.

Let me tell you why this is so important to me...

All Reform rabbinical students spend their first year of study in Israel. It's an intense, and intensive, experience—living in a Jerusalem neighborhood apartment; shopping at the local market; finding a synagogue; and studying both biblical and modern Hebrew, dikduk (grammar), biblical archeology, and a host of other rabbinical subjects. Jonathan and I spent our Israel year of 1983 living in the Moshava Germanit (German Colony) neighborhood and attending a very small variety of beleaguered Reform communities on Shabbat; the Israeli government only provided funding for Orthodox institutions, so it was difficult for Reform Judaism to flourish. The widespread belief in Israel was that you could be Orthodox, secular, or nothing. There are historic and political reasons for this situation, dating back to the founding of the state, but believe me when I tell you that growing Reform Judaism in Israel was like trying to raise sweet corn on a bed of concrete. The environment was that inhospitable! Jonathan and I were so taken with our time in

Israel that we briefly considered making aliyah and moving permanently to either Jerusalem or Tel Aviv. However, we came to the realization that, while America allows Jews to be any kind of Jews we choose to be, in the Jewish homeland, it would have been extremely difficult to be a Reform Rabbi.

While I have no regrets about our decision to serve the American Jewish community, I am proud to tell you that, in spite of the ongoing efforts of some to expunge Reform Judaism, the Reform movement in Israel continues to grow. It's still small as there remains a concerted effort by the Orthodox rabbinate to suppress it. But recent studies show that 15 percent of all Israelis identify more closely with Reform Judaism than with any other religious branch, or even as secular. There are now Reform and Conservative synagogues and Jewish communities all over Israel, and organizations like the Israel Religious Action Center fight for the rights of ALL Jews to have a place in Israel.

The potential for Reform Judaism to flourish as a supported option among many is exciting. The fact that each member of our congregation can do this one thing to make a perceptible difference is heartening. Please be in touch with Rabbi Jonathan or myself if you would like to work with our Emanu-El team to really get out the ARZA vote. We believe that Congregation Emanu-El can make a difference!



JANUARY **21** – MARCH **11**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Annual MLK Pulpit Exchange Weekend

***Third Baptist Church/Congregation Emanu-El Interfaith Services  
Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.***

### **Pre-Oneg Festive Light Supper**

*Friday, January 17, 6:00 pm, Main Sanctuary Foyer*

### **MLK Commemoration Service**

*Friday, January 17, 7:00 pm, Main Sanctuary*

### **Sunday Morning Service**

*Sunday, January 19, 10:00 am, Third Baptist Church,  
1399 McAllister Street (at Pierce)*

Our annual pulpit exchange events will begin on Friday evening with a pre-oneg festive light supper, followed by the Shabbat service. The Third Baptist Church choir will join with our cantors and their ensemble, and Reverend Amos Brown will deliver that evening's sermon.

On Sunday, Congregation Emanu-El members will visit Third Baptist Church to take part in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday morning service, followed by a celebratory lunch. Rabbi Beth Singer will deliver the morning sermon and Cantor Marsha Attie will participate with a song.

### **City-wide MLK March**

*Monday, January 20, 10:00 am, Caltrain Station, 700 4th Street, San Francisco*

Join our Emanu-El clergy and the Black-Jewish Unity Group as we march in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. The 1.5-mile march will begin at the Caltrain station at 4th Street & Townsend. Please arrive by 10:00 am to walk with faith leaders at the front of the march. For the latest updates, please visit [www.sfmlday.org](http://www.sfmlday.org).



