

Emanu-El ^S_F

CHRONICLE VOLUME CLXXXII, NO. 34 | JANUARY 2021
17 TEVET - 18 SH'VAT 5781

WHAT'S *Next* FOR EMANU-EL



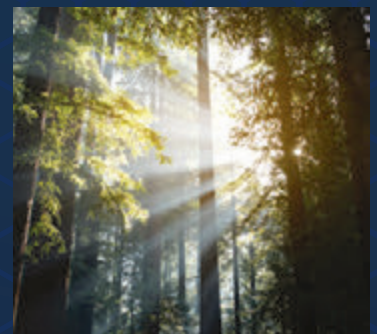
Building Resilience
Finding Meaning
and Purpose
in this
Unusual Time



JANUARY—
MARCH
Resiliency Series



JANUARY
15-17
**MLK Online Pulpit
Exchange**



JANUARY
27-28
Tu B'Shevat

The Emanu-El Next Campaign

Ninety-five years ago, our San Franciscan foreparents built our magnificent domed structure to create a sustainable home for Jewish San Franciscans. Because of their generosity, we have always had a place to educate our children, to celebrate our simchas, to mourn, and to gather as a community to mark those moments that have such deep meaning in each of our lives. We have relied and depended upon this great gift for generations. As our structure has aged during the last 100 years, it is now our responsibility to renovate so that Temple Emanu-El will serve the next 100 years of congregants.

The 300 families who built our sanctuary in the 1920s thought not just of themselves, but of the future generations that would gather, building a sanctuary that could accommodate close to 2,000 congregants. In staying true to their forward-thinking spirit, we have launched the Emanu-El Next campaign, a community effort to modernize our synagogue to better meet our needs moving forward. We will make our synagogue safe, secure and sustainable by seismically improving the courtyard, enhancing security, and improving technology. The building will be more warm, welcoming and accessible for all community members by providing new intimate visiting spaces to deepen community members' connections. We will create a beautiful and multi-purpose event space for community gatherings, weddings, B'nei Mitzvot celebrations and new state of the art classrooms to facilitate the needs of learners of all ages. And we will build our endowment to ensure we are able to welcome all people, no matter their means.

As we stand on the shoulders of those that came before us, may each of us be inspired to work together to ensure that our precious San Francisco Jewish heritage will endure and continue to be a vital and life affirming force for generations to come.

Donny Friend
Emanu-El Next Co-Chair



The main entrance to Temple Emanu-El will be redesigned incorporating best practices in security and making a more welcoming space.

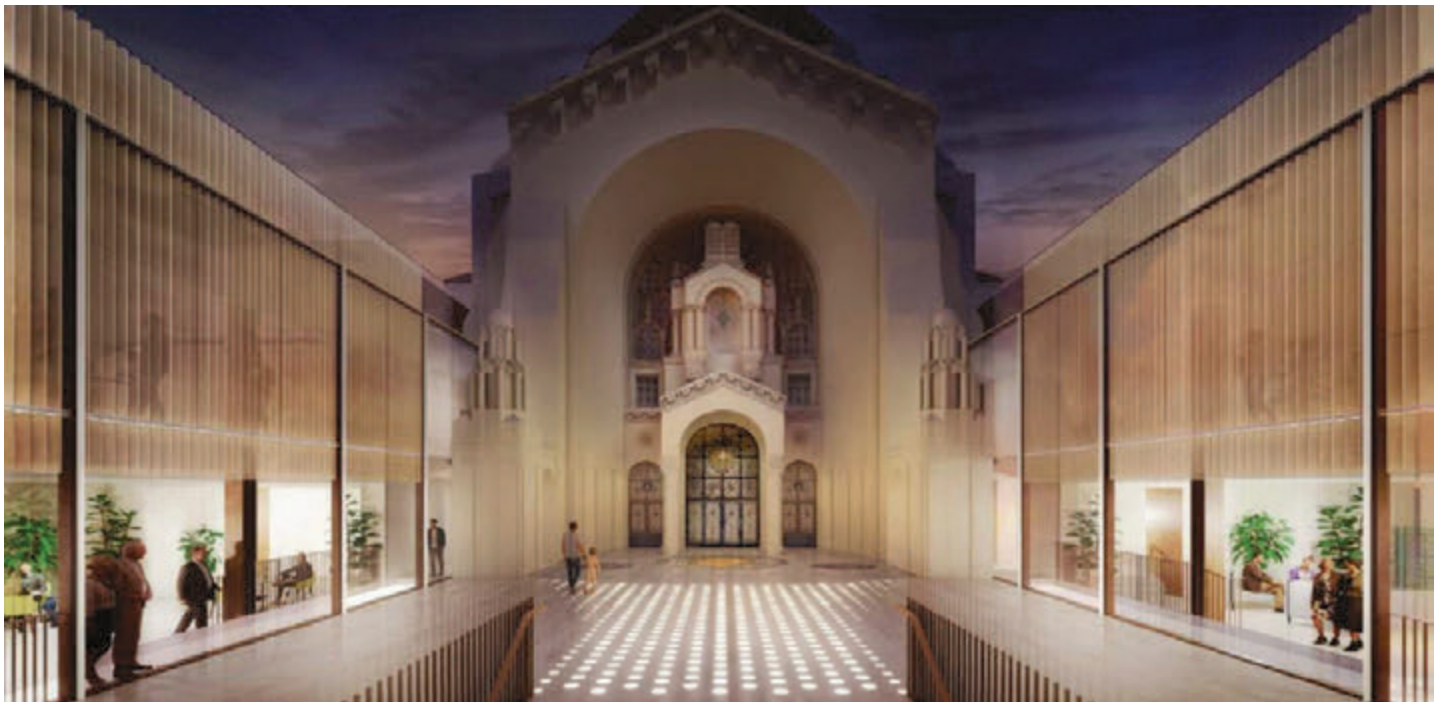
Investing for Our Jewish Future

Our diverse congregation includes families who have been with us since our founding 153 years ago and individuals just beginning to seek connection at our sanctuary. We are a vibrant and thriving community, and we try to ensure everyone has a place within our walls. That's why it's important that everyone in the congregation be given the opportunity to participate in creating an enduring legacy for generations to come.

