

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

CHRONICLE VOLUME CLXXIX, NO. 31 | OCTOBER 2020  
13 TISHREI - 13 CHESHVAN 5781

**CARRYING TORAH**

*Forward*



**Sukkot/Simchat Torah**



**Israel and the UAE**

# COMMUNITY

## Welcome Heidi Sanders

We couldn't be happier to welcome Heidi Sanders to our Emanu-El team as an Engagement Manager. She joins fellow Engagement Manager Leah Shapiro. For the past five-and-a-half years, Heidi has served as the Director of the Taube Center for Jewish Peoplehood at the Osher Marin Jewish Community Center in San Rafael, where she ran Jewish arts and culture programming as well as the Center's Tikkun Marin community service initiative. Heidi has an MA in Decorative Arts, Design and Culture from the Bard Graduate Center in New York, and a BA in Art History from Temple University.



For Heidi, this is a move that follows her dedication to the Jewish community: "It is thrilling to be joining Emanu-El's vibrant community as Engagement Manager at a time when connection is needed now more than ever. I look forward to creating new pathways for our congregation to build community and to deepen their respective Jewish journeys."

## Emanu-El Virtual Choir



Amidst all the challenges of these times nearly 50 voices came together to join us in creating the first ever Congregation Emanu-El Virtual Choir video. We are thrilled to share this music with our entire community. The Virtual Choir is part of the Cantors' Concert Series, which is generously supported by Ingrid D. Tauber and Frank Taforo.

## Emanu-El Gets Out the Vote!

Approaching the general election of 2020, a lot of enthusiasm was expressed by Tzedek Council participants to take action on issues of voter suppression and systemic racism. One of the projects that arose was the mailing of postcards to help get out the vote. Approximately 100 volunteers participated and more than 700 postcards were mailed!



*It was both a pleasure and an honor to participate in this get-out-the-vote postcard campaign. It felt wonderful to finally stop talking and moaning about our current state of affairs and actually DO something constructive about them. Thank you to Congregation Emanu-El for providing this opportunity and for making the process simple and rewarding. I even enjoyed the "creative" aspects involved in bringing life and emphasis to the prescribed text with my trusty box of color pencils!*

—Volunteer/Member Paula Freedman

*I was eager to participate in this get-out-the-vote effort for two reasons: (1) for many many years I have focused on voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts as the most critical components of successful campaigns; and (2) I am gratified that our congregation participated in this effort and happy to be part of this community. While these days, most people don't answer phone calls from unrecognized numbers, most of them do read incoming mail. The vast majority of political mailings come as slick printed messaging. I have had people tell me that they will take a moment to actually read something handwritten. I appreciate that Emanu-El gave us the opportunity to participate in executing our civic duty, and encourage this to continue through the election on 11/3.*

—Volunteer/Member Mauri Schwartz



# SHALOM RAV FROM OUR RABBI

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer

## Oh Joy!

One reason printed bulletins and magazines have a tough time staying afloat in this age of instant online media is that articles such as this one must be written under deadline weeks before print and distribution. If the USPS did its job, you are reading this the first week of October, and Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur have come and gone. But as I write this, the High Holy Days have not yet occurred. Did our thousands of hours of preparation (and I do mean thousands, not hundreds) result in well-executed, vibrant, authentic, emotionally satisfying streaming services? Or did we fall flat? Did you choose to sit this one out? Or maybe, in spite of our best efforts, did you not realize that Emanu-El's streaming High Holy Day services were open to everyone on the planet? (Anyone with a phone could have dialed in.) If you did participate, we hope the services were as meaningful as intended and that at least one of the sermons resonated with you; sometimes the message in a single sermon provides all the inspiration you need in the New Year.



“Gratitude is, of course, the underlying theme of every Jewish holiday. But unbridled JOY is the very essence of both Sukkot and Simchat Torah.”

Whether or not the services, music, and sermons spoke to you, the beauty of Judaism is that our cycle of holidays continues. Sukkot begins on Friday, October 2. When I was growing up, only the Rabbi and the Temple had a sukkah. Now, everyone can have a sukkah! You can order a prefab sukkah online (at [sukkot.com](http://sukkot.com) for example), or you can buy a few materials at the hardware store and design your own. You can build your sukkah on a balcony, patio, or backyard. You can sit, eat, sing, and debate in your sukkah. You can watch Netflix on a streaming device in your sukkah. You can sleep in your sukkah and then feel even more grateful when you return to your comfy bedroom.