# Artist-In-Residence

## Rick Lupert

January 10-12

Our artist-in-residence extraordinaire—nationally acclaimed Jewish spoken word artist Rick Lupert—will perform at our Friday evening services on January 10. Rick will also lead us in a musical poetry jam Havdalah the following evening, and will round out the weekend by performing and teaching at our Sunday morning Hebrew school. **Please register at [emanuelsf.org](https://emanuelsf.org)**

*Rick Lupert's appearance is being sponsored by the Ingrid D. Tauber Fund.*



## What does Emanu-El mean to you?

The Emanu-El Membership Committee is undertaking a project to articulate the meaning of membership to Emanu-El congregants. We are seeking a diverse group of congregant volunteers to take part in this effort, beginning in early 2020. The Membership Committee will convene a series of discussions about the meaning of membership, culminating in a set of messages for use in Emanu-El's various public channels (e.g., brochures, website, social media, talking points). Volunteers may also be asked to provide feedback on written products. The time commitment will be no more than 8 to 12 hours spread out over the course of several months. Input gathered through this process will also be used to shape outreach and member engagement efforts in 2020 and beyond.

We welcome all members' thoughts and experiences as part of this process.

If you are interested in volunteering to participate in this project, please send a brief paragraph describing your interest and noting which Emanu-El communities (e.g., LGBTQ, preschool parent, retired, young adult) you are a part of. Please submit your statement via email to **[membership@emanuelsf.org](mailto:membership@emanuelsf.org)** no later than January 24, 2020. And please let us know if you have any questions or feedback.

Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts about what Emanu-El means to you!





## The World Zionist Congress Elections January 21 – March 11

### Interviews with our Congregational Captains, Kimberly Sanner and Aaron Tartakovsky!

The World Zionist Congress (WZC) holds elections every five years, and the 2020 election marks a pivotal moment for Reform Jews across the world. The WZC consists of 500 delegates who meet in Jerusalem to exert their influence on Israeli society and the global Jewish agenda; this includes the allocation of financial resources to various organizations, among them the Reform Movement in Israel. Our Senior Rabbis Beth and Jonathan Singer are the National Rabbinic Chairs of this year's campaign.

In this issue, we feature insights into this year's election from our two local Congregational Captains, Aaron Tartakovsky and Kimberly Sanner. Aaron and Kimberly are helping to get the vote out, and are representing the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) slate.

Between January 21 and March 11, we urge you to vote to help fund the Reform Movement in Israel. You can register during the voting period, at [tinyurl.com/zionistcongresselection](https://tinyurl.com/zionistcongresselection). Now enjoy our interviews with Kimberly and Aaron!

Byron Gordon/Communications

### Kimberly Sanner

#### Why are you volunteering to be a Congregational Captain for this year's WZC elections?

Rabbi Jonathan, Aaron Tartakovsky, and I have worked together on prior Israel-related initiatives at the Temple and within our broader communities. I value their passion, knowledge, and teamwork, and wouldn't turn down a chance to lead this initiative at the Temple alongside them. Also, when your Senior Rabbi asks for your help, you say yes, right?



#### Why is this election important to you?

I think it is critical that our community lend its voice in support of our shared values of equality, pluralism, and tolerance to the conversation in Israel. Voting in the WZC elections is the only democratic opportunity we have to do so as American Jews. And elections only happen once every five years.

#### Many American Reform Jews probably have no idea just how much money the Israeli government provides the Orthodox and Haredi institutions in Israel (\$1.1 billion, at last count). Thanks to a robust turnout in the 2015 elections, American Reform Jews were able to help send more than \$4 million a year to the Israeli Reform movement. Can you share more about this progress?

Yes, the amount of money the Israeli government provides to the Orthodox and Haredi institutions in Israel is staggering. But thanks to robust votes for the Reform slate in the last WZC election, our movement gained the largest number of seats allocated to North American Jews in the WZC. That success allowed us to ensure that \$20 million of the financial support went to our Reform movement in Israel over the past five years. We were able to appoint leaders within critical Israeli national institutions, including the Jewish Agency and Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael—Jewish

National Fund, to help implement the Reform Jewish values of equality and pluralism. Our slate joined forces with the Meretz and Labor political parties to influence Israeli society in matters of conversion, marriage and divorce, religious pluralism, gender rights, and combatting racism. There's so much more to be done on all of these fraught issues. Ensuring our continued representation, and allocation of resources, is critical.

#### There are American Jews, especially younger American Jews, who would say, Israel is Israel's problem. We have our own. What do you say to that?