The Emanu-El Next campaign will take us into the next century of growth for our community. We have set an aggressive but attainable goal of \$97MM to meet the needs of congregants for decades to come. We want to thank the generous congregants who got us this far. We have raised over \$77.9MM, and we are confident that we can reach our goal with the help of the whole community.

That's why we are calling upon our fellow congregants to join in an endeavor that will have a profound impact upon our current and future members. Our plans will become a reality only when we all contribute to this effort. For those who have not had this chance, today is the time to step up and join us. This is our generation's opportunity to declare our synagogue's future!

Douglas E. Goldman
Emanu-El Next Co-Chair



Proposed improvements to Temple Emanu-El will enliven the courtyard leading to the Sanctuary and add almost 20,000 extra sq. feet to the Courtyard Building and Temple House.



Campaign Donors

\$25,000,000+

Anonymous

\$10,000,000-\$25,000,000

Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund

\$5,000,000-\$9,999,999

The Helen Diller Foundation
Janie & Donny** Friend/The Friend Family Philanthropic Fund

\$2,000,000-\$4,999,999

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\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999

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Kirsten Wolberg

\$250,000-\$499,999

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Carey & Noah* Wintroub

\$100,000-\$249,999

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Sarah & Jordan Hymowitz
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Eleanor Myers
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Sheryl & James Reuben
Susan & Alan Rothenberg
Sheri & Paul Siegel
Darian, Rick**, Adam & Benjamin Swig Family
Audra & Jim Weiss
Hilary Zarrow*

\$50,000-\$99,999

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Cheryl Frank & Michael Linn
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Paula Pretlow*
Laurie & Joel* Roos
Julie Goldman & Bob Rosner
Charlene & Bart Schachter
Susan Diamond* & Martin Schenker

Sally & Jim** Shapiro
Rabbis Beth & Jonathan Singer

\$25,000-\$49,999

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Alisa Arquilevich & Rabbi Ryan Bauer
Jeffrey Bornstein & David Bornstein
Alla Gershberg & Dale Boutiette**
Betsy & Roy Eisenhardt
Ellen* & William Fleishacker
Lisa Zuckerman Gamshad & Mohsen Gamshad
Kelly & Mike Halper
Tali Rapaport & Nick Josefowitz
Rabbi Sydney Mintz & Family
Gayle & Eric Starr
Vera & Harold** Stein
Jaimie Sanford & Ted Storey**

\$10,000-\$24,999

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Eileen & Nersi* Boussina
Suzanne & Andrew** Colvin
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Claude Gruen
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Rachel Melman**
Laurie & Rabbi Stephen Pearce
Francis Benjamin & Rabbi Jason Rodich
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Marcia & Stephen Ruben
Gunda Trepp*
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Jill Einstein* & Peter Yolles
Paul Zarefsky**

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous
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Lara Ettenson*
Alexandra & Samuel Fell
Jeff Magnin
Sandra Bragar* & Jerome Rossen
Francis Scarpulla
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Tracy Tilin McKendell
Julie Weinberg
Lisa Stern* & Rebecca Wolff

\$3,600-\$4,999

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Abigail** & Jason Porth

\$1,800-\$3,599

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Erica & Dana Rabb
Alanna Klein & Gregory Robin
Susie & Denis Roy
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\$1-\$1,799

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Lisa Berg
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Shirley & Ben Eisler
Ariana & Marc Estoque
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Susan Horenstein
Laura & Robert Klapper
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Pamela Lyss-Lerman & Jason Lerman
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Leigh & William Matthes
Eleanor & Howard Miller
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Julianne Rich Roos
Sharon Litsky & John Sampson**
Gloria Shiff
Audrey Sockolov
Kate & Joseph Wineroth
Karen Wolff

* Emanu-El Board of Directors

**Former Emanu-El Board of Directors

TOTAL RAISED:
\$77,936,862

Thank you for your generosity to our campaign, your dedication to our congregation and your strong belief in its future!



Emanu-El Next will revitalize and improve the entire temple structure outside of the main Sanctuary. Even with all the improved aspects of our new home, the Sanctuary will remain the heart of our building.

“So the whole community...everyone...whose spirit moved them came, bringing their offerings. Men and women, all whose hearts moved them, all who would make an elevation offering...” Exodus 35:20 We love this moment in Torah in which a few individuals made specific contributions, but ultimately it was *everyone* bringing their gift that made the Temple shine in Holiness. Now is **our moment** in which everyone can make a gift from the heart. We are filled with gratitude for those who have laid the foundations that will ensure the success of this reimagined Bay Area Jewish sacred gathering space. Like our ancestors, all of us collectively will transform the vision of a vibrant, sacred space into reality.

This chapter of Torah comes complete with a shocker ending! *“The people are bringing more than is needed!”* Exodus 36:5. This is the meaning of *“all whose hearts moved them.”* Building the holy gathering place for the next generation was such an emotional experience that the community went above and beyond. They couldn’t stop giving. Everyone jumped on the bandwagon. The Torah inspires us to feel that sense of passion for the spirit of this project and to value each and every gift because each one truly comes *from the heart*.

