

Emanu-El SF

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**Celebrating 50 Years of
Women in the Rabbinate**

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Celebrating 50 Years of Women in the Rabbinate



Rabbi Sally Priesand

This year, we celebrate 50 years since the ordination of the first female American pulpit rabbi: Rabbi Sally Priesand. We are excited to host Rabbi Priesand, alongside Emanu-El's women rabbis, to reflect on how the rabbinate has changed for women over these past 50 years. See page 7 to learn more about how to attend this virtual program.

Congregation Emanu-El has benefited enormously from a talented group of women rabbis and cantors. In celebration of 50 years of women in the American rabbinate, we have asked each of our current and emerita rabbis and cantors to share a reflection on the 50th anniversary of Rabbi Priesand's ordination.



Rabbi Singer



Rabbi Mintz



Rabbi Joselow Parris



Cantor Attie



Cantor Emerita Barak

When I was newly ordained, I regularly visited the temple preschool. On a day off, I stood at an intersection, waiting for the light to change so I could cross the street. Waiting directly across the road was a dad with his toddler. The preschooler saw me and shouted excitedly, "Daddy, look! There's the rabbi!" The dad looked in my direction and said to his daughter, "Where, honey? I don't see any rabbi." Slowly, people everywhere are starting to see women rabbis and cantors. In my earliest years, Jews constantly remarked, "I've never before met a woman rabbi!" I rarely hear that comment anymore. Google "rabbi" right now and click open the images. Still nearly all male faces. Google "doctor" images and note the difference. We have come a long way, but there is still a long way to go so that everyone sees women rabbis and cantors.

— Rabbi Beth Singer, Ordained 1989 (she/her)

Sally Preisand forged the way for female rabbis, and Barbara Ostfeld did the same for female cantors. I entered Hebrew Union College just seven years after her investiture, and my class was the first all-female cantorial class to be invested (now Ordained) as Reform Jewish clergy. I was not always convinced that women should be rabbis and cantors, as I was the product of an Orthodox *cheder* education — but it didn't take long for me to change my outlook. In fact, I believe women contribute a very unique perspective to Jewish thought and worship — we add our voices to the interpretation of texts that have overlooked us; we have insisted on the inclusion of the 'imahot' into our male-centered liturgy and have adopted the songs of Debbie Friedman, Nurit Hirsch and others into our worship. I am proud to have been a part of this revolution and have gained so much both personally and professionally from my role as Senior Cantor (now Emerita) of this distinguished, historic congregation.

— Cantor Emerita Roslyn Barak, Ordained 1986 (she/her)

In 1997, I was hired as the first "out gay" Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El. The JWeekly (aka "The J") headlined "Emanu-El's new role model: Lesbian, Woman, Jew, Rabbi" which was big news 25 years ago and today could be the name of my next One Woman Show. When I entered Rabbinical school 30 years ago, it was radical to come out of the closet. Today, most congregations would not only warmly welcome a Queer Rabbi, but many feel that it is actually an asset to their clergy team. We still have a long way to go when it comes to equality, but I am filled with hope when I meet our newest Rabbis and Cantors who are being ordained in a very different world than the one I lived in 25 years ago. If I had signed my signature she/they in 1997, no one would have any idea what that even meant. Today, I hope you do.

— *Rabbi Sydney Mintz, Ordained 1997 (she/they)*

It was 1984 when I began to lead our people in song and prayer. In a role that had been traditionally occupied by men, I didn't know many other women doing what I was doing. I had heard of Debbie Friedman but didn't meet her until many years later. But surely, I stood on her shoulders and on the shoulders of other women (including our own Cantor Roslyn Barak) who paved the way for a female guitar playing spiritual leader of song. It was exciting to be at the vanguard of bringing new styles of prayer and music to synagogue worship. I was ordained as a cantor in 2014 and today I look around and see so many young women cantors who remind me of myself. It is with pride and joy to see how much the Jewish world has embraced the music of women. We are a long chain of tradition, L'Dor V'Dor, and I am proud to be one of the sweet singers of Israel.