Gratitude is, of course, the underlying theme of every Jewish holiday. But unbridled JOY is the very essence of both Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Sukkot is traditionally referred to as

*Z'man Simchateinu*—the “Season of our Joy.” This is an especially joyous time because we will have read all five books of the Torah, one portion per Shabbat for the past year, and we'll now start reading through the Torah all over again. With each year of wisdom and life experience, we have the opportunity to find something new, something we never saw before no matter how many times we have read the Torah.

Historically, joy was expressed in an abundant Sukkot harvest. Today, joy can come from so many things. Do you have even a little food? Do you have a place to sleep at night? Do you have a synagogue? Do you have a couple of treasured friends? Do you have family members who care about you? Do you have at least some of your health? Are you breathing? If you can answer “yes” to even a few of these, then find a way to express your joy in this *Z'man Simchateinu!*

# SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH

## *Festivities*

*Sukkot is also called the Season of our Joy, and joy is something we could all use more of. Immerse yourself in celebration and community, with these Sukkot holiday events, offered by Congregation Emanu-El. Visit [www.emanuelsf.org/sukkot-2020/](http://www.emanuelsf.org/sukkot-2020/) to learn more and participate in all our events.*

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

6:00 - 7:00 pm

#### One Shabbat-Sukkot Festival Service

Erev Sukkot begins this Shabbat evening. Join us in community online, for a joyous service infused with beautiful music, a spiritual welcoming of the holiday, and the shaking of the Etrog and Lulav.

We'll be livestreaming our service, both on the Temple Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/congregationemanuel](http://www.facebook.com/congregationemanuel)) and on our website at [www.emanuelsf.org/live](http://www.emanuelsf.org/live).

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:15 - 10:15 am

#### Sukkot Torah Study

Rabbi Jonathan Singer will lead this festive morning Torah study, from his sukkah to your living room. Join us online and dive into a lively Torah discussion, listen to the festival reading, and allow yourself to be transported by Cantor Roslyn Barak, who will sing the Hallel for this beautiful holiday.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:30 - 10:30 am

#### Men's Group Sukkot Gathering

Men of Congregation Emanu-El are invited (virtually) to Rabbi Jonathan Singer's sukkah, for lively learning and discussion. Join from your living room (or sukkah) and bring your own bagel and schmear!

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

5:00 - 6:00 pm

#### Boomers Sukkot Happy Hour

Join fellow Boomers in creating community and celebrating this joyous holiday. Grab a snack and your beverage of choice as Rabbis Jonathan and Beth Singer spark conversation and lead the shaking of the Etrog and the Lulav. Cantor Marsha Attie will continue the festivities with a joyful Israeli folk song jam.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

5:00 pm

#### Simchat Torah-Mobile

Simchat Torah means exactly that: Simcha (Joy) of Torah. This year, our joy is as profound as ever, but it will be expressed a bit differently. The Torah will "zoom" its way to you, both literally and figuratively. Keep an eye out for our Simchat Torah-Mobile (driven by our community partner, Interfaith Council Executive Director Michael Pappas), which will carry the Torah through your neighborhood and across the Golden Gate Bridge (or watch its journey online). Join us for music, teaching, and *freilach*, as our Cantors and Rabbis read the end of the Torah and start over again, keeping the Torah cycle moving forward!

*We'll be livestreaming our service both on the Temple Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/congregationemanuel](http://www.facebook.com/congregationemanuel)) and on our website at [www.emanuelsf.org/live](http://www.emanuelsf.org/live)*

# YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

As we enter the month of October, for better or worse, fall is here. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, so different this year, have led to the end of this holiday season with Sukkot and Simchat Torah. We hope that you used the instructions in the September Emanu-El Chronicle to build your own sukkah, which is meant to remind us of the temporary structures the Israelites used for shelter throughout their 40 years of wandering in the desert. Perhaps we can find comfort in the fact that our structures are more permanent and the reason for our current “sheltering” is only temporary. Whether or not you have the space or the energy to actually build a sukkah, there are many ways to make the most of the harvest festival of Sukkot at home with your family.

The Torah provides three commandments for Sukkot:

- Live or eat in a sukkah for seven days.
- Recite the blessings for the lulav and etrog.
- Rejoice in God’s bounties.