Beth Singer and Jonathan Singer
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbis

The top floor will be dedicated to education, with a Preschool playing area for young children and families to enjoy. Moving the children to the roof also puts them as far out of harm’s way as possible.



TU B'SHEVAT

On the evening of Wednesday, January 27, just as we enter the middle of winter, the Jewish calendar celebrates Tu B'Shevat, the new year of the trees. The name of the holiday derives from the date — the 15th of the month of Shevat — which the Talmud identifies as the date for determining tithes based on an orchard's capacity. Tu B'Shevat celebrates trees and our own connection to nature, a kind of Jewish Arbor Day. In Israel, the holiday is celebrated with planting and the reforestation of a land stripped of its natural fauna. Today we can strongly relate to the ecological roots of this holiday as we know that trees and forests are more important and more challenged than ever.

Jewish mysticism embraced Tu B'Shevat as a time to focus on, not just connection to the natural world, but the renewal of our being in the midst of winter for the trees, like an Eitz Chayim, are transforming.

This year, Emanu-El is offering a (virtual) Tu B'Shevat Seder. You are invited to join Rabbis Kushner and Singer for an evening of spiritual considerations, environmentalism, story, and song.

To prepare, please have bottles of red and white wine (or juice) and tastings of three categories of fruits or nuts:

1. Those with an inedible outer covering and edible inside (melons, nuts, pomegranates, coconuts, citrus, bananas, etc.)
2. Those with an edible outside but inedible pit inside (dates, olives, plums, peaches, apples, avocados, nectarines, pears, etc.)
3. Those that are entirely edible (berries, figs, grapes, etc.)

Tu B'Shevat Seder

Wednesday, January 27, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Join Rabbis Kushner and Singer as we celebrate an evening of renewal — of our spirit and of the natural world. For more details on the program and how to prepare, please visit emanuelsf.org.

Tree Hugging: A Tu B'Shevat Meditation

By Rabbi and Scholar-in-Residence Lawrence Kushner

Short of giving birth, there may be no purer metaphor for our organic interrelationship with the universe than a TREE (or, if you live in California, “hugging” one).

As Martin Buber, probably the most prolific Jewish teacher of the 20th century, suggests in his monumental *I and Thou*: “I contemplate a tree...” (Kaufman, trans., 1970, pp. 57–9; Smith, trans., pp. 7–8). To paraphrase Buber, I can sense the roots drawing nourishment from the soil, the leaves drawing life energy from the sun; the tree and I are no longer separate beings, but for a moment we are dimensions of the same organism into which all of being is dissolved. When I studied philosophy, the cognoscenti shared a joke that “Buber does it with trees!”

The Kabbalists (Jewish mystics) of course were way ahead of him, and most of us, too. When they sought an image that might envision our relationship with the divine, they chose a tree. But not one like those we all know, planted in the earth; their “tree” was rooted in the heavens and effectively represented all of creation.

This inverted tree makes its first appearance in 12th-century Provence and is falsely attributed to Rabbi Nehunia

ben Hakana, a 1st-century Talmudic sage. Until the Zohar appeared near the end of the 13th century, Sefer haBahir was probably the most important Kabbalistic work. In the following well-known passage, we are offered the image of this cosmic (inverted?) tree, and with it the notion that all beings may literally be a single organism. God speaks:



I am the One who planted this tree for the whole world to enjoy. I have spread out everything within it. And I proclaimed its name: Everything. For everything depends on it and everything issues from it; everything needs it; to it they gaze and for it they wait and from there the souls blossom in joy. I was alone when I made it and no angel can rise above it saying, "I came before You." Furthermore, when I spread forth My earth in which I planted and rooted this tree. And I exulted alone and I exulted with them. Who was there with Me to whom I might have revealed this secret of Mine? (1:22)

Think of yourself as one of the tree's twigs or perhaps a leaf, drawing your life force from the Holy One. This image represents the organic interconnectedness of all beings, and to understand that is to comprehend your own consciousness and God's (Gershom Scholem, *On the Kabbalah and its Symbolism*, 106). Go ahead, I dare you. Some Shabbat afternoon, when no one is watching, hug a tree.

This Tu B'Shevat, nature has never been so critical to our happiness

By Phil Ginsburg, Congregant and General Manager of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

The holiday of Tu B'Shevat — the birthday of the trees — is devoted to expressing our thanks to nature. This year in particular, nature deserves our boundless gratitude. Healthcare workers may be the biggest heroes of the global pandemic, but mother nature herself isn't far behind. As General Manager of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, I've had a front row seat to her sanity-saving, isolation-busting powers in 2020. Amid the coronavirus outbreak, our neighborhood parks have become sanctuaries to escape our worries for a few moments. In Golden Gate Park alone, visits have increased 600 percent.

The beauty and stillness of nature is a salve for our jangled nerves. The onslaught of bad news and the confinement of our homes are replaced by chirping birds and expansive green space. Time-bending loneliness gives way to life all around us, without having to breach social distancing rules. In recognition of these benefits, the city's health order was crafted specifically to allow for time outside. Even in the most restrictive purple tier, most of San Francisco's city parks, trails, and green spaces remain open for exploration, exercise, and emotional and spiritual recharging.

Nature makes us remember what it's like to feel fully human, something that's recognized in the environmental sensitivity of Jewish tradition and proven through modern science. Yes, studies show spending time in nature



makes us happier, smarter, and calmer. It improves the academic performance of children, diminishes the sense of isolation among seniors, and reduces the crime rate of neighborhoods.

From the ancient Hebrews celebrating their harvest to 17th-century Kabbalists tasting the fruits and nuts of Israel at their Seders, to early Zionists restoring the ecology of our ancestral homeland, celebrating Tu B'Shevat has meant celebrating healing, renewal, and nature's spiritual grace.