I say this is shortsighted. There is a story in the Midrash that, to me, helps illustrate why: In the time of King Solomon, the story goes, there lived a man with two heads. The man fathered seven children, one of whom had two heads, like himself. When the father died, the son with two heads came before King Solomon demanding a double portion of the father's inheritance. King Solomon approached the son, covered one head, and poured hot water on the other. "Ouch!" both heads cried out. From this, King Solomon concluded that they were, in fact, one.

I view the connection between Jews in Israel and Jews in the Diaspora in much the same way. We are connected. We are one people. I care about our Jewish family and feel it is important to engage across geographical and political divides. Voting for our Reform values in the WZC elections is a very simple way to positively engage.

#### What do you most hope for in the 2020 WZC election?

I hope that ALL Reform Jews will stand up and be counted. And as a member of one of the most vibrant and diverse Reform congregations in the nation, I hope that our collective voice as a community at Congregation Emanu-El is decisive. Voting is quick and easy—you can do it online in under two minutes. You can vote at home or at voting booths you'll see set up around the Temple. Wherever you choose to do it, VOTE!

## Aaron Tartakovsky

### Why are you volunteering to be a Congregational Captain for this year's WZC elections?

A deep connection to Israel has always been a central part of my Jewish identity.

I come from a family of proud Zionists. My grandfather Joseph was born in pre-Holocaust Poland, and as a teenager had been an active member of a youth Zionist organization in the 1930s. Being a part of this election effort makes me feel that I am in some small way continuing the work that my grandfather started almost 100 years ago.

Now of course, there is an additional reason I volunteered: When Rabbi Jonathan Singer calls and asks you to help, that means it's important and you have to say "yes!"

### It seems the gulf or divide between Israeli Jews and American Jews is wider than ever. It almost transcends politics. While American Jews can vote in these elections, what gives you hope that this bridge can be repaired?

There have always been tensions and differences between Jews in different countries, and specifically between American Jews and Israeli Jews. That rift seems to be deepening, especially generationally, in these times. Many younger American Jews feel distant from Israel while, at the same time, many like me are proud to be Jewish and connected to Israel. Our work is to inspire all generations, especially millennials and younger Jews, to find meaning in getting involved with the Jewish people at home and abroad.

But we should remember one thing: In the end, and despite our differences, all Jews around the world need to understand that our individual fates as a Jewish people are linked to our collective fate. When rockets fall on southern Israel or a synagogue is attacked in Pittsburgh, Jews around the world feel a shared sense of pain, irrespective of how they feel about the internal politics or policies of any one government or administration.



Our shared story, our shared history, and our shared connection to our Torah and the values it stands for will continue to stitch our worlds together. This has been true for thousands of years. This connectedness, however, will not happen easily without good leadership that helps us remember that we are one people, one family, and we strengthen each other.

### What do you see as core issues that American Reform Jews care most about in Israel? For example, the Orthodox Rabbinate still has exclusive control over marriage between Jews in Israel. The progressive movements in Israel still struggle for access to the Kotel, such as the ongoing challenges faced by the Women of the Wall to pray at the Western Wall. The Israeli government funds religious educational programming, but historically has denied such funding to Reform and/or progressive movements.

Religious pluralism in Israel is a critical struggle internally among Israelis, too, as well as between American Reform Jews and some of the key decision makers in Israel. This is the struggle of our time and one that is a high priority for the WZC. We have many allies in this movement for religious pluralism, and it is a struggle we will win—if all of us speak up and exercise our voices and our votes.

### Professor Daniel Elazar, founder of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, argues that public attitude, not government policy, is the main obstacle to the Reform and liberal movements' success in Israel. You agree? Do you see public attitudes changing in Israel towards progressive Judaism?

I believe the majority of Israelis want there to be less control from the Orthodox Rabbinate over their personal lives. There are more and more organizations and educational programs and new synagogues that support pluralism. Much data supports this view, too, which is why I am very optimistic and why I decided to volunteer to be a Congressional Captain. All Jews should be free to be whatever kind of Jew they want to be—in America, in Israel, and around the world!