That last commandment can be fulfilled by inviting friends and family to eat, talk, and study with you in the sukkah. The mystic Rabbi Isaac Luria established the custom of inviting guests (*ushpizin*) to visit in the sukkah. Your Sukkah guests can be people you know or, using your imagination, people from history you’d like to meet. We are inviting ushpizin to join our Sunday and Wednesday Virtual T’fillah services, and we encourage you to invite your own ushpizin. This year, historical figures might be the safest guests to welcome. Each family member can choose their guest, learn about that person, and then introduce them through pictures, narratives, and videos, or even role play conversations and interviews during your meal.

The Torah does not dictate which foods should be eaten in the sukkah, but over time, grains, fruits, and vegetables—such as barley, lentils, dates, melons, and cucumbers (all staples of the Mediterranean diet)—were often featured in holiday meals. Traditional Sukkot foods are often rolled or stuffed, symbolizing the abundance of the holiday harvest. Try making a menu of snacks or favorite meals that can easily be carried out to your sukkah. Or at least eat something while taking a peek at the sky or the stars, feeling thankful for the blessings we do have right now.

Here are some sites to assist you in your celebration:

- Blessings to say in the sukkah: [reformjudaism.org/beliefs-practices/prayers-blessings/sukkot-blessings](http://reformjudaism.org/beliefs-practices/prayers-blessings/sukkot-blessings)
- Creative Sukkot recipes from various countries: [reformjudaism.org/site-search?search\\_api\\_fulltext=sukkot+recipes](http://reformjudaism.org/site-search?search_api_fulltext=sukkot+recipes)
- Sukkot decorations to make with young children: [reformjudaism.org/sukkot-decorations-make-young-children](http://reformjudaism.org/sukkot-decorations-make-young-children)

Please also refer to our YFE Gallery for videos and art ideas.

(Note: If you’re holding this issue of the Chronicle in your hand, it might be easier to access the above links by clicking on them in the online publication, located at [www.emanuelsf.org/the-emanu-el-sf-chronicle/](http://www.emanuelsf.org/the-emanu-el-sf-chronicle/))

Flora Kupferman  
YFE Acting Director



# ISRAEL AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: A NEW BOND

On September 1, Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed their first-ever agreement in the areas of banking and finance. It was heralded by both countries as a breakthrough in economic collaboration with a strong focus on technology and biotech investments.

In the history of Israel, the UAE is only the third Arab country with which it's had diplomatic relations (Egypt and Jordan being the other two). Shlomi Kofman, the Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest, recently spoke with our own Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer in a Zoom exchange about the significance of this agreement, why it breathes new life into the dynamic between Israel and the Arab world, and how Israelis and Arabs alike stand to benefit. This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.



**Rabbi Jonathan:** What is the significance of this new relationship for Israel? And what does it mean for the region as a whole?

**Shlomi Kofman:** Peace with another neighbor is extremely advantageous. It opens a multitude of possibilities and promotes stability in the region. It helps to

moderate extremist forces, build trust and create balance in the region. It advances Israeli security and allows for the creation of a new relationship that will be a win-win for both parties. It advances trade and economic prosperity. It sends a message to the world that peace with the broader Arab world is possible, and will not be hampered by the lack of peace with the Palestinians. This of course is a major outstanding issue. When Egypt and Jordan made peace with Israel there also were issues and questions that were not fully resolved, but they were still willing to take the leap of faith, and sign peace accords with Israel. Through an intrepid spirit and commitment to peace in the region, these two countries were willing to start movements toward cooperation, security and regional stabilization. This is why we are delighted that the UAE has followed suit.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** Are Israelis excited by this news?

**Shlomi Kofman:** Israelis are excited and elated. It opens the door to a plethora of opportunities. It is a third Arab country that is no longer boycotting Israel, and can instead invest in the Israeli economy and vice versa. Beyond just mutual economic investments, there are opportunities to create a thriving two-way tourism channel. Israelis will be able to enjoy Abu Dhabi and Dubai, and Emiratis will be able to visit Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. We are also seeing that this deal is laying the groundwork for expanded peace in the region when we look at Saudi Arabia and Bahrain's actions authorizing the use of their air space for Israeli flights to the UAE.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** American media has portrayed this peace agreement with the UAE a little differently. What's different about it? Is it the case that the Emiratis are offering a "warmer peace?"

**Shlomi Kofman:** With the possibilities of business and tourist exchanges, yes I hope this will be a warm peace. This agreement is about more than just defense and security cooperation. It is about the exchange of peoples, ideas, and the promotion of friendship. Israel has a lot to offer the UAE and so does the UAE for Israel. It is important to note that the past Arab-Israeli deals have many aspects, not all of which are well known. For example, with Egypt and Jordan there are agricultural and technological exchanges, which allows Israel to share what it knows about agricultural and water technology through various programs with its immediate neighbors.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** When the news came out about this agreement, many American Jews responded with “Why the UAE?” What’s your response?