— *Cantor Marsha Attie, Ordained 2014 (she/her)*

I consider myself fortunate to have grown up in a generation where it has always been a given that women could — and should — be rabbis. From childhood I was surrounded by a positive female rabbinic role model in my own family: my aunt, Rabbi Deborah Joselow, served a congregation while I was young and has gone on to serve as a leader at the Union for Reform Judaism and UJA-Federation of New York. In rabbinical school I was fortunate to learn from outstanding female faculty at HUC-JIR's Los Angeles campus and I am especially grateful to have developed a deep network of talented fellow female rabbis around the country whom I lean on daily as we navigate the rabbinate together. I am keenly aware how lucky my peers and I are to stand on the shoulders of past female clergy who paved the way for our generation to serve the Jewish community in new and different ways.

— *Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris, Masters in Jewish Nonprofit Management 2016, Ordained 2017 (she/her)*

An Historic Panel Discussion: 50 Years of Women in the Rabbinate

Join Rabbi Priesand, alongside Emanu-El's women rabbis, in an historic virtual event on March 17. To learn more, see [page 7](#).

More to Celebrate

We are also celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first Bat Mitzvah! See [page 6](#) to learn more.

On the Cover: This black-and-white photograph was taken in 1972, when Sally Jane Priesand became the first woman in the United States to be ordained as a rabbi. Institution: The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, OH, www.americanjewisharchives.org and Garrett Cope, Citizen Patriot, Jackson, MI.

Tauber Spark!

Ignite Your Jewish Learning

Tuesday evenings via Zoom: March 8, 15, 22 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm

\$18 for members, \$36 for non-members

A Tauber Jewish Studies Program

SPARK
at Congregation Emanu-El



Allow yourself to dive into our tradition and Spark your imagination. Take part in this innovative community-wide Jewish learning experience — a mini university experience. Let your heart be moved by Torah; be open to a transformative and mind-opening journey.

This year we are offering outstanding and renowned educators to share their expertise with this community. Select one course to explore for three weeks and enjoy the Spark!

Please contact Ariana Estoque (aestoque@emanuelsf.org) with any questions about our Spark program.

Course Offerings for 2022 – *Select One Option*

Option 1: The Jewish Family: Past, Present and Future

Taught by Rabbi Dvora Weisberg, Ph.D.

This session will explore the biblical and rabbinic constructs of family. We will follow the evolution of the family from the tribal and clan-based vision of the Torah to the household or nuclear family described in the Talmud.

Session 1: The Jewish Family in Formation

This session will explore the biblical and rabbinic constructs of family. We will follow the evolution of the family from the tribal and clan-based vision of the Torah to the household or nuclear family described in the Talmud.

Session 2: The Jewish Family in Tradition: The Real and the Ideal

Classical Jewish texts offer statements about ideal relationships between parents and children, between spouses, and with other family members. At the same time, we have stories that suggest the ideal was often supplanted by real life conflict and tension. This session will offer a contrasting view of law and stories about family relationships.

Session 3: A Multitude of Jewish Families: A Contemporary View

We live in world where our definitions of and ideas about family are challenged by changing societal norms. This session will focus on ways that Judaism can continue to expand its understanding of family and what values can guide us in creating Jewish families.



**Rabbi Dvora
Weisberg, Ph.D.**

Option 2: Why it's our Obligation to Take Care of Mother Earth (The Torah Says So)

Taught by Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz and Dr. Barak Gale

Session 1: To Till and to Tend the Earth (Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz presenting)

Join Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz in exploring one of Judaism's central tenets, to till and to tend the Earth. Our interest in the environment has deep roots! We'll look at some traditional texts together to ground ourselves in ancient wisdom, and perhaps expand our own concept of sustainability to include some radical ideas around rest, release and justice.



Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz

Session 2: The Shmita of Shmitas — Jewish and Climate Time Coincide at 100 Seconds Before Midnight (Dr. Barak Gale Presenting)

Not just a routine Shmita year, no nothing like it. The Shmita of Shmitas has dreadful warnings like "Code Red for Humanity." Word has it that understanding the science of Climate Upheaval will not extract us from this existential threat — too bad, Dr. Barak Gale loves talking thermodynamics. This session will cover Jewish values, art, poetry, ritual, stories, successes, and yes, some science as well. Barak will persuade you how fun it is to share a poem or sing, say, Olam Hesed Yibaneh, if you testify at a hearing! We look forward to hearing from you and how you engage with your gusto, your heart and your faith. Make it fun. Make it prayer. Make it Tikkun Olam.