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

### *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](http://ARZA.org)

☒ VOTE REFORM  
#VoteReformWZC



☒ Vote Reform  
World Zionist Congress Elections | January 21-March 11, 2020 | [ARZA.org](http://ARZA.org)



# 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](mailto:rfields@emanuelsf.org), x119)

*Senior Director of Membership and Engagement Operations*

**Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris**

([sparris@emanuelsf.org](mailto:sparris@emanuelsf.org), x124)

*Director of Congregational Engagement*

**Ariana Estoque**

([aestoque@emanuelsf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelsf.org), X111)

*Director of Member Experience*

**Leah Shapiro**

([ls Shapiro@emanuelsf.org](mailto:ls Shapiro@emanuelsf.org), x136)

*Senior Engagement Associate*

**Georgina Garcia**

([ggarcia@emanuelsf.org](mailto:ggarcia@emanuelsf.org), x0)

*Front Desk Officer*

**Ann Jackson**

([ajackson@emanuelsf.org](mailto:ajackson@emanuelsf.org), X138)

*Membership and Engagement Assistant*

**Rebecca Reiner**

([rreiner@emanuelsf.org](mailto: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, January 9 and 23,  
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, 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](mailto: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!

#### Bridge Club—Lessons and Game

**Tuesdays, January 14 and 28, 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.

*Save the following dates for Bridge Club in 2020:*

*February 11 & 25; March 10 & 24; April 14 & 28; May 12 & 26; and June 9.*



## COMMUNITY GROUPS

### The Tribe for Women and The Tribe For Men

*Winter Interfaith Shelter Dinners at  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church*

#### The Tribe for Women

*Tuesday, January 21, 5:00 – 8:30 pm*

Volunteer to cook during our winter Interfaith Shelter Dinners! The Tribe for Women joins in this annual mitzvah of feeding homeless men. Watch for online registration.

#### The Tribe for Men

*Wednesday, January 22, 5:00 pm*

Join your fellow Tribesmen for our yearly mitzvah of serving a hearty dinner to over 100 homeless men. This is a special night, where giving a smile along with a full plate of food allows us to pray with our feet. And once we have fed the hungry, as our Tribe tradition goes, we will then convene for a special dinner of our own (details provided upon online registration).

### Interfaith Community— Winter Interfaith Shelter Dinner

*Monday, January 27, 5:00 pm*

We invite you to volunteer to cook and serve dinner with other interfaith members and families of Congregation Emanu-El. You will meet at St. Mark's Lutheran Church for the evening. Register online.

### Men's Group

*Sunday, January 26,  
9:30 – 11:30 am, location TBD*

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 [reiner@emanuelsf.org](mailto:reiner@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.*



### Young Families: Saturday Morning Kids Shabbat Service

*Saturday, January 25, 10:00 – 11:30 am*

Please join us for a Saturday Morning Kids Shabbat service, led by Jonathan Bayer, for families with children ages 5 and under! Please register.

### Side By Side

*Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
9:30 – 11:30 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 2020 program by contacting Katie Saleh, Administrative Coordinator, via email at [KSaleh@emanuelsf.org](mailto:KSaleh@emanuelsf.org)!



### Baby Group 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.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT *(cont'd.)*

## TZEDEK COUNCIL

### Larkin Street Youth Services

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



### Dinners at Geary House

**Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00 pm**

Geary 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. Geary House provides residents with tools to remove obstacles in their life that threaten a successful transition to independent living. Emanu-El has partnered with Geary 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.