Perhaps most of all, we associate Tu B'Shevat with planting trees, a patient endeavor to benefit future generations.

This spirit of providing for those who come after us is central to Tikkun Olam and ecological justice. The efforts of San Francisco's early civic leaders, many from the Jewish community, bloom 150 years later in Golden Gate Park. You can see their legacy in the shade of the park's 60,000 trees or the network of leafy trails where once only sand dunes stood.

We are the beneficiaries of these trees planted for the future. This Tu B'Shevat, we must ask ourselves what we can do for our children's and grandchildren's future. As the Native American proverb reminds us, we did not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we are borrowing it from our children.

You may plant a tree or nurture an herb box in your backyard or on your windowsill. Clean up litter along the shoreline. Pledge to reduce your waste. Volunteer to maintain your neighborhood park or favorite trail through the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's volunteer program, which is operating with modifications in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. You can help restore habitats in our undeveloped open spaces through planting and propagating native plants, controlling erosion, and monitoring wildlife habitat.

Working in the dirt not your style? Donate to an organization that ensures underserved communities can reap the benefits of the outdoors. Access to nature is a right, particularly for children.

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that nature isn't a mere perk. It is central to our happiness. On Tu B'Shevat, the original Earth Day, let's say "thanks" in a way that echoes for generations.

SPOTLIGHT

Building Resilience

During the winter season of 2021, Congregation Emanu-El invites you to join us for any of nine (virtual) sessions that will explore and uncover tools to help build resiliency in thought and practice — as individuals and in community — in this time of COVID-19.

We will explore Jewish texts and history to illuminate the topic of resilience, and we'll learn from clergy, expert facilitators, and each other as we deepen sacred and communal connections and spark our own light during this dark season.

You can create your own path by signing up for individual sessions

or for multiple (free for members and \$10/class for non-members). You're welcome to enjoy your dinner or a snack while participating in the class. Please register: www.emanuelsf.org/resiliency

PROGRAM DATES AND INFORMATION

KEYNOTE

January 13: Reflections on Resilience: Lessons from Jewish History

(led by Rabbi Stephen Pearce and co-facilitated by Heidi Winig, M.Ed, MPH)

For the first class, Rabbi Pearce will examine Jewish history and texts to provide the framework for the series going forward.

January 20: Sustaining and Nourishing Relationships During Quarantine

(led by Rabbi Ryan Bauer)

Rabbi Bauer will discuss how we can use ancient Jewish tools to make relationships work more seamlessly, and explore how we can effectively lead through our behavior.



Heidi Winig, M.Ed, MPH

January 27: Maintaining Emotional Health in the Face of Social Isolation

(led by Rabbi Beth Singer and co-facilitated by Madeline Levine, PhD)

Rabbi Singer and Dr. Levine will lead a broad conversation that examines the many lessons we've learned regarding emotional health since the start of the pandemic, and how this knowledge can be applied as we navigate what will hopefully be the final months of lives disrupted by COVID. Dr. Levine is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Price of Privilege* and *Teach Your Children Well*.



Madeline Levine, PhD

February 10: Childcare and Becoming Teachers to our Children

(led by Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris and Early Childhood Education Director Nika Greenberg, M.Ed., and co-facilitated by Dana Blum, Senior Director, Bay Area, Common Sense Media)



Dana Blum

February 17: Supporting Your School Age Child and Adolescent Through the Pandemic

(led by Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Marjorie Swig, MS/LMFT)



Marjorie Swig, MS/LMFT

March 3: Navigating Bereavement and Loss

(led by Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris)

March 10: Caring for Sick or Aging Relatives

(led by Julie Mayer, Emanu-El's Pastoral Care Provider)

March 17: Confronting Uncertainty

(led by Rabbi Jason Rodich)

March 24: Creating a Roadmap and Developing Tools

(led by Cantor Marsha Attie and co-facilitated by Nina Kaufman, Coach)



Nina Kaufman, Coach

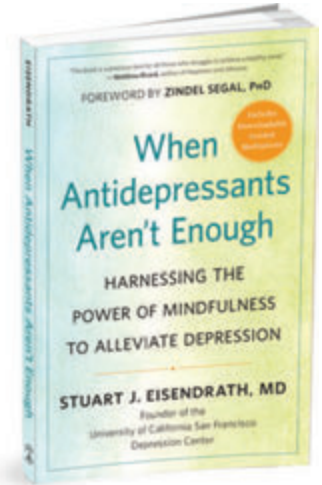


Rabbi Bauer and Professor Eisendrath on Mindfulness Meditation

Tuesday, January 19, 6:30 pm

Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Professor Stuart Eisendrath will engage in a dialogue about the values and principles of meditation. Rabbi Bauer will give an overview and an introduction. Then, using slides and other visual information, Professor Eisendrath will dive deeper while speaking about Mindfulness Meditation.

Professor Eisendrath is the author of *When Antidepressants Aren't Enough: Harnessing the Power of Mindfulness to Alleviate Depression*.



Conversation with Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Rabbi Steve Leder

Thursday, February 4, 7:00 pm, via Zoom



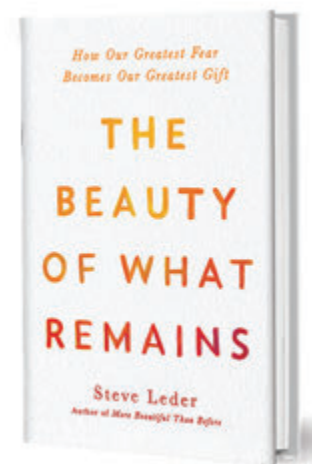
Join us for a conversation between Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Rabbi Steve Leder on his new book, *The Beauty of What Remains: How Our Greatest Fear Becomes our Greatest Gift*.