Dr. Barak Gale

Session 3: Ethical Kashrut (Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz presenting)

What is the relationship between ethics and kashrut in the 21st century? What are the trends occurring now? Learn Jewish texts with Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz about Jewish perspectives and explore new models of Jewish activism.

Option 3: Essential Jewish Philosophers: Hillel, Maimonides and Spinoza

Taught by Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Prusan

Sessions 1 – 3: Hillel, Maimonides and Spinoza

Leo Strauss (d. 1973) provocatively suggested that "modern Judaism is a synthesis between rabbinical Judaism and Spinoza." We can draw a line back in time from Spinoza to Maimonides to Hillel. Each are located in liminal moments in the lifeline of the developing Jewish people: Hillel and Rabbinic Judaism beyond sovereignty and territoriality, Maimonides systematizing Jewish philosophy and law, and Spinoza's critique of unearned authority and the pursuit of reason.



Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Prusan



Register at emanuelsf.org/spark

Hebrew Roots *by Cantor Marsha Attie*



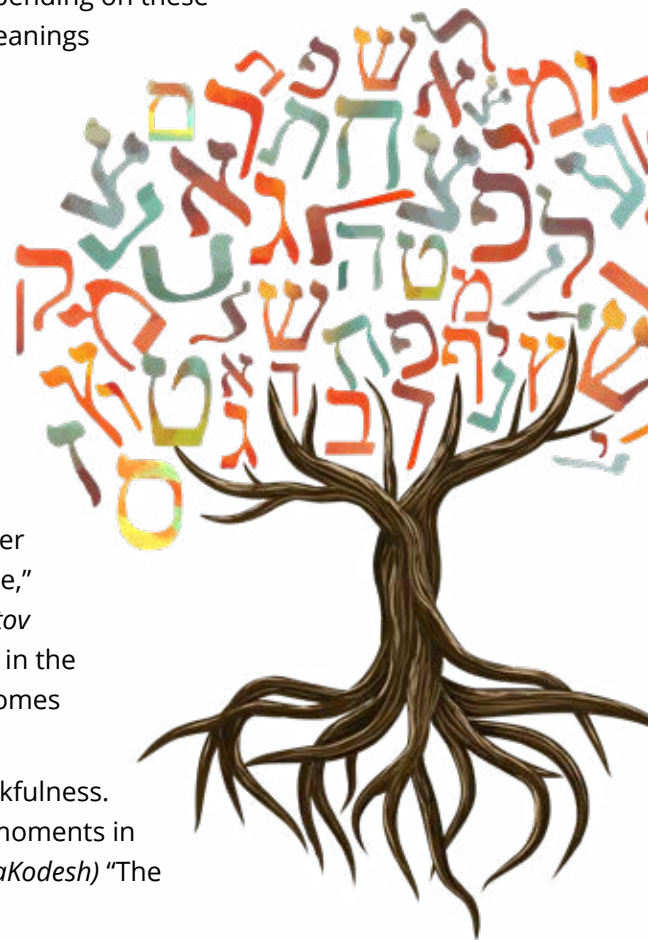
Cantor Marsha Attie

The Hebrew language is called לשון הקודש (*lashon hakodesh*) or “The Holy Tongue.” There are many ways to find holiness in Hebrew and we will explore one example here. Briefly, Hebrew words are generally made up of three root letters which are surrounded by prefixes, suffixes, and infixes. Depending on these additional letters, words can take on different meanings and yet all be related to an essential root or core meaning.

If you have learned any conversational Hebrew you may know the word for thank you, תודה (*todah*). The three root letters in this word are ידה (*yud, daled, hay* or YDH). In Genesis 29, Leah uses this root when she gives thanks for the birth of her son, saying, “אדה” (*odeh*) and names him יהודה (*Yehudah*), employing the same root. Then, from Yehudah came the tribe of Judah (English for Yehudah), from which later emerged the words Judaism and Jew/Jewish.

Our liturgy and sacred texts are filled with words that use this three letter root, ידה (*yud, daled hay*). Some common examples are הודו (*hodu*) “praise,” מודה אני (*modeh ani*) “I am thankful,” and in Psalm 92 we sing טוב להודות (*tov le’hodot*) “It is good to give thanks.” Sometimes shorter words are found in the three root letters. Inside of the root YDH is YD for יד (*yad*) “hand.” This comes from our tradition of extending hands in prayer and gratitude.