**Shlomi Kofman:** This deal has been years in the making. Through hard diplomatic work on both sides over the past decade, we opened a diplomatic office in Abu Dhabi at the International Renewable Energy Agency. Senior Israeli officials made trips to the Emirati capital, and Israeli athletes participated in competitions in the Emirates. A similar way of thinking has helped to bring our two countries together. Small countries in hostile environments know that it is important to be strong, agile and technologically advanced. Furthermore, the UAE and Israel share similar regional goals vis a vis Iran, Turkey, Qatar, and this deal is a way to ensure their realization.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** How quickly do you see Israeli tourists traveling to Dubai and Abu Dhabi?

**Shlomi Kofman:** Once we have overcome the Covid-19 pandemic, I have no doubt that Israelis will be flying to Dubai to experience the UAE’s magic and hospitality. The same goes for the Emiratis who want to visit Israel. Remember, for Muslims, visiting Jerusalem is an important and meaningful religious experience. The exchange of tourists has the potential to boost both economies greatly. For Israelis visiting the UAE, I am confident that they will be delighted to see the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, enjoy the views from the top of the Burj Dubai, and have great fun partaking in the Arab culture.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** What kind of adjustments might Israel have to make in terms of how it receives this new influx of Arab tourists?

**Shlomi Kofman:** We are fortunate enough to possess a large Arabic-speaking population, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian. With this great resource, we will be ready, willing, and able to help the Emirati tourists in their own language.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** The fact that Israel is willing to make peace with others is something many of us in the Jewish community have felt the popular media has not always understood or appreciated. Does this peace with the UAE change the dynamic of how Israel is seen in America by groups that have previously shown antipathy towards it?

**Shlomi Kofman:** It is unfortunate that some groups do not recall the price that Israel has had to pay for peace. They do not remember that the 1979 peace agreement with Egypt required Israel to relinquish control over the Sinai, and that in the 90s and the early 2000s we were willing to make sacrifices for peace with the Palestinians. We were willing to make compromises if it meant peace and stability in the long-run, which is all we truly desire. We are still willing to make compromises, but we must ensure that our security is protected, our existence is not endangered, and our identity as the Jewish State is respected and preserved.

**Rabbi Jonathan:** What do you say about the Palestinian reaction to this new peace agreement with the UAE?

**Shlomi Kofman:** It is disappointing and disheartening. The decision to boycott the UAE was especially discouraging. This reaction does not allow for meaningful dialogue or negotiation. To find a way forward that helps Palestinians achieve their goals means they must be open to compromise. When Anwar Saddat came to Israel the first time, he had no guarantee Israel would give up the Sinai. However, since there was no precondition imposed by Saddat when negotiations began, a middle ground could be found. First, you must be willing to negotiate, and then together you come to a compromise.



# Emanu-El *Carefully* Opens Its Doors

It may be difficult to thrive in this time of COVID-19, but at Emanu-El we continue to do what we can to bring our congregants back home to our sanctuary. This past August, we began allowing families the option of scheduling their child's bar or bat mitzvah in the Emanu-El Courtyard. We invited congregants to sign up for a special private blessing with a member of our clergy, followed by a 5- to 10-minute personal, prayerful moment in front of one of our Arks. We also encouraged the use of our Courtyard for weddings. We asked several congregants and their families to share their special Courtyard moments through word and images. We hope you appreciate them as much as we do.

## Courtyard B'Nei Mitzvahs

### Max Grey Randall

#### Bar Mitzvah: August 13, 2020

*As Jews and as humans we learn to accept what comes our way and see opportunity in everything. Max's bar mitzvah was a blessing and an opportunity for friends, family, and the congregation to come together to celebrate and mark this important rite of passage. Nothing will ever stop that.*

—Doug Randall



### Aaron William Leopold

#### Bar Mitzvah: August 15, 2020

*The Courtyard formed a beautiful backdrop for a very personal and intimate service. While the clergy was there to support Aaron, the physical separation increased the focus on him becoming a bar mitzvah and leading the service himself. Aaron felt proud reading out of the Torah, happy to continue with important things in life during these uncertain times, and valued as an Emanu-El member on this significant day. Thank you all!*

—The Leopolds (Matt, Natalie, Aaron, Noah, and Hannah)