### San Francisco Interfaith Winter Shelter

**January 21–28 (details provided below).**

Since 1988, the San Francisco Interfaith Council, Episcopal Community Services, and San Francisco Human Services Agency have partnered to operate the San Francisco Interfaith Winter Shelter. Designed to augment existing shelter opportunities during the coldest months of the year (the Sunday before Thanksgiving through the end of February), the Interfaith Winter Shelter provides breakfast and dinner, as well as a safe and warm place for up to 100 homeless men to sleep each night. The Interfaith Winter Shelter rotates locations, and is hosted by four congregations: St. Boniface Catholic Church; St. Mary's Cathedral; St. Mark's Lutheran Church; and First Unitarian Universalist Society. Each year, a large networking effort takes place with local faith communities to open their spaces and their hearts. Congregation Emanu-El has been an enthusiastic partner in this venture for over a decade. Each year, our dedicated congregants volunteer over the course of eight consecutive days to provide a warm meal to homeless men in San Francisco at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

Please see the list below to see which evening fits best with your demographic:

- **Tuesday, January 21:**  
Tribe for Women (mothers w/ children of all ages)
- **Wednesday, January 22:**  
Tribe for Men (dads ages 30–50 w/ children ages 0–12)
- **Thursday, January 23:**  
Congregant Night 1 (at capacity)
- **Friday, January 24:**  
Adolescent Education (contact Tori)
- **Saturday, January 25:**  
Congregant Night 2 (at capacity)
- **Sunday, January 26:**  
Tzedek Council (Social Justice Committee)
- **Monday, January 27:**  
Interfaith (members that identify as interfaith)
- **Tuesday, January 28:**  
Young Adults (congregants in their 20s & 30s)

# YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION (YFE)

When we think of a child's growth, we can mean both their body (skeleton, skin, muscles, etc.) and their personhood (character, knowledge, preferences, and behaviors). In YFE, we also think about our children in terms of physical/emotional safety, as well as Jewish identity, values, and literacy. Similarly, we are always working to evolve and improve our program curriculum along with our systems and infrastructure. All are important to the quality of the whole family experience.

Regarding infrastructure, I hope you have noticed some of the important changes we have already achieved—including our new Marin Hebrew classrooms; Parents' Place café on Sunday mornings in the Main Foyer; new Sunday security protocols; more computers for 5th grade classes; streamlined updates to our web pages; parent orientations; expanded teacher communications; and a simplified financial aid process. There is even more growth going on behind the scenes that keeps everything running smoothly and flexibly as we expand!

Our next great leap forward will focus on programmatic designs. A first phase has already begun, including our 5th-grade specialty track, diversified 6th-grade family programs, a new 3rd-grade Jewish Life Cycles curriculum (starting in January), a completely redesigned teacher training, and enhanced activity resources. As we move into the next phase, we are restructuring our YFE department leadership to bring on more changes more quickly and help families direct any inquiries most efficiently.

As Director of Education, I am very excited to principally focus on rewriting our curriculum for all grades, initially centering on elementary school grades. This grand task also incorporates my passion for teacher development, providing both new resources and training, so they are equipped and supported to implement new programs. Flora Kupferman is being promoted to the position of YFE Administrative Director. In addition to her current role in the school, she will now be responsible for the administrative functions—including communications, facilities, security, dismissal, and all aspects of the school that make the programs run smoothly.

This is another great step in our holistic work to make Emanu-El's educational experiences top quality, innovative, and a national model of excellence. Thank you for being on this journey with us, and we look forward to great things to come!

Lom Friedman  
Director of Education





# 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—covering political, social, economic, and religious topics. Our Israel Action Committee is committed to creating an atmosphere in which our members can engage passionately and respectfully about their views, perspectives, hopes, and dreams for the State of Israel.



**Israel's National Security Challenges  
A Briefing on New Defense Technologies,  
including Iron Dome from the former head  
of Israel's National Security Council**

**Brigadier General (Res.)  
Professor Jacob Nagel**

**Tuesday, January 14**

**6:30 - 8:30 pm**

**Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
(Free to attend but please register)**

As an expert in defensive technologies, Professor Nagel has been appointed to head the Technion Center for Security Science and Technology (CSST), and its Peter Munk Research Institute. Prof. Jacob held various positions at Israel's Ministry of Defense, Directorate of Defense Research and Development, including the head of military R&D (acting). As the Directorate's Scientific Deputy, he headed the so-called "Nagel Committee," which was responsible for Israel's decision to develop the Iron Dome as the nation's short-range defense system. The Israel Defense Forces have said its Iron Dome antimissile system was 86% effective during a Hamas bombardment of 690 rockets back in May of 2019. Israel is the first country in the world to deploy an operational anti-rocket system to protect the civilian population.