As head of one of the world's largest synagogues and a Rabbi who has presided over more than a thousand funerals, Steve Leder thought he knew how to cope with death — until his father died. It was then that Rabbi Leder suddenly found himself facing his own experience of love, regret, and pain in a more personal and intimate way than ever before. What he discovered was life changing: in death we do not lose; we actually gain more than we ever imagined. *The Beauty of What Remains* (published January 5, 2021) is a deeply moving and inspiring narrative that takes us on the journey of loss and grief that is common to us all. For it is along this path that we learn the beauty of what remains. Rabbi Leder says that “understanding death — its rituals, its lessons, its gift to reshape love through memory, its grief, its powerful reminder that it is not what but who we have that matters — gives our lives exquisite meaning.” Through personal reflections and heart-warming stories, he brings the reader into a conversation about what is

important and urges us to live more meaningful, more beautiful lives that are less anxious and less frenetic.

Steve Leder is the Senior Rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles and the author of several books: *The Extraordinary Nature of Ordinary Things*, *More Money Than God*, and the bestseller *More Beautiful Than Before*. He received his degree in writing from Northwestern University, and spent time studying at Trinity College, Oxford University before receiving a master's degree in Hebrew letters in 1986 and rabbinical ordination in 1987, from Hebrew Union College. Originally from Minneapolis, Rabbi Leder now lives in Los Angeles with his family.

Please register online for this program.



COMMUNITY



Bringing in the Light for Justice Zoom Pulpit Exchange MLK Weekend

Save the dates for our 34th Pulpit Exchange in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.! Join us Friday through Monday, January 15-18, for a weekend of festive music, worship, sermons, and multiple opportunities for safe and warm online interaction between the members of Congregation Emanu-El and Third Baptist Church.

The weekend events will begin Friday evening with a Pre-Oneg gathering on Zoom, followed by the Shabbat service. Reverend Amos Brown will deliver the sermon as we welcome the light of Shabbat into our homes and our community. On Sunday, Congregation Emanu-El members are invited to take part (virtually) in Third Baptist Church's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday morning service. Rabbi Jonathan Singer will deliver the sermon and Cantor Arik Luck will participate in song.

Pre-Oneg Gathering

Friday, January 15, 6:00 pm

MLK Commemoration Service

Friday, January 15, 6:30 pm

Sunday Morning Service

Sunday, January 17, 10:00 am

Stay tuned for announcements of interactive service projects and other programs to honor the legacy of Dr. King, as we collectively work to create a just and equitable world!

Emanu-El B'Bayit: Spring 2021

Want to build deeper relationships with fellow congregants who share your interests, passions, and life experiences? We are launching the second semester (February-June) of Emanu-El B'Bayit small groups, and we invite you to join! Formed by interests, geography, needs, or demographics, each B'Bayit group will consist of up to 20 individuals or 10 families who get together regularly to celebrate, play, pray, and/or learn with each other. B'Bayit groups are all member-led, with an eye toward the ever-changing realities of our world in 2021. These groups can be held virtually or in person. Contact Leah Shapiro at ishapiro@emanuelsf.org with any questions.

Jews of Color Virtual Gathering

Thursday, January 21, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Led by congregants who identify as Jews of Color, we are convening regular gatherings of Emanu-El members, of any race or ethnicity, to meet each other, share stories, and explore the needs and hopes of our community. The intention is to create a safe space to share thoughts and engage in conversation about the experience of being Jews of Color. Emanu-El is committed to ensuring safety, equity, and justice within our community and in the wider Jewish community. Jews of Color gatherings are hosted by congregant Kristin Eriko Posner and board member Paula Pretlow.

Homeless Prenatal Program at Jelani House — Bring Lunches to New Moms!

What are Jelani House and HPP?

Jelani House, which opened in February 2020 in San Francisco's Bayview District, is a transitional housing shelter for new mothers experiencing homelessness. The Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP) facilitates programs at Jelani House to create a healing home that fosters stability while residents acclimate to motherhood. These women need specialized support, as homelessness poses a significant risk to birth outcomes. Along with housing assistance, HPP offers classes in health, parenting, and finances, with the aim of boosting homeless women and their children into permanent housing and a better future.

How can you help?

As a volunteer for this program, your responsibility is to drop off lunch for 15 on Wednesdays between 11:00 and 11:30 a.m. Please bring a main course, a vegetable or fruit salad, and dessert to feed 15 women. The food may be cooked at home or purchased (note that we are unable to offer reimbursement). Your coordinator will be in touch with reminders and more information a few days prior. Please check the Tzedek Council web page to sign up.

"The meals prepared by the congregants at Temple Emanuel are the best meals of the week!"

—Martha Ryan (HPP Founder)

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

During the summer, we promised our Youth and Family Education (YFE) families “Judaism no matter what!” There has been plenty of “what” since then, and we are proud of all that we accomplished during the first semester of the 2020–21 school year.



As we had anticipated, enrollment didn't reach the levels of the previous year, but we are offering a full range of religious school classes on Sundays and Wednesdays, and Hebrew classes Sundays through Thursdays. We have been gratified and surprised that we now have more people attending Sunday T'fillah than would be able to fit in Martin Meyer Sanctuary! Our teachers have learned to use Zoom features successfully, showing videos

and slide shows, using turn-page textbooks and interactive white-boards, and creating a wide variety of games on Kahoot, Flippety, and other apps. Our teen Madrichim feel pleased to be leading small groups in breakout rooms, and classes are filled with smiling faces and students eager to learn and share. Since our students know more about technology than anyone, they often support their teachers (and me) with instructions and helpful hints. Sometimes students and teachers alike show up in class with bunny ears, halos, or blue mustaches. We all know that Zoom isn't ideal, and it's exhausting, but we're making the best of it and have been able to do some things on Zoom that wouldn't have been possible in person, such as allowing students to play instruments, show us things in their homes, and post the sunset outside their window as we say the evening prayers in T'fillah. And now even pets are welcome in class, which is always comforting.

