

# *Emanu-El SF*

CONGREGATION EMANU-EL SAN FRANCISCO

## Welcome Back

**TO TEMPLE EMANU-EL**  
Returning to our sacred  
place knowing what we  
know now that we  
didn't know then.

# Welcome Back

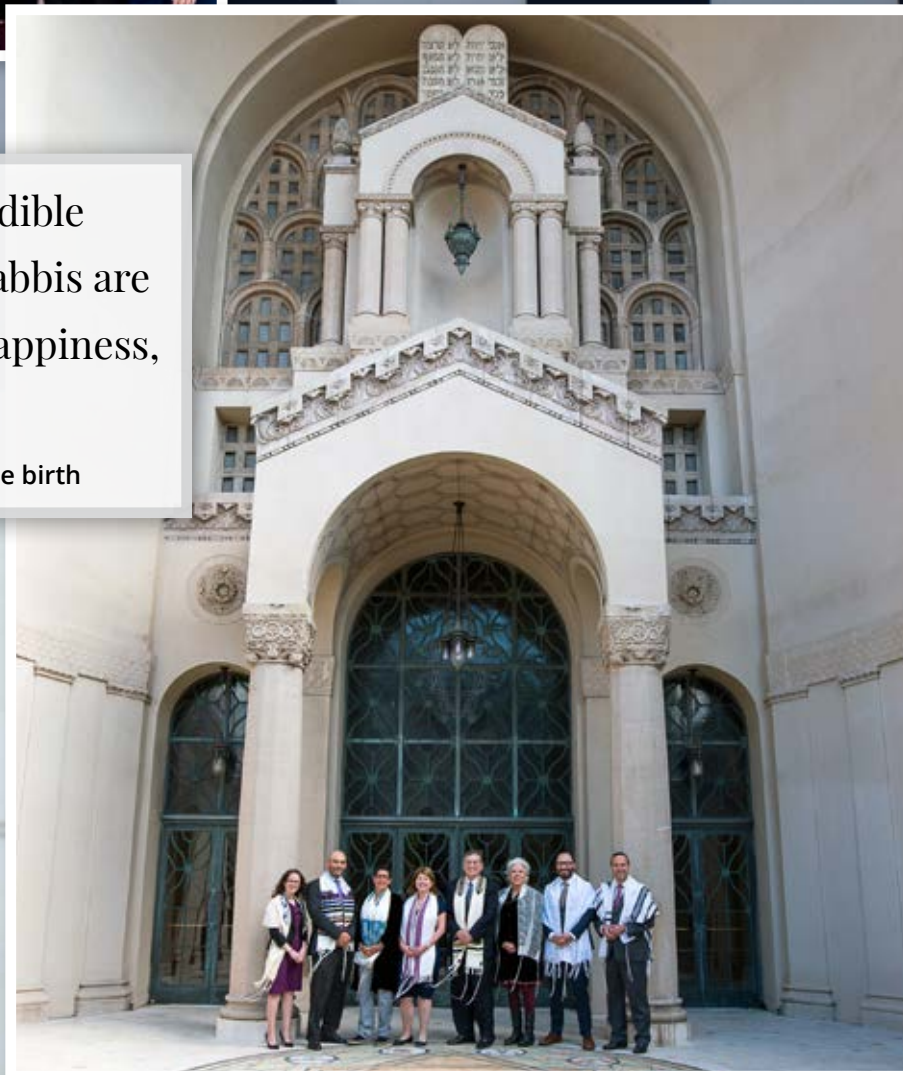
One of the many Hebrew words for God is *HaMakom*, which means, "The Place." During the pandemic, we learned that Judaism can happen any place, including on our computers and

devices. Now, we are ready to return to our *Makom*, our sacred place at Lake and Arguello. We welcome you to find *HaMakom*, that sense of Holy Place in our physical return to Congregation Emanu-El in this year to come. We have missed seeing your beautiful faces. Welcome Home!



"Emanu-El and the incredible staff, community, and Rabbis are my light and source of happiness, always and forever."