- Brig. Gen. (Res.) Jacob Nagel is a visiting professor at the Technion Aerospace Engineering Faculty. Nagel was a career Israeli civil servant official (IDF, Defense Ministry, and Prime Minister's Office) for more than 40 years.
- From January 2016 to May 2017, Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nagel served as the head of Israel's National Security Council (NSC) and as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's National Security Advisor (acting). He led the negotiations and signed the agreement for \$38 billion dollar in military aid to Israel from 2018 to 2027.
- From May 2011 to December 2015, Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nagel headed the Strategic and Defense Policy Directorate at Israel's NSC, where he led the Israeli experts team working with the countries that negotiated the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal.

**Register: <https://www.emanuelsf.org>**

**For further information, please contact Ariana Estoque: [aestoque@emanuelsf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelsf.org)**

*This event is cosponsored by The American Technion Society*



**AMERICAN  
TECHNION  
SOCIETY**

## Emanu-El Plein Air Painters

Led by Emanu-El Scholar, Rabbi Lawrence Kushner



For the past several years, Rabbi Kushner has become a serious oil painter. He has been painting outdoors in what the French Impressionists called “en plein air,” a method that dramatically improves an artist’s vision, technique, and focus. Because light and shadows are continuously in motion, with plein air painting, you only get a few hours before everything changes. This means you must learn

how to see what is literally before you and paint it with speed and concentration. Rabbi Kushner finds plein air painting very meditative, even spiritual. If you are a plein air artist, or an aspiring one, and would like to paint outdoors with like-minded oil painters in this exhilarating aesthetic practice, please read on.

The plein air painters group will meet biweekly, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, at various Bay Area parks and other scenic locales with convenient (ample and longer than 2 hour) parking available. **Please join our kick-off (non-painting) meeting at 7:00 pm on January 7 to discuss potential goals and direction, and, for plein air newbies, recommendations on equipment and materials.**

If you’re interested in joining this group or simply want to learn more about it, please contact Ariana Estoque at [aestoque@emanuelsf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelsf.org).



## 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 1-hour text study and discussion around a topic of their choice. Just drop in and enjoy!

### Brown Bag

Wednesday, January 8, noon – 1:00 pm,  
Emanu-El  
4th Floor Library

### Limonata and Learning

Wednesday, January 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm,  
Book Passage,  
51 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera



# LIFE-CYCLES

## Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

**Stephanie Scott** on the death of her husband, **Ariana Estoque (Marc)** on the death on her father, and **Calen, Ever, and Ellery Estoque** on the death of their grandfather, William "Bill" Martin Scott

**Brian Perlman (Karen)** on the death of his mother, and **Olivia and Anna Perlman** on the death of their grandmother, Bernice Perlman

**Amy Alterman** on the death of her mother, Joan Alterman

**Matthew Barkoff (Britton)** on the death of his stepfather, and **Jonah and Mia Barkoff** on the death of their step-grandfather, Morton Owens

**Lynn Winter Gross** on the death of her former husband, Rabbi Marvin Gross

**Fred Levin** on the death of his wife, Nancy Livingston

**Laurent Goldsztejn (Deborah Stein)** on the death of his mother, and **Ariel and Aidan Goldsztejn** on the death of their grandmother, Colette Gitel Goldsztejn

**Laura Klapper (Robert)** on the death of her stepfather, and **Brett and Natalie Klapper** on the death of their step-grandfather, Jameson "Jim" C. Goldner

**Nancy Alpert** on the death of her mother, and **Josiane Alpert-Sandler** on the death of her grandmother, Barbara Alpert

**Janice Prudhomme** on the death of her husband, **Lydia Prudhomme** on the death of her father, **Ellen Friedman** on the death of her brother-in-law, **Isaac and Paul Friedman** on the death of their uncle, and **Sonya Friedman** on the death of her son-in-law, Chris Prudhomme