### Riley Simone Klugman

#### Bat Mitzvah: August 22, 2020

*Our memories of 2020 will forever be embedded with this pandemic. However, the Jewish people have not let the destruction of the Temple or wars stop this tradition of becoming a Jewish adult, and COVID did not stop her.*

—Beth Klugman



### Ethan Kopstein, Bar Mitzvah: August 23, 2020

*How odd it was, at first, seated awkwardly in the synagogue Courtyard waiting for our son Ethan's Zoom-broadcasted bar mitzvah ceremony to begin. All wearing masks, socially distancing, trying to ensure that everyone stays safe. Just before it began, Rabbi Rodich reminded us that throughout history, Jewish life...Judaism itself...persevered, even thrived, in challenging times, in part by the sheer determination to keep tradition alive, to keep on commemorating holidays, celebrating bar/bat mitzvahs, etc...whatever the circumstances. As the ceremony started, Zoom camera flipped on, and Ethan began his opening prayer, everything somehow instantly fell into place. My thanks to Rabbi Rodich, to Jonathan, and to all those at Emanu-El who helped make it happen.*

—Elliott Kopstein

## Ark Moments



Lynn / Hershenson Family



Patricia Stahl (and Friend)



Bold Family



Eng Family

## Wedding



### **Madison Gaynor and Tom (Tomer) Banker tied the knot at Emanu-El on August 23, 2020**

*Even in chaos, life progresses, and we felt that so profoundly under the Chuppah, with Rabbi Beth Singer joining our hands and our hearts. Rabbi Singer, and Temple Emanu-El, were behind us, supporting us, all the way, ensuring that our wedding day, despite all that has gone wrong in 2020, would go completely right.*

- Madison Gaynor

## Preschool



# ADULT EDUCATION

---

## Introduction to Judaism — Fall Trimester 2020

*Tuesdays – October 13, 20, and 27 / November 3, 10, and 17 / December 1 and 8*

**Cost: \$54 for members; \$75 for nonmembers**

Join with Emanu-El clergy to learn about the breadth and wonder of Jewish tradition. This class is a pathway for the adult learner who wishes to discover or deepen Jewish knowledge, for non-Jews who are marrying a Jewish partner, and for those who are considering conversion to Judaism.

Each trimester requires separate registration. Please register online.

## Chuppah and Beyond: Marriage Enrichment for Engaged or Newly Married Couples

*Wednesdays – October 14 and November 18, 7:00 – 9:00 pm*

**Cost: \$200 per couple for members; \$300 per couple for nonmembers**

Chuppah and Beyond is designed to help couples shape foundational tools for a successful, happy, lifelong relationship, while simultaneously building community with other like-minded couples. Classes are led by Senior Rabbi Emeritus Stephen S. Pearce, the Taube Emanu-El Scholar, who earned his doctorate in Counseling Psychology at St. John's University (New York) with a specialization in Marriage and Family Counseling. For 20 years, Dr. Pearce taught counseling and human relations at Hebrew Union College (the rabbinical seminary of the Reform Movement). Rabbi Pearce will co facilitate each class, along with members of the Emanu-El clergy team and invited guests. Topics will include:

- Communication, Realistic/Unrealistic Expectations, Escalating/Deescalating, and Managing Conflict
- Intimacy, Honesty, and Commitment
- Money Matters and Financial Planning
- Equality, Jealousy, Insecurity, and Addictions
- Parental Models, Child Rearing, and Outside Family Interference
- Building a Faith-Based Home

Please register online, and bring an electronic device to the first session so you can connect to the internet for an online activity.

### Zoom Baby Groups

**When:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Where:** [zoom.us/j/802983751](https://zoom.us/j/802983751)

Our Side by Side classes will continue to be available via Zoom this summer. Join “Mimi’s Music and Fun Group” with Mimi Greisman every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning!

Mimi will introduce your little one to Jewish stories, songs, puppets, dancing, and the important weekly rituals of Shabbat and Havdalah.

Stay connected with your Emanu-El community of young children and families without leaving the comfort of your home. We look forward to seeing you under our digital dome!

While these online offerings are currently free for all participants, we invite you to make a direct donation to our Early Education programs at Emanu-El, in lieu of your Side by Side tuition, to continue supporting this important programming. To do so, please select “Emanu-El Preschool Fund” from the dropdown menu. Thank you for your consideration!

# ISRAEL ACTION COMMITTEE EVENTS

The Israel Action Committee at Emanu-El works to increase the congregation's engagement with the State of Israel through education, celebration, and involvement. Please join us for these riveting and timely discussions!