Once the school year got underway, in the later fall we formed a partnership with Wilderness Torah, a center for Earth Based Judaism, and now offer outdoor classes for our 1st- through 4th-grade Sunday students. Meeting in person in the Presidio with Wilderness Torah mentors, the

children have a wonderful time learning about values, holidays, the Jewish calendar, and more while connecting, playing, hiking, making projects, and enjoying the fresh air and natural beauty so close to the Temple. They finish each session tired and dirty, sure signs of a successful outing.

Our talented art teacher, Ava Rosen, has continued producing weekly videos of art projects students can make at home with materials most families have on hand, including many recycled

items. In addition to her weekly appearances at Sunday and Wednesday T'fillah, she has expanded into outdoor projects, allowing small groups of families to play with and sculpt clay in the Temple courtyard and to make sand candles for Chanukah at Baker Beach. We look forward to additional monthly art sessions outside.

The unusual circumstances of this year have allowed college students from all over the country to teach our classes and families living out of the area to attend. Of course we all look forward to the time that we can learn together in person, and while we wait for that day, Jewish education goes on. On a daily basis, we model our values of respect and love for one another and the learning process, resilience, and acceptance, while we bring joy to each other. At the end of this pandemic, we'll look back on our school year and remember the connections we formed and the support we provided one another, and our YFE community will hold an important place in all our hearts.

Flora Kupferman
YFE Acting Director
Congregation Emanu-El



COVID and Community

A community is about dancing with each other at peak moments and supporting each other in times of struggle. For many of us, the pandemic continues to be a time of struggle and hardship — emotionally, physically, and financially. We as your clergy want you to know that you are not alone and that we are here to support you.

In addition, if you or your loved ones have tested positive for COVID-19 — whether asymptomatic and in quarantine, experiencing symptoms, or in the recovery process — we are here for you. Some of our congregants have already shared their own COVID stories with us and it's important to not feel any stigma if you have been affected by this terrible virus.

If you would like a member of our clergy to reach out to you in support, please do not hesitate to email Ariana Estoque at aestoque@emanuelsf.org, or leave a message on the main temple phone line at 415-751-2535 and someone will reach out to you. We pray for healing for all who are struggling, and we want you to know you are not alone.

DONORS

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 November 1, 2020 – November 30, 2020.

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

Jennifer Goldman & Erich Wallis
in honor of Cantor Marsha Attie

Debra & Scott Hilleboe
in celebration of Kate Hilleboe's Bat Mitzvah

Peter Yolles & Jill Einstein
in memory of Gary Luck

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

Charles & Lenore Bleadon

Stuart & Debra Eisendrath
in observance of the Yahrzeit of Harriet Kesselman Hansher

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

Caren Alpert

Adrian & Amanda Brown

Natalia Daniel & Oded Pelled

Lindsey & Akiva Felt

David Nelson & Inna Gartsman

David & Cheri Goldberg
in honor of Mimi Greisman

Judith Hellman

Jeffrey & Lana Horowitz
in memory of Fred Horowitz

Jason & Rebecca Karsh

Victor & Alla Mezhvinsky

Victor Mezhvinsky

Jill Nisson & Herk Confer

Alexander & Sarah Papoff

Maxine & Justin Raphael

Jennifer Saslaw & Max Simkoff

Jacob & Emily Stillman

Lauren Weitzman & Bruce Falck

Emerson Whitley

Lisa & Alex Yakubovich
in appreciation of Nika Greenberg

Alyssa & Aviram Zagorie

FOR THE ROOSEVELT FOOD PANTRY

Stephanie Scott (2)
in observance of the Yahrzeit of William M. Scott

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.

Marilyn Brenner
in honor of Rabbi Jonathan Singer

Scott Eisenberg
in appreciation of Lenore Naxon, Bill and Ilana Black

Jennifer Goldman & Erich Wallis
in honor of Rabbi Sydney Mintz

Tatiana Goldstein & Edward Schaffer
in appreciation of Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Cantor Marsha Attie

William & Melanie Grossman
in appreciation of Rabbi Beth Singer

Debra & Scott Hilleboe
in honor of Kate Hilleboe's Bat Mitzvah

Lane Loyko
in memory of Phyllis Atterbury Loyko

Sonia Melnikova-Raich & David Raich
in memory of Abraham Raich, Adelyn Raich, Mikhail Melnikov-Eichenvald, Maya Israilevich, Yerukhim Israilevich and Leah Kholodovskaya

Kenneth & Deborah Novack
in observance of the Yahrzeit of Dorothy Louise Scheibner Novack

Robin Reitzes
in memory of Phyllis Atterbury Loyko

Martin Robinson
in memory of Edis Robinson

Laura Salzberg Grant & Jonathan Grant
in honor of Liv Talia's baby naming

Michael & Pamela Schneider

in memory of Lester Schneider, Idella Schneider, Edward Schneider, Laura Schneider, and Jacqueline Schneider

Albert Villa

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.