I love knowing that the root of our people’s name, Judaism, means thankfulness. Our very name is a gift that reminds us to recognize all the places and moments in our lives for which we are grateful. Hebrew is truly לשון הקודש (*Lashon HaKodesh*) “The Holy Tongue!”



Celebrating 100 Years!

Join Jewish Communities across North America to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Bat Mitzvah!

When Judith Kaplan became the first American girl to have a bat mitzvah ceremony on March 18, 1922, at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism (SAJ), she had no idea that her actions would change Jewish communal life forever.

But something unexpected happened along the way. As increasing numbers of girls ascended the bimah, girls and women began to expect — and demand — access to ritual honors and synagogue leadership. Bat mitzvah firsts were a catalyst for expanding all women’s participation in Jewish life and paved the way for people of all genders to mark their coming-of-age in new and inclusive ways.

For more information about how to celebrate, educational resources, and more, visit jwa.org/batmitzvah100.

An Historic Panel

Through the Generations: 50 Years of Women in the Rabbinate



Rabbi Priesand

March 17, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Via Zoom (Registration Required)

Join the first woman ordained by a rabbinical seminary, Rabbi Sally Priesand, alongside Emanu-El's past and present women clergy in this historic panel discussion.

The panel will discuss their experiences as women rabbis and the impact historic cultural shifts have had on Judaism. In addition to Rabbi Priesand, the panel will include Rabbis Beth Singer, Sydney Mintz, Helen Cohn and Carla Fenves.



Rabbi Singer

Rabbi Sally J. Priesand, America's first female rabbi, was ordained in June 1972, by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to the Bachelor of Hebrew Letters and the Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters, she holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Cincinnati. In 1973, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Florida International University, and in 1997, an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from HUC-JIR.



Rabbi Mintz

Learn more and register: emanuelsf.org/calendar



Rabbi Fenves



Rabbi Cohn



**Purim
2022**

All

**You Need
Is Love**

(and hamantaschen)



**The Beatles Purim
Spiel & Carnival**

Sunday, March 20, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Join us for peace, love and Purim!



We are looking forward to welcoming our community back in celebration of Esther's bravery and the month of Adar! Join us for a *far out* Beatles Purim Spiel at the beginning of the carnival followed by drinks, food trucks, carnival games (for all ages), and merriment. Wear a costume, make masks with us, dance to music and help fulfill the *mitzvot* of Purim!

To learn more and register, visit emanuelsf.org/purim!

Visit the Tzedek Council Corner
(or donate anytime throughout March!)

Inspired by Esther's brave display of integrity, we will be working with JFCS to collect toiletries throughout the month of March for the 300 Afghan refugees who have relocated to the Bay Area. Order directly from our wishlist or drop items off at Emanu-El from February 28 to March 20th! For more information and to view the wishlist, visit emanuelsf.org/purim.

The Beatles Purim Spiel

Music with Jonathan Bayer

Food Trucks

Celebratory Drinks

Carnival Games

Photo Booth

Art Projects with Ava Rosen

...and more!

Join Rabbi Jonathan for our annual chance to read the Megillah, drink a bit, share and have hamantaschen and we consider the heroism of Esther... And of Mordechai!

Join Our Adult Megillah Reading!
Wednesday, March 16,
7:00 – 8:30 pm

10 MARCH 2022

Nature Crowns

ON PURIM we celebrate Kings and Queens who DARED to speak and act out for the lives of all people, especially the less fortunate and different.

We can make CROWNS using natural materials to become brave, Kind Leaders!



Supplies

- twigs, leaves, flowers, bark cones and /or seeds

- cardboard or paper bag

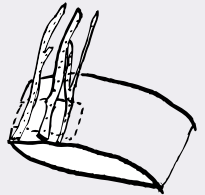
- packing tape, scotch tape, and /or hot glue

- paint pens or other decorating tools (white out paint works great!)

practice tikkun olam - take only what you need without hurting the plants!