## Discussion with Robert Dannenberg

*Former CIA Chief of Operations for Counterterrorism and winner of the George HW Bush award for Excellence in Counterterrorism.*

**Thursday, October 15, 7:00 pm PDT, via Zoom**

**Advanced registration required.**

Join us for an evening with Robert Dannenberg who will explore the impact of COVID 19 and the upcoming U.S. election on Iran and the Middle East; the re emergence of Turkey as a geopolitical player in the Middle East and in energy politics in the eastern Mediterranean; the path forward for Putin/Russia in the Middle East and Libya; Russia and OPEC+; and observations on Trump and the U.S. intelligence community.

## Dennis Ross in Conversation with Yousef Al-Otaiba

*Former U.S. Ambassador Dennis Ross and UAE Minister Yousef Al-Otaiba will discuss the Israel/UAE diplomacy breakthrough.*

**Sunday, October 11, 7:00 pm PDT, via Zoom**

**Advanced registration required.**

Yousef Al-Otaiba, the Minister of State and Emirate Ambassador to the U.S., will join Dennis Ross in a conversation about the breakthrough between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). No one played a bigger or more important role in the breakthrough between the UAE and Israel than Otaiba.

Otaiba and Ross will discuss the backstory and evolution of UAE relations with Israel, and explain why peace will be different this time than in the past. They will discuss the significance of the two most technologically advanced economies in the region cooperating across a variety of sectors, including water, food security, health, alternative and renewable energy, tourism, and cyber domains.

These two events are for Emanu-El members only and are free of charge. Pre-registration is required: [www.emanuelsf.org/israel](http://www.emanuelsf.org/israel).

If you have questions about any Israel Action Committee events, please contact Ariana Estoque at [aestoque@emanuelsf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 750-7552.



# Congregation Emanu-El Legacy Circle Message from Rabbi Stephen S. Pearce, PhD

With the Days of Awe upon us, I urge you to consider important questions that ultimately we all will have to answer:

- How would you like to be remembered?
- What remembrances would you like your name to conjure up?
- Which of your character traits would you want your progeny to embody?
- Which of your cherished values would you like your family and friends to treasure?

These questions are timely as we worship together as a community and pray that we and our loved ones be entered into The Book of Life for another year. Yes, we will all have to answer these questions, sooner or later and while we have the luxury of time to consider what adds depth and meaning to our years and what made life worth living, I urge you to think about the tripod of High Holy Day worship: *Teshuvah*—Repentance, *Tefilah*—Worship, and *Tzedakah*—Charitable acts of kindness that Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel called the “ineffable delight of sacred deeds.”



. . . be sure that every deed counts, that every word has power,  
and that we can all do our share to redeem the world in spite of all  
absurdities and all frustrations and all disappointments. . .

And above all, remember. . . to build life as if it were a work of art.

I ask you to consider adding your names to the Emanu-El Legacy Circle of grateful givers so that you can join with so many other members and friends of the congregation, including me and my wife, in ensuring just as we all benefit from the generosity of those who built this venerable Temple into the leading Jewish congregation in California, we give in turn so that future generations may enjoy the fruits of our gifts.

Twenty centuries before Washington Irving wrote *Rip Van Winkle*, in which a man fled his responsibilities by going to sleep for twenty years, there was a Jewish Rip Van Winkle. Honi the Circle Maker, who focused on looking forward to the future rather than escaping the present. According to Jewish legend, an elderly man planted a carob tree on the plains of Judea. As he planted the tree, Honi asked why he was planting a tree that he would never see mature and bear fruit. “I am not planting it for myself,” answered the man. “When my grandfather was an old man, he planted such a tree so that his grandchildren might enjoy its fruits. I want to do the same for my descendants.”

Honi then fell asleep for seventy years and when he awoke, he saw a young man enjoying the fruit of the tree. Honi questioned the young man about how he came to enjoy such a tree and the grandson replied, “My grandfather planted trees that I might enjoy, and I, in turn, will plant, that my grandchildren will reap my tree’s fruits.”

And while the best time to have planted a tree was 20 years ago, I urge you to endow a gift at the second-best time for giving—NOW.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration and generosity.  
Sr. Rabbi Emeritus and Taube Emanuel Scholar Stephen S. Pearce, PhD

**For more information about Emanu-El Legacy Circle,  
please visit [www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/planned-giving/](http://www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/planned-giving/) or contact  
Julie Weinberg, Director of Development, at [jweinberg@emanuelsf.org](mailto:jweinberg@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 751-2535.**

Thank you for your generosity and participation. Your contributions will help ensure we meet the needs of the Emanu-El community — now and for future generations. Thank you for giving! The following gifts were received from August 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020.