Emma T., 20 years old, member since birth







We are excited to begin opening our doors to our Emanu-El family! Currently we are allowing in-person worship on Shabbat, planning hybrid High Holy Day programming, and developing primarily in-person curricula in our Youth and Family Education (YFE) and Preschool (CEEP) programs. As we work hard to welcome our community back to our beautiful campus, we will continue to livestream Shabbat and holiday services for those who cannot join us at Lake Street. We hope to see you soon, whether in person or online.

For the most up-to-date attendance information and registration options for Shabbat as well as High Holy Day services, please visit us online at [emanuelsf.org/reopening](https://emanuelsf.org/reopening).

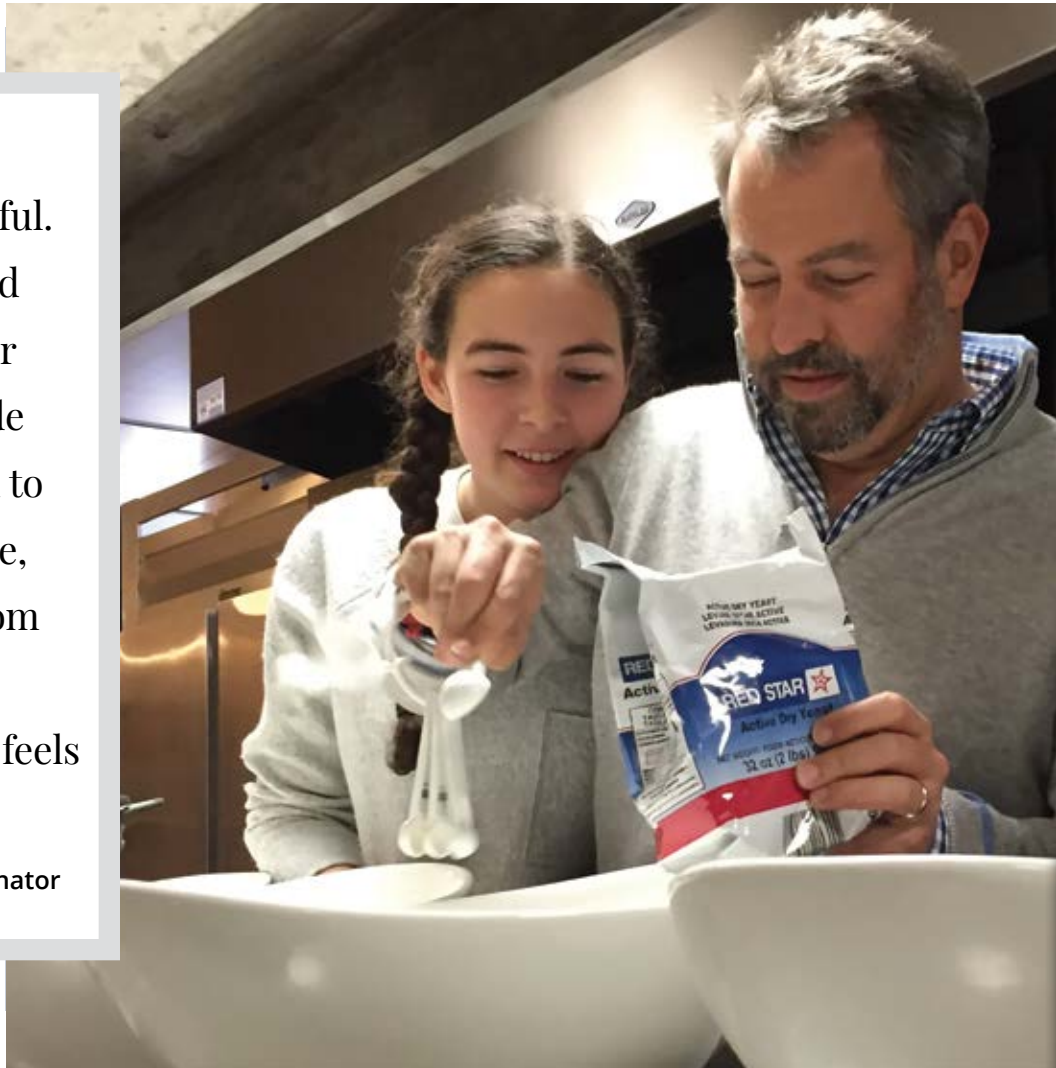
“People were hungry for a space to have spiritual, religious conversations with each other.”