③ Tape twigs to band, then tape or glue leaves, flowers etc. over twigs



② Decorate natural items with dots, squiggles, or other patterns



④

Decide which king or queen you will be - Ahasveros, Vashti, Esther, or someone else!

① Cut a length of cardboard or paper grocery bag, roll it up,



measure around head trim and tape.

Facepaint recipe

- 1 Tablespoon body/face Lotion
- 2 Tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 Tablespoon water
- food coloring, turmeric, cranberry juice, mashed berries, matcha powder...



On Purim, we turn things on their heads with costumes and play.

Our faces and bodies become our canvases in this Purim painting activity!

① mix lotion, cornstarch and water

② scoop into small containers

③ add coloring

④ paint!

D.I.Y. Face + Body Painting!



brought to you by Omanut teacher Ava Rosen

Limited availability! **Private Screening of Academy Award-Nominated Netflix Documentary “Lead Me Home”**

**Followed by discussion with congregant and
social justice filmmaker Jon Shenk**

**Tuesday, March 22, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Martin Meyer Sanctuary**

Please join the Tzedek Council for a movie screening and discussion about the Academy Award-nominated Netflix documentary short "Lead Me Home." Four days before the Oscars, we will view the documentary in the beautiful Martin Meyer Sanctuary. We are very excited to be joined by co-director, social justice filmmaker, and Emanuel El congregant, Jon Shenk. Jon will be in conversation with our very own Rabbi Ryan Bauer, reflecting on the deeper meanings of the film. There might even be goodie bags full of movie theater-themed treats to take home. Bring your mask, proof of vaccination, and your family and friends!

Register at emanuelsf.org/get-involved



G-House Sunday Night Dinners are Back!

Sunday nights

We are thrilled to share with you that our partnership with the G-House is back up and running! Run by Larkin Street Youth Services, G-House is a 30-bed housing program for San Francisco unhoused young adults (ages 18-24, transitioning from adolescence to adulthood), providing residents with tools to remove the obstacles in their life which threaten a successful transition to independent living. We are excited for our community to sign up to sponsor a Sunday night meal for the incredible clients and community at the G-House.

Due to continued COVID protocols in place with G-House, we are not yet able to have in-person dinners (hoping this can occur soon...stay tuned!). However, we can now provide home cooked meals in addition to still being able to order from a local restaurant. More precise instructions for food options and delivery will be sent to you following your sign-up.

To sign up, visit emanuelsf.org/tzedek



Volunteers at G-House

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.emanuelf.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.
- **Planned Giving:** Including Congregation Emanu-El in your estate planning is a promise to your children, grandchildren, and future generations that Emanu-El will continue to be a thriving home for worship, study, and community.

If you need assistance, please contact the Development Office at development@emanuelf.org

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. The following gifts were received from January 1, 2022 – January 31, 2022.

CANTORS' MUSIC FUND

Supports the Congregation's music programs and is used for charitable giving at the Cantors' discretion

Marcy Belfer

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Barbara Belfer

Michelle Brant

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Harry Padams

Roberta & Leonard Cohn

in appreciation of Cantor Marsha Attie's beautiful singing at Mark and Amy's wedding

Roberta & Leonard Cohn

in appreciation of Eric Schoen's wonderful guitar playing at Mark and Amy's wedding

Betty Dvorson

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Mel Dvorson

Vivian Kremer & Robert Rudeen

in appreciation of the uplifting and beautiful chanting and musical accompaniment at services

Fred Levin

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of A. Jess Shenson

David Lutterkort & Tamara Troy

Ben & Erica Portnoy

in celebration of Elijah Portnoy's Bar Mitzvah

EMANU-EL COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Promotes and supports social action and community service programs

Charles & Lenore Bleadon

Leeva Chung

EMANU-EL LIFE-CYCLE FUND

Enables all congregants to celebrate significant milestones, regardless of economic circumstances

Micah & Janet Broude

Cathryn Hilliard

in memory of Jeffery Sampson

Marc Katz & Laura Gasser

in celebration of Isaac Katz's Bar Mitzvah

Michele Woolfe-Avramov

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Nettie Hester-Woolfe

EMANU-EL PRESCHOOL FUND

**Provides scholarships and support for our
Preschool programs**

Jerry and Sheila Adelberg

in memory of Sylvia Storey

Caren Alpert

Nick Gianos & Brynna Deaver Gianos (2)