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

Rebecca Goldfader

*in memory of Cara Lesser Goldfader*

Susan Moldaw and Bob Stallings

*in appreciation of Cantor Marsha Attie*

Naftali and Schirley Zisman

*in honor of Cantor Marsha Attie*

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

Charles and Lenore Bleadon

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

Zachary and Ashley Edell

Jewish Community Federation (2)

Marley Kornreich and Alexander Fridman

Erin Yale and Adam Weinstein

**FOR THE ROOSEVELT FOOD PANTRY**

Stephanie Scott

*in memory of Anna Bayard Ernst*

Stephanie Scott (2)

*in memory of William M. Scott*

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

David and Charito Mittelman

*in memory of Michael A. Mittelman*

**RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND — used for charitable giving at the Rabbis' discretion. Contributions to Rabbis' Discretionary Fund are currently supporting COVID-19/ Emergency relief efforts. Thank you for your support.**

Andrew and Judi Cohen

*in memory of Carole Cohen*

Brenda Friedler

*in honor of Gilbert Young*

Rebecca Goldfader

*in memory of Cara Lesser Goldfader*

Lawrence L. Mansbach

*in appreciation of Rabbi Ryan Bauer*

Susan L. Rothstein and John Koeppel

*in memory of Sylvia Rothstein*

Daria Saraf

Albert Villa

John and Susan Whalen

Jane and Greg Wintroub

*in memory of June Shulman*

Noah and Carey Wintroub

*in memory of June Shulman*

Jason Zaler and Helen Wen

*in appreciation of The Rabbinical Team*

**EMANU-EL's CRISIS RELIEF INITIATIVE — provides essential funds to COVID-19/Emergency relief efforts to keep our synagogue operating, while also assisting our members with dues, tuition and scholarship relief. Thank you for your support.**

The Hellman Foundation

Jacob Rogers and Hannah Cummons

Naftali and Schirley Zisman

*in observance of the Yahrzeit of Berek Winter*

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

Gregory Schram

**OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS**

Anita Josefa Barzman MD

*to Torah Scroll*

Jewish Community Federation

*Jewish Resource Specialist Program*

Terry Magnin

*in memory of Harryette Nestel*

James and Diana Rogers

*in observance of the Yahrzeit of Ernest S. Rogers*

## WAYS TO GIVE

Making a gift to Emanu-El is a meaningful way to honor friends and family while supporting the synagogue. The Temple offers a variety of donation opportunities so all members can participate in the mitzvah of tzedakah at whatever level is comfortable. For additional information about our different funds and various ways to give, please visit our website.

- **Send us a Check:** 2 Lake Street, San Francisco CA, 94118. Congregation Emanu-El - Attn: Development.
- **Visit Our Website:** [www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/](http://www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/)
- **Appreciated Stock Gifts:** The Congregation accepts all contributions made via stock transfers. You will enjoy an immediate tax deduction for the value of the stock transfer and avoid paying capital gains.
- **Corporate Matching:** Many Bay Area companies will match your gift dollar-for-dollar. Please contact your company's matching gifts coordinator to determine whether your gift to Congregation Emanu-El can be matched.

If you need assistance, please contact the Development Office at [development@emanuelsf.org](mailto:development@emanuelsf.org)

## Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

Perry Lisker (Connie Norton) on the loss of his cousin, **Stanley Eisenberg**

Jett Fain (Veliz Perez) on the loss of his grandfather, **Sheldon Lambert**

Robert Fields (Randi) on the loss of his father, and Matthew and Jessica Fields on the passing of their grandfather, **Dr. Jerome Fields**

Heather White (Thomas Sola) on the loss of her father, and Asher Harrell on the passing of his grandfather, **Charles Hubbard White II**

Yumi Berman on the loss of her husband, and Sarah and Bradley Berman on the passing of their father, **Mark Berman**

Tamara Neuhaus (Issac) on the loss of her parents, and Leah, Josephine, and Anna Neuhaus on the passing of their grandparents, **David and Sheila Brown**

Richard Greenberg on the loss of his wife, **Hannah Greenburg**

Ruth Rischin on the loss of her husband, Abby and Rebecca Rischin and Sarah Rischin Gadye on the passing of their father, and Levin, Nathan, and Arik Gadye on the passing of their grandfather, **Moses Rischin**