Judi Leff & Kevin Brown
in memory of Phyllis Loyko

Judi Leff & Kevin Brown
in memory of Gary Melvin Luck

TO SUPPORT THE TZEDEK COUNCIL EFFORTS

Ron & Allison Abta

Ronald Albucher

Mayya & Albert Arroyo

Rabbi Ryan Bauer & Alisa Arquilevich

Carol & David Berluti

Elyse Blatt

Nersi & Eileen Boussina

Marvin & Carole Breen

Trela Caler & Lexy Loewenstein

Joshua & Jessica Callahan

Bari & Sean Cessna

Neil & Beth Cherry

Andy & Melissa Cohen

Nick Gianos & Brynna Deaver Gianos

Amanda & Santino DeRose

Jennifer & Mike Derrick

Sarah & Clive Downie

Simona Dumitru-Rose & Jeffrey Rose

Gregor & Annika Ehrlich

Jessica & Michael Eisler

John & Sarah Esterkyn

Lara Ettenson

H. Michael Feldman &
Christine Glastonbury

Zachary & Rachel Felson

Jeff & Claire Fluhr

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Meredith Heller & Blake Kutner

Judith Hellman

Debra & Scott Hilleboe

Joshua Hoffman & Kathryn Morris

Jon Holman & Diana Grand

David Houska & Kathleen Easterbrook

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Lecia & Thor Kaslofsky

Scott & Deborah Kay

Judith Kneeter &
Rabbi Edward Zerlin

Persis Knobbe

Andrew & Lauren Kowal

Terry Kraus

James & Ann Lazarus

Max & Nellie Levchin

Juliet & Dan Levinson

Howard & Janet Lockshin

Patricia Lurie

Cathy Manshel & Bill Rusitzky

Warren Metlitzky & Christine Gould

Susan Moldaw & Bob Stallings

Mark & Jamie Myers

Harry & Marilyn Nebenzahl (2)
in honor of their grandchildren

Brian & Karen Perlman

Kelly Pfeifer

Lily & Michael Rivo

Alan & Susan Rothenberg

Susie & Denis Roy

Ann Rubin

Jennifer Saslaw & Max Simkoff

Edward & Lynne Segal

Robbi & Leo Shveyd

Gwen Sidley

Gary Stolzoff & Suzi Alexander

Adam & Dahlia Topkis

Carol Vollen

Debbie Carini & Andy Weissman

Kirsten Wolberg

Peter Yolles & Jill Einstein

Hilary Zarrow

Karen & Stephan Zuercher

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

Daniel & Alla Klionsky
in observance of the Yahrzeit of
Hannah Katz

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Judith Kneeter & Rabbi Edward Zerlin

Rebecca & Eric Stone

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg
Foundation, Inc.

Brand New Addition to the Emanu-El Community!

Rabbi Jason Rodich and his husband Fran Benjamin became proud parents of their newborn, Isadora Mae Benjamin-Rodich, on November 20, 2020. Born to surrogate mother Bri Mulvaney at 9:23 am in Minneapolis, Minnesota, we welcome Isadora to our Emanu-El family!

In July 2012, under their chuppah, Fran and Jason made a promise to one another as part of their *Brit Ahuvim* (Lover's Covenant), with the words of Rabbi Adler:

"The grooms agree that should they have children, they shall raise them with love and safety and respect, in the ways of Torah, and in the traditions of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah. That their children may be in awe of Heaven, pursuers of peace, and lovers of justice and lovingkindness so that they shall fulfill what is written:

הָיָה מִתְלַמְּדֵי שֶׁל אֶהְרֶן, אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם,
אוֹהֵב אֶת הַבְּרִיּוֹת וּמִקְרָבָן לַתּוֹרָה:

*Be among the students of Aaron: love peace and pursue peace, love all living creatures,
and draw close to the Torah. (Avot 1:12)*





EMANU-EL
LEGACY
CIRCLE

Congregation Emanu-El Legacy Circle Message from Alan Warshaw

Alan Warshaw has been a member of Congregation Emanu-El since 2001 and active on the Israel Action Committee, the Adult Education Committee, Torah Study, and participated in many social action projects over the years. He continues to support the World Union for Progressive Judaism, the Israel Movement for Progressive & Reform Judaism, and the Reform Movement as an alumnus of the URJ Board.



Alan Warshaw

"I joined the Emanu-El Legacy Circle when I was a member for only a few years. Many years have passed, and I even more appreciate the long-term significance that the Legacy Circle provides now and in the distant future. Synagogues offer worship services, children's education, social action, and many other services every day. However, Emanu-El today exists because of the vision of almost 200 years of our predecessors of whom we are the beneficiaries. For me, being part of this journey for the future is meaningful - I am proud to be part of the Legacy Circle.

I am passionate about the Reform Movement and synagogues like Congregation Emanu-El, which provide a 21st-Century Jewish practice that appeals to our members, who represent an impressive diversity of journeys and now are part of our community. Our rabbis and cantors provide the cornerstone of our leadership thanks to the Reform Movement's seminary, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion that ordains our rabbis and cantors across four campuses in North America and Israel. This "empowered choice" that the Reform Movement provides and Congregation Emanu-El executes, will ensure that Judaism continues to thrive in our lifetimes. Thanks to the Legacy Circle, it will also help ensure future generations to provide the welcoming and meaningful Jewish experience I appreciate myself.

In my Jewish journey, I have been bar mitzvah, confirmed, and a member of many Reform synagogues where I have lived over many places. I have been on the Board of Trustees of the Union for Reform Judaism and a temple board member. I am a committed liberal Zionist, an overseas member of 3 Reform synagogues in Israel, and active in many Reform Movement initiatives that support liberal Judaism in Israel.