Anita B., B'Bayit Group Member

# Something for Everyone

“The community at Emanu-El is so thoughtful. From beautifully curated bags filled with items for new moms to homemade lunches hand-delivered to residents of Jelani House, every service project from the Council includes a generosity of spirit that feels personable and loving.”

Sharon B., HPP Volunteer Coordinator



## Social Justice

In 2015, Congregation Emanu-El's Tzedek Council was launched as a congregant-, board-, and rabbi-run group, charged with the task of raising awareness and organizing our community, to create timely and impactful social justice programs and volunteer opportunities. Since that time, it has been a privilege to join with our members in translating our Jewish values into action, responding to the injustices that impact our community and world. Through this journey we have done our part in transforming our world from how it 'is' and closer to how it 'ought' to be. While participating in this sacred work has resulted in our own spirits strengthened, that is not what drives us. We are driven by the fact that living our Jewish values are more vital than ever in our changing world. Together, our activism creates a living Judaism that will endure.

– Rabbi Ryan Bauer

## Holidays and Life-Cycles

The year-round calendar of major Jewish holidays offers ample opportunity to deepen community connections and allow our Members to find their own individual path into a more meaningful Jewish life. We celebrate through a combination of clergy-led services and rituals, social justice opportunities, and holiday events, to give everyone within our diverse community a way to participate.

Join together to mark milestones of all kinds including B'nei Mitzvah, Gender Affirmation Ceremonies, Baby Namings, Funerals, Memorials, Weddings, Conversions, and more. Our clergy and staff strive to ensure that each sacred 'Shehecheyanu Moment' is deeply fulfilling and personal.







“It’s a great feeling of community — when we all get back to the temple, we’re going to know each other!”

Meta P., B'Bayit Group Member



## Emanu-El B'Bayit Small Groups

Are you looking to find your people at Emanu-El? Want to build deeper relationships with others who share your interests, passions, and life experiences? Join a B'Bayit small group to connect with our community and get to know a small group of fellow congregants. Groups range from New Parents groups to Women's Challah Baking groups to Young Adult Book Clubs and everything in between. New groups launch each year and if you would like to create a small group around a particular passion, we would be thrilled to support you!

## Adult Learning & Israel Action

At Emanu-El, we are an active community of lifelong Jewish learners – in the endless pursuit of spiritual growth and exploration. We are also deeply involved in creating a place for open dialogue, support and engagement around Israel and its wonder. As Jews, we are compelled to question and debate. These conversations energize us as we gain new perspectives and challenge our own long-held beliefs. Our shared desire for knowledge and for community enriches us as individuals and bonds us as a congregation. Emanu-El thrives when we are learning together. We hope that you will find time on your calendar and in your mind to join us on a thought-provoking and powerful Jewish journey. We offer multi-week courses, one-offs, yearlong options and guest lecture weekends. Join us.





Some programs we've enjoyed over the past two years include:

Cooking Class  
Challah Baking  
Workout Class  
Mixology  
Torah on Tap  
Jewish Book Club  
Shabbat Hike  
Community Dinners  
Interviewing 101  
Financial Planning 101  
Shabbat Candle Lighting  
Speed Friending  
Chanukah Kit Delivery  
...and more!

## Young Adults

Emanu-El's Young Adult Community continues to be one of the most unique and special spaces for Bay Area young adults to explore their Judaism. Through spiritual, educational, volunteer, and social opportunities, the Young Adult Leadership Committee brings their passions to Jewish 20- and 30-somethings around the Bay, in order to connect Jewish young adults with long lasting community.



“Creating and investing in relationships is something I've always valued and my hope is that, as a group and organization, the temple and the YALC team continue to create space for deeper, long-lasting friendships.”