Rachel Felson (Zachary) on the loss of her grandfather, and Ava, Ellie, Liv, and Gabriel Felson on the passing of their great-grandfather, **George Leader**

Brian BloomKing (Abigail) on the loss of his brother, and Lucas, Eleanor, Esther, and Arthur BloomKing on the passing of their uncle, **Edward King**

Nancy Boas on the loss of her sister-in-law, **Caryn Levy Magid**

Kevin Starks (Tori) on the loss of his brother, and Sarah and Isaiah Starks on the passing of their uncle, **Dr. Jay Starks**

Abigail Brenner on the loss of her husband, **Raymond Brenner**

Mark Kushner (Mirene Winsberg) on the loss of his father, and Kyra and Tor Kushner on the passing of their grandfather, **Dr. Joseph H. Kushner**

## Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

Aaron and Megan Severs on the birth of their son, **William Severs**

Kunny and Brad Berdow on the birth of their daughter, **Jessica Zo Ma Berdow**

Jenny Bailey and Jake Shemano on the birth of their son, **Henry Levi Shemano**

Jenny and Joshua Herbach on the birth of their son, **Alexander William Herbach**

Lauren and Matthew Van Horn on the birth of their son, **Kane Zion Van Horn**

## Congratulations to Our Members on Their Achievements

**Paula Pretlow** on receiving the 2020 Outstanding Humanitarian Award from the National Council of Jewish Women-San Francisco and being recognized by the California Legislature

## Welcome New Members!

Anne Alpers

Raegan Barker

Elana Congress

Josh Radman

## Welcome Back Rejoined Members!

Bradley Berman

Sarah Berman

Yumi Berman

Steven Fayne

E. Fayne

Suzan Foley

Jeremy Sasson

Liat Sasson

Sivan Sasson

Sydney Tafuri

# B'NEI MITZVAH



**Selby Orlanski**  
**Bat Mitzvah:**  
October 3, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Brett and Kory Orlanski  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Behar/Behukkotai*



**Remy DeJean**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 24, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Samantha and Brad DeJean  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Noah*



**Henry Blum**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 3, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Mead and Ari Blum  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Sucloth 1*



**Samson Einhorn**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 24, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Melissa Nemer and Josh Einhorn  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Noah*



**Victor Hasson**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 3, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Sara Hasson(z'l) and  
Robert Kelley  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Sucloth 1*



**Elyse Harris**  
**Bat Mitzvah:**  
October 31, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Amy and Jonathan Harris  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Lech Lecha*



**Gabriel Darsky**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 10, 2020  
**Parent:**  
Aaron Darsky  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Ahare Kedoshim*



**Ava Gutierrez**  
**Bat Mitzvah:**  
October 31, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Cherie Golant and Ron Gutierrez  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Vaethanan*



**Henry Pluim**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 10, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Regan and Kevin Pluim  
**Torah Portion:**  
*V'zot HaBrachah*



**Jonah Cohen**  
**Bar Mitzvah:**  
October 31, 2020  
**Parents:**  
Jennifer Pliner and Elay Cohen  
**Torah Portion:**  
*Lech Lecha*



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.**

**STAFF**

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*

Sarah Joselow Parris, *Rabbi*

Jason Rodich, *Rabbi*

Marsha Attie, *Cantor*

Arik Luck, Ben and A. Jess Shenson, *Cantor*

Roslyn Barak, *Senior Cantor Emerita*

Stephen Pearce, Ph.D., *Senior 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**

Alan Greinetz, *President*

Paula Pretlow, *Vice President*

Joel Roos, *Vice President*

Ellen Fleishhacker, *Treasurer/Secretary*

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Robert Blum    | Mark Lehmann   |
| Nersi Boussina | Robert Newman  |
| Sandi Bragar   | Dr. Larry Rand |
| Barrett Cohn   | Rita Semel     |
| Stuart Corvin  | Lisa Stern     |
| Sue Diamond    | Bob Tandler    |
| Jill Einstein  | Gunda Trepp    |
| Lara Ettenson  | Matt Van Horn  |
| Alia Gorkin    | Noah Wintraub  |
| Sasha Kovriga  | Hilary Zarrow  |
| Julie Levine   |                |

*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.

**Israeli Firefighters to the Rescue!**

In response to a request from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, a team of ten Israeli firefighters were deployed to California back in early September to assist in battling some of the largest wildfires in our state's history. This is the first time Israelis have been assigned to fight fires in the U.S. We are proud of them coming to our aid!



*Photo credit: Israeli Consulate to the Pacific Northwest*