Jonathan Karmel & Bianca Fagnoli

Amy Lesnick & Mark Roach

Derek Liu & Evelyn Hu

Emmy Moore & Jonah Susskind

Jill Nisson & Herk Confer

Kevin & Nelli Perkins

Leah Pincus Sharabi & Yoel Sharabi

Maxine & Justin Raphael

James & Sheryl Reuben

in memory of Sylvia Storey

Naomi Secore

Sally & Daniel Sherrard

Kari Simpson Fain

Gunda Trepp

in memory of Peter Maier

FLOWERS FOR THE BIMAH

Fred Levin

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Irma Shenson Levin

Ben & Erica Portnoy

in celebration of Elijah Portnoy's Bar Mitzvah

FOR THE ROOSEVELT FOOD PANTRY

Betty Dvorson

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Jesse M. Levy and in
memory of Doris Schwartz

Leslie Friedman & Jonathan Clark

in observance of the *Yahrzeits* of Samuel F. Hacker,
Samuel M. Friedman, David T. Friedman and
Harvey A. Friedman

Suzie Katz

in memory of Alan Snyder

Stephanie Scott

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Gustav "Gus" Ernst

Stephanie Scott

in memory of William M. Scott

RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Used for charitable giving at the Rabbis'
discretion**

Trudy & Joseph Burger

Joshua & Jackie Endler

Brenda Friedler

in honor of Ernst Herde

Brenda Friedler

in honor of Rabbi Stephen Pearce and Dr. Laurie Pearce

Nancy Fudem

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Frank Fudem

Jason Geller & Lisa Borah-Geller

in celebration of Lucas Geller's Bar Mitzvah

Susen Grossman

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Herbert M. Grossman

Andrew Loveman

in honor of Emily Kisber

David Lutterkort & Tamara Troy

David Lutterkort & Tamara Troy

in celebration of Jacob Lutterkort's Bar Mitzvah

Tristi & Damon Marshall

in honor of Abraham Marshall's Bar Mitzvah

Kenneth & Deborah Novack

in memory of Kevin Novack

Ben & Erica Portnoy

in celebration of Elijah Portnoy's Bar Mitzvah

Allen Root

in honor of Rabbi Beth Singer, Dr. Jonathan Root,
Betsy Blumenthal, Max Root and Arthur Root

Loren Schwartz & Lauren Taddune

Bruce Spiegelman

in memory of Pete Spiegelman

Albert Villa

Barbara Weinberg

in memory of Charlene Tuchman

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Supports special programming and materials for the Youth and Family Education Program

Micah & Janet Broude

Lucia Matzger

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Paul J. Matzger

Frana Price & Rick Ohlrich

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Miriam Price

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Anonymous

in honor of Emanu-El Clergy, Faculty and Staff

Rochelle Anixter

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Harrison Anixter

Jeffrey Auman

in appreciation of Rafael Mandelman

The Blatt Family Foundation

Building security

Richard & Susan Colsky

in memory of Peter Maier

Andrew & Suzy Colvin

in memory of Jane Graham

Robert & Heidi Feldman

in observance of the *Yahrzeits* of
Leland and Joy Spiegelman

Robert & Heidi Feldman

in memory of Peter Maier

Paula Freedman

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Sophia Beatrice Lambert

Mahdokht Frouzan

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Souter Frouzan

Jessica & Stephen Galloway

in memory of Nancy Hellman Bechtle

Norman Gordon

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Clara Newman

Alan & Susie Greinetz

in observance of the *Yahrzeits* of Toba Greinetz,
Earl Greinetz, Elaine Magnin, and Donald Magnin

Nelson & Pamela Heller

in celebration of the marriage of Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz
to Rabbi Mark Cohn