Misha K., Young Adult Community Member





# Youth and Family Education

Youth and Family Education (YFE) is where students, preschool through 12th grade, and families come together as a community to ask and wrestle with life's really big questions. Our goals include:

- Actively reinventing deep Jewish education
- Establishing alternative pathways to meet students' interests and learning strengths
- Nurturing students to become joyful and literate Jewish adults
- Creating the space for children and families to feel that Emanu-El is their home, the place they go to find their people
- Fashioning opportunities for social camaraderie and youth leadership in social action

## Message from Leo Fuchs, Director of YFE



A *midrash* teaches that the questions students earnestly ask teachers are part of revelation at Sinai (*Shemot Rabbah* 47:1), and the Talmud teaches we should think of our children as builders (*Berakhot* 64a). In other words, our students' ideas, questions, creations and ritual innovations are sacred. They will build our Jewish future. For that reason, I could not be

more eager nor feel greater responsibility in accepting the position as Director of Youth and Family Education.

YFE has tremendous opportunity to grow, and now is a time to plan for change. Our students have wide-ranging talents and interests. YFE can meet students where their passions reside and lead them to a strong Jewish identity, Jewish literacy, a sense of community and empowerment as the builders of the Judaism of tomorrow.

I am eager to partner with you to make YFE into the program we dream it can be.

## Congregation Emanu-El Preschool (CEEP)

Congregation Emanu-El Preschool upholds contemporary best practices in the field of early childhood education. We use a Reggio-inspired, inquiry-based approach to learning where teachers and children co-construct curricula that are grounded in Jewish culture and traditions while interweaving developmentally appropriate content in the areas of language and literacy; math; science; arts; music; social-emotional development; and gross and fine motor skills. Our program's outdoor education focus includes frequent adventures through the Presidio National Park and utilizes nature to support each group's inquiry-based curriculum. We serve children 2-6 years old and offer flexible extended care options.

To inquire about our program, please contact us at [CEEPoffice@emanuelf.org](mailto:CEEPoffice@emanuelf.org).





## CONGREGATION EMANU-EL

# Come Home to the Dome!

We are proud to have been a part of the San Francisco community since 1850. While our history provides us with a rich heritage, embracing new congregants ensures that we will be here to serve generations to come. You will be more than welcomed here; you will find the spiritual place where you belong.

Our members build community by being in relationship with one another. We believe in the teachings and values of Judaism and are committed to transmitting this knowledge to all generations. We celebrate in community, knowing that sharing our joyous times makes life's special moments even sweeter — and having support during the tough times makes them bearable.



### Benefits of Membership at Emanu-El

- High Holy Day tickets and Sanctify-Ark Moments
- Emanu-El B'Bayit Groups (small group offerings)
- Discounted classes and program fees
- Member-only programs
- Life cycle events and pastoral care
- Discounted facility rentals for life cycle events
- Temple Chronicle subscription
- Opportunity to join the Tikkun Emanu-El Shuk, which supports local small businesses
- Priority preschool admissions
- Opportunity to enroll in Youth and Family Education and our B'nei Mitzvah Program







### New: Virtual Membership

The pandemic has changed people's perspective on community and locale. We have created a new Virtual membership for those who live 50+ miles outside of the Bay Area but still feel that Emanu-El is their spiritual home. This option allows you all the benefits of membership from afar.



### How to Join or Renew Today

We love to chat with prospective members to share all that Emanu-El has to offer, and to learn more about you and what you are looking for in a synagogue! Call our Director of Member Experience, Ariana Estoque, at 415-750-7552, or email her at [aestoque@emanuelsf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelsf.org).

You can also learn more at and fill out the membership form now at [emanuelsf.org/membership](http://emanuelsf.org/membership).

If you are a current member looking to renew, simply login to your MyEmanuEl Member Portal and renew today!



“Being a member of Emanu-El gives my heart, soul and intellect a community home base where I can serve and be served.”

Judith May S., age 65, member since 1997



# Emanu-El Next: Investing for our Jewish Future

We believe that Judaism guides us on our journey to be better people, create community, and repair the world. Temple Emanu-El has long been cherished as a magnificent building that symbolizes Jewish arrival and integration into our city. But the building no longer adequately serves the need of the Jewish community and hinders our ability to effectively support and engage our congregation. The demands of the 21st-century Jewish community are quite different than those that faced the 300 families in the 1920s who constructed our current building. That's why we have embarked on an ambitious effort to revitalize and reimagine Congregation Emanu-El to meet the expanding needs of current members and those of generations to come.