I am grateful that my grandparents, who came to America to escape the mistreatment of Jews in Europe in the late 19th century at the same time at the Reform Movement was planting seeds for today's Judaism. Together, their descendants like myself and Congregation Emanu-El have grown and thrived on giving us the privilege to have such an endeavor, a Legacy Circle for the future." - Alan Warshaw

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

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/
- **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

LIFE-CYCLES

Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

Cynthia Marks Shegalov (German Shegalov) on the loss of her grandmother, and Cecily Shegalov on the passing of her great-grandmother, **Shirlee Marks**

Michelle Brant on the loss of her husband, and Sarah Brant on the passing of her father, **Dr. Leonard Brant**

Harry Nebenzahl (Marilyn) on the loss of his sister, **Bertha Jane Nebenzahl**

Gary Schnitzer (Sandra Wilder) and Deborah Novack (Kenneth) on the loss of their mother, **Thelma Steinberg Schnitzer**

Dovid Coplon (Erika) on the loss of his mother, and Daphne and Trixie Coplon on the loss of their grandmother, **Sandy Coplon**

David Ginsburg (Jennifer Jackson) on the loss of his father, and Maxwell Ginsburg on the passing of his grandfather, **Sigmund Ginsburg**

Sonia Melnikova-Raich (David Raich) on the loss of her cousin, **Elena Bas Avraham Eliyahu Kozlova**

Correction from December Chronicle: Our community mourns the loss of Paul Ross, originally from Connecticut and more recently of San Francisco; not the Paul Ross of Pacifica, married to Jamie Freedman and father to Lori Ross. We apologize for this misprint.

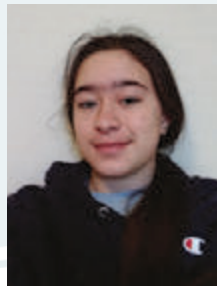
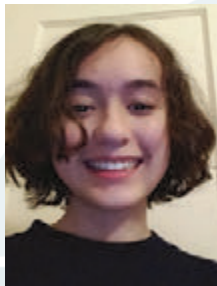
Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

Rabbi Jason Rodich and **Fran Benjamin** on the birth of their daughter, Isadora Mae Benjamin-Rodich, on November 20, 2020

Olha Shainoha and **Avishai Abrahami** on the birth of their daughter, Arya Abrahami, on June 29, 2020

Welcome New Members!

Louis Aronow
Susan Aronow
Amy Edelson
Kyra Edelson
Lilah Edelson
Camilla Gadd
Gabriella Greenberg
Andrew Han
David Kumka
Jennifer Perri



Everett Gross

Bar Mitzvah:

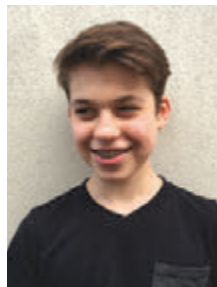
January 9, 2021

Parents:

Stefanie Rosenberg and Christopher Gross

Torah Portion:

Shemoth



Ezra Wolf

Bar Mitzvah:

January 16, 2021

Parents:

Eva Sheppard Wolf and Sven Wolf

Torah Portion:

Vaera



Simone Schachter

Bat Mitzvah:

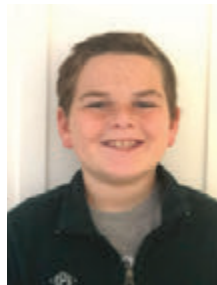
January 16, 2021

Parents:

Charlene and Bart Schachter

Torah Portion:

Vaera



Elliot Perelmutter

Bar Mitzvah:

January 23, 2021

Parents:

Shelley Bransten and Rotem Perelmutter

Torah Portion:

Bo

Katherine and Elizabeth Rogers

B'not Mitzvah:

January 30, 2021

Parents:

Lee-Lan Yip and Dale Rogers

Torah Portion:

Beshalah



Congregation Emanu-El
Two Lake Street
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www.emanuelsf.org
(415) 751-2535

PERIODICAL

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

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*

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We Are Working To End Family Homelessness In The San Francisco Bay Area

Sponsor "Welcome Home" Move-In Kits For Families Exiting Homelessness

We need your help! Congregation Emanu-El and Hamilton Families are working together to assist Bay Area homeless families in locating a safe place to sleep. Every day, Hamilton Families works tirelessly to help these families find housing and transition into their own homes, and ensure that they have the resources and services they need to stabilize and thrive.

You can help support our Rapid ReHousing program by providing household necessities and creature comforts that families experiencing homelessness need as they move into their new homes. Sponsor "Welcome Home" move-in kits — including such items as dish sets, pots and pans, towels, bedding, kitchen appliances, and so much more.

Check the Tzedek Council web page for details and to sign up.
www.emanuelsf.org/community/volunteer/

Thank You, Tzedek Council November Volunteers:

Aaron Finegold	Flora Kupferman
Amanda DeRose	Guillemette
Andrea Rouah	Brouillat-Spiegel
Anita Josefa	Jacqueline Quella
Barzman, MD	Janet Broude
Ann Lazarus	Jeanne Miller
Barbara Sobel	Jennifer Derrick
Becca Katz	Joanne Vidinsky
Brian Perlman	Joel Lewenstein
Caroline Weinstein	Kevin Goldstein
Carolyn Hutchinson	Kimberly Boigon
Charlene Schachter	Laura Weinstein
Dahlia Topkis	Leo Shveyd
David Goldman	Leslie Friedman
Deborah Kay	Lisa Douglass
Debra Hilleboe	Lisa Krim
Elyse Blatt	Mariko Kawaguchi
Erik Rice	Marjory Kaplan
Erika Coplon	Mark Sugarman



Hamilton Families
HOUSING FIRST. COMMUNITY STRONG.



Melissa Koenigsberg
Melissa Nemer
Pamela Wellner
Patricia Lurie
Paula Freedman
Rebecca Zucker
Robbi Shveyd
Ronald Albucher
Salima Jacobson
Sarah Rose
Scott Snow
Shira Blatt
Susan Rothenberg