**Lauren Bowen (David)** on the death of her father, and **Samuel and Abigail Bowen** on the death of their grandfather, Charles Baytr

**Judith Colton (Bradley)** on the death of her mother, Gloria Hartman

## Congratulations to Our Members on Their Achievements

**Sue Diamond** on becoming the newest member of San Francisco's Planning Commission

**Laurie Beijen** on joining the board of InterfaithFamily

**Dr. Stuart Eisendrath** on the publication of his book, *When Antidepressants Aren't Enough: Harnessing the Power of Mindfulness to Alleviate Depression*

## New Members

Ms. Susanne Cooper  
Mr. Evan Moses  
Finnley Moses  
Ms. Rachel Kaplan  
Mr. Jason Karsh  
Mrs. Rebecca Karsh  
Penelope Karsh  
Mrs. Jerusha Roybal

Dr. Kole Roybal  
Meira Roybal  
Hayes Roybal  
Ms. Leah Shapiro  
Mrs. Irene Yancher  
Mr. Alexander Yancher  
Matteo Yancher

## Rejoined Members

Mrs. Samanta Tello  
Mr. Sam Trachtenberg  
Laia Trachtenberg  
Nora Trachtenberg  
Ms. Julie Weinberg

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CONGRATULATIONS EMANUEL

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# B'NEI MITZVAH



**Eli Weinman**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
January 4, 2020

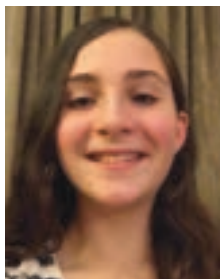
**Parents:**  
Michael and  
Jami Weinman

**Torah Portion:**  
*Vayiggash*



**Cynthia Easton,  
Sharon Kovalsky,  
Laura Myers,  
Meta Pasternak,  
and Tim Stuebbe**  
**Anshei (Adult) Mitzvah:**  
January 18, 2020

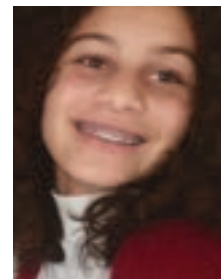
**Torah Portion:**  
*Shemot*



**Lila Saltiel**  
**Bat Mitzvah:**  
January 4, 2020

**Parents:**  
Steven Saltiel and  
Deborah Hartog

**Torah Portion:**  
*Vayiggash*



**Micaela Winthrop**  
**Bat Mitzvah:**  
January 25, 2020

**Parents:**  
Douglas Winthrop and  
Yamilee Bermingham

**Torah Portion:**  
*Vaera*

## 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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



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Two Lake Street  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
[www.emanuelsf.org](http://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.**

PERIODICAL

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*

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## **Holocaust Remembrance Day** *—Concert with Violins of Hope*

**Monday, January 27, 7:00 pm**

**No charge.**

Mark your calendar to attend this free community program commemorating International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz, featuring Israeli Violins of Hope co-founders Amnon and Avshalom Weinstein (as well as a nationally known keynote speaker to be announced). There will be performances by the New Century Chamber Orchestra, led by pianist Simone Dinnerstein, and excerpts from Jake Heggie/Gene Scheer's special chamber work, *Intonations*.



*From Yad Vashem Mauthausen*

The Violins of Hope are a collection of over 50 priceless stringed instruments played by Jewish prisoner-musicians in the concentration camps and ghettos of the Holocaust. This program is coming to the Bay Area for an eight-week, eight-county series, partnering with 42 Bay Area organizations in a series of dramatic concerts, curated exhibitions, bold films, dynamic public forums, and special civic events.

The free concert on January 27 is presented by Music at Kohl Mansion in association with Congregation Emanu-El, the Consulate General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest, San Francisco Interfaith Council, and the Jewish Family and Children's Services Holocaust Center.

**Register for tickets at [tinyurl.com/Jan-27-tickets](http://tinyurl.com/Jan-27-tickets).**

*Special thanks to Julie and David Levine for their generous support of this event.*