Eve Heyman

in memory of Jane Graham

Marc Katz & Laura Gasser

in celebration of Isaac Katz's Bar Mitzvah

Paul & Arlene Leiber

in memory of Steven Leiber and Harry Holtz

Douglas Mandell

Building security

Tristi & Damon Marshall

in honor of Abraham Marshall's Bar Mitzvah

Joshua & Elizabeth Marx

in celebration of the naming of "Adina Malka" Pepper
Adelaide Marx

Jack Merk & Shelley Abramson

in memory of Theresa Merk

Craig Miller & Jacqueline Shelton-Miller

in memory of Monica Lowenthal Buchnik

Deborah Mitchell

in observance of the *Yahrzeit* of Harriet Mitchell

Michael Raddie

in memory of Peter Maier

Roselyne Swig

in memory of Mary Meier Ryan

Gary & Marsha Tankenoff

in memory of Peter Maier

James Thomson & Elisabeth Semel

in memory of Max Semel

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. Our historic home 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 Emanu-El community and hinders our ability to effectively support and engage our congregation. The demands of the 21st century Jewish community—and Emanu-El's 1,800 congregant families—are quite different than those of the 300 families in the 1920s who created our current building. That's why we have embarked on an ambitious effort to revitalize and reimagine our home to meet the expanding needs of our current members and those of generations to come.

Donor Spotlight: Cissie Swig



Cissie Swig

Roselyne (Cissie) Chroman Swig is a proud supporter of Emanu-El Next. She is the widow of Richard Lewis Swig Sr., a 2nd generation member of the Swig Family in the Bay Area. She is the mother of four: Richard Jr. (Rick), Susan, Marjorie and Carol, the grandmother (Nana) of twelve and great grandmother (Granana) of five, soon, G-d willing, to be six!

Cissie has been an integral part of many institutions in the Bay Area Jewish Community. "My sense of my Jewishness has always been very strong and I believe that has been reflected in all of my affiliations, and where I use my Jewish values in my interactions and my commitments: values reflecting Tikkun Olam, respect, caring, inclusion, compassion, empathy, listening, and the mantra, "Know thyself," knowing who you are, why you are, and how you can make a difference in this world and in the lives of others. These are the tenets for how I live my life, and what I enjoy sharing with my children, my grandchildren, my great grandchildren and all of my friends here and abroad."

In 1960, Cissie started her own company, Artsource, to dignify the roles that artists play in our world, and to

provide activities and venues where artists' potential collectors would understand the positive impact that artists have in enriching our lives. Today, that company exists under other ownership and Cissie maintains her business and nonprofit interests in Community Consulting International.

Over her decades of involvement with Bay Area organizations, Cissie has advocated for and supported agencies and organizations that work towards women's empowerment, education, the arts, social justice, diversity, equality, inclusion and more. She has championed raising awareness of domestic abuse and is a founding member of Partners Ending Domestic Abuse. In 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed Cissie to serve in the State Department as Director of the Art in Embassies Program, providing artwork lent by US citizens for the residences of US Ambassadors serving abroad.

With so many interests, Cissie, maintains her high esteem and support for the pivotal role Congregation Emanu-El plays in the Jewish community and the broader religious and general community, emphasizing that it must always stay strong in action and message, stressing outreach to all, along with empathy, compassion and respect.

Cissie came to the Bay Area in 1948 as a transfer student to study at UC Berkeley. It was during that time that she



met Richard Swig on a blind date. They were married in 1950, in Los Angeles, with Rabbi Alvin Fine officiating. Thus began a long and cherished relationship with Rabbi Fine and with Congregation Emanu-El. She looks back on her beginnings at Emanu-El: "I feel so lucky to have learned from Rabbi Fine. He was an enormously sensitive individual, and what he had to share was always so authentic! I was absorbed by his profound thoughts. They embraced and nurtured me and, as well, the congregation and the community at large."

Cissie feels the strong leadership that the clergy and Emanu-El have had over the years reinforces the critical role that both play as gatherers and conveners, always presenting opportunities to bring families together in community building. She feels it has become a center, if it will accept that, of decision making and direction for many of the Jews living in San Francisco, whether they are members of Emanu-El or not. "I want the Temple and the clergy to always project a message of forward thinking, meaningful vision and implementation that reflects that there is value, both spiritual and humane for all of us to share with others."

Today, Cissie sees an institution grounded in its support for, and from, the community: recognizing the diversity within its membership and celebrating the inclusive environment that it provides. With Emanu-El Next becoming a reality, Cissie looks to the future. She feels that Emanu-El must prioritize and is well positioned to attract the younger generation and include them in the "thought process" going forward. "There are many who are already leaders in mind, purpose and action," she says, "and they must be welcomed, embraced and appreciated."