## Donor Spotlight: Susan Morris

Susan Morris applauds Emanu-El for its work repairing the world and promoting social justice and human rights. "I have a deep and abiding feeling about Congregation Emanu-El in my heart," she says. "It's always been part of my life, and I've always been proud to be a member."

A fourth-generation San Franciscan, Susan's family came to the city during the gold rush. Her great-great-grandparents were members of Congregation Emanu-El in the 1860s and her grandparents were married in 1916 by Rabbi Martin Meyer. Susan grew up just a block and a half down Arguello.

Her late husband, Mark Morris, practiced optometry in the Mission and was deeply involved in optometric organizations making sure that Medi-Cal patients were well served. "He was a generous man who gave so much of his time to others." The two met at Lowell High School and attended college at UC Berkeley. Mark's family were early members of Congregation Sherith Israel in the 1860s. When Susan and Mark were married in 1962 by Rabbi Alvin Fine, they chose to be members of Congregation Emanu-El.

After Mark passed away from ALS in 2010, Susan became very involved with the ALS Association Golden West Chapter and was past chair of the board. She has supported many charities over the years with both volunteer time and resources, including her current service on the Sinai Memorial Chapel Board. During the pandemic, Susan and her children donated to and volunteered at local food banks and supported organizations addressing voting rights issues and working to dismantle systemic racism.

"Philanthropy has always been part of my family ethos. It's who we are and what we do. I don't feel comfortable when I have privileges that just came to me through luck and others don't," Susan says. "And my kids feel this as well. We are grateful — our family has been able to have stable lives and health over many generations. Many people are not able to. So it is an active feeling I constantly have, that if I have this, I need to pass it on."



Susan Morris

Susan invested in Emanu-El Next because she wanted to enable the congregation to move forward with its goals, both structurally for the synagogue and in its work for social justice. Her support will help ensure that the next, and the next, and the next generations of Emanu-El will be able to thrive, to learn to give back to the community, and to have the strength and leadership to heal the world.

"When we talk about seismic stability we understand that buildings need strong foundations. Well, so does our society!" she says. "To me, there's no question that I need to participate to update the building itself. It's an opportunity for the Jewish community and all of San Francisco to strengthen its foundations."

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**If you would like to make a commitment to Emanu-El Next, please contact Julie Weinberg, Director of Development, at [jweinberg@emanuelsf.org](mailto:jweinberg@emanuelsf.org) or (415) 750-7557. Or you can visit the Emanu-El Next website ([next.emanuelsf.org](http://next.emanuelsf.org)) to learn more and make your contribution.**



# Come Home to the Dome

Come home to **spirituality**

...**community**

...**social justice**

...**holiday celebrations**

...**belonging**

...**learning**

...**diversity**

...**the place you can  
be yourself!**

Give our Director of Member Experience, Ariana Estoque  
a call at (415) 750-7552, or email at [aestoque@emanuelf.org](mailto:aestoque@emanuelf.org)  
to learn more about all that Emanu-El has to offer.  
You can also visit us at [emanuelf.org/membership](http://emanuelf.org/membership).





Congregation Emanu-El  
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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*

Jason Rodich, *Rabbi*

Sarah Joselow Parris, *Rabbi*

Marsha Attie, *Cantor*

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

Roslyn Barak, *Senior Cantor Emerita*

Stephen Pearce, Ph.D., *Taube Emanu-El Scholar and Senior Rabbi Emeritus*

Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, *Emanu-El Scholar*

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We are thrilled to announce that Congregation Emanu-El has become the first House of Worship in San Francisco to be certified as a Green Business! The qualification process was rigorous and required upgrading Emanu-El's lighting and water fixtures to be highly efficient, removing toxic products, ensuring high recycled content in paper products, effectively recycling and composting our waste, among many other things. This effort advances our commitment to be stewards of the world.