Cissie concludes by thanking everyone for this meaningful opportunity to share thoughts and feelings. She is filled with gratitude for all of the members of the congregation for recognizing and pursuing the certainty that Emanu-El will endure and stay strong forever!

Please visit our website, next.emanuelsf.org, to learn more. Or, if you would like to make a commitment to Emanu-El Next, please contact Julie Weinberg, Director of Development, at either jweinberg@emanuelsf.org or 415-750-7557.

Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered A Recent Loss

Kiana Moradi on the loss of her father,
Fattah "Fred" Moradi.

Beth Steinberg (Richard Shaw) on the loss of her
father; Jacob, Julia and Emma Shaw on the loss of
their grandfather, **Richard Steinberg.**

Bruce Spiegelman on the loss of his brother,
Keith Michael Spiegelman.

Eve Heyman on the loss of her brother, **Frank Meyer.**

Paula Pretlow on the loss of her nephew,
Miguel Nicolleti-Brown.

Welcome New Members

Elyse Boyar
Lydia Chong
Miguel Chong
Roxana Chong
Emma Eisner
Jane Eisner
Mark Eisner
Caleb Forth Kelch
Robert Halperin
Shores Halperin

Juniper Holloway
Rebecca Holloway
Christina Kim
Henry Landesberg
Lydia Landesberg
Adele Schubert
Alexis Schubert
Ryan Schubert
Jessica Silverman
Sarah Thornton

Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

Lydia Shorenstein on the birth of her granddaughter;
and Sandra Shorenstein and Greg Kuhn on the birth of
their daughter, **Pia Charlotte Kuhn.**

Sara and Aaron Rich on the birth of their third child,
Avery Rose Rich.

Lani Zinn on the engagement of her daughter, Mandy
Losk, to Hans Wallage.

Jennifer and Robert Futernick on the arrival of their
grandchild; and Sarah Futernick and Brian Rankin on the
arrival of their child, **Lilah Margaret Rankin.**

Donny and Janie Friend on the birth of their
granddaughter; and Benjamin Friend and Jackie Frey on
the birth of their daughter, **Miriam Rose Friend.**

Welcome Back Rejoined Members

Adam Werbach
Lyn Werbach
Pearl Werbach



Ambassador Thomas Nides

Ambassador Thomas Nides *in Conversation with Jordan Hymowitz and Rabbi Jonathan Singer*

March 20, 9:30 – 10:30 am, via Zoom

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Thomas Nides will join in conversation with
Rabbi Jonathan Singer to discuss the current state of affairs in Israel
and U.S. relations. This virtual event will be hosted by Emanu-El's
Israel Action Committee.

Register at emanuelsf.org/Nides

B'nei Mitzvah



Laila Hochschild

Bat Mitzvah:

March 5, 2022

Parents:

Jennifer and Leonard Hochschild

Torah Portion:

Pekudei



Eva Thayer

Bat Mitzvah:

March 19, 2022

Parents:

Yanina and Brad Thayer

Torah Portion:

Tzav



Olivia Taylor

Bat Mitzvah:

March 12, 2022

Parents:

Katie and Brian Taylor

Torah Portion:

Vayikra



Jack Hilleboe

Bar Mitzvah:

March 26, 2022

Parents:

Debra and Scott Hilleboe

Torah Portion:

Shemini



Trixie Coplon

Bat Mitzvah:

March 12, 2022

Parents:

Erika and Dovid Coplon

Torah Portion:

Vayikra



Shane Cessna

Bar Mitzvah:

March 26, 2022

Parents:

Bari and Sean Cessna

Torah Portion:

Shemini



Aaron Bergman

Bar Mitzvah:

March 19, 2022

Parents:

Julia and Adam Bergman

Torah Portion:

Tzav



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

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Jonathan Singer,
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi

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Ryan Bauer, Senior Associate Rabbi

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Sarah Joselow Parris, Rabbi

Marsha Attie, Cantor

Arik Luck, Ben and A. Jess Shenson Cantor

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**Purim
2022**

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(and don't forget Passover!)

Our clergy and staff are hard at work planning a variety of Passover programs for all ages! To see a full list of our events, please check our website, emanuelsf.org, where you will find the most up-to-date information about events and COVID policies.

