

Emanu-El SF



CHRONICLE NO. 50 | SUMMER 2022 | SIVAN/TAMMUZ

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There's No Place Like Dome

We are starting off our summer with renewed excitement, anticipation for coming back together in community, exploring new interests, and making new connections. Emanu-El can provide all of this for you and we cannot be Emanu-El without you. It is time for membership renewal and it is just a click away! Login to your MyEmanuEl account and renew today! As we prepare for the High Holy Days and beyond, we want to count you amongst our community!

We hope that being a member of Emanu-El brings you joy, comfort, and a true sense of belonging — whether through life-cycle events, worship, education, or tikkun olam (repairing the world).

As always, you have our deepest gratitude, and we look forward to continuing to build our community together.

The true cost per member is more than \$5,000 per household. As always, there is room for everyone under the dome, and no one will ever be turned away.

Please renew online by **June 15**, in time for our new fiscal year. It's easy — just login to your MyEmanu-El account.

Here are some helpful tips for logging in to your MyEmanu-El account:

- Can't remember your username? It's often **your email address**.
- Forgot your username or having issues logging in? Email Irina Leinova at ileinova@emanuelf.org
- Remember that passwords are case-sensitive, so ensure your Caps Lock is OFF.
- Additional questions about your membership or renewal? Contact Director of Member Experience, Ariana Estoque at (415) 750-7552 or at aestoque@emanuelf.org. She is always here to help.

Thank You for Making Us More!

Shabbat at Emanu-El

Emanu-El offers a variety of worship services which are open to all! Join us for one of our services soon — we would love to see you there.

Friday Night Shabbat *Every Friday at 6:00 pm*

Young Adult Late Shabbat *Second Fridays at 8:00 pm*

Tot Shabbat *First Fridays at 5:00 pm*

Saturday Shabbat *Saturdays at 10:30 am*

Torah Study *Saturdays at 9:15 am*

Plus...

Holiday Services

Adult B'nei (Anshei) Mitzvah Program

Gender Affirming Ceremonies

...and more!

Visit emanuelf.org for more information on all of our services and events!

Summer Reading for the People of the Book

Shalom Rav from Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer

Summer is just around the corner. Seasonal slowing down is our mandate. Of course, we will gather for services every Friday night at 6:00 pm. You can join Torah study on Shabbat morning. There will be programs. If you have to deal with something difficult, your clergy will be here for you. But we hope you take some time to relax, get outdoors, travel and read a few good books!

What will you read this summer? Perhaps you will immerse yourself in a stack of good novels, or some thought-provoking nonfiction. Maybe you will finally read the classics you never got around to in college. Looking for a good Jewish read? I recently read Daniel Matt's "Becoming Elijah" and loved it. This coming year, author Dara Horn will join us. An Emanu-El book club will read her wonderful fiction, "A Guide to the Perplexed." Then, there is her most recent provocative title, "People Love Dead Jews." I enjoyed one of her earlier novels, "The World to Come." (*Sign up information for the Book Club on page 5*).

Speaking of great books, there is one that never grows old, and that is our Torah. I don't think we realize just how stunning it is that the Torah has endured through the millennia. Our thirteen-year-olds, Torah study students and rabbis find new meaning in the classic teachings each week. Is there any other book that we can say with confidence will still be read, studied and treasured 3,000 years from now? Even more than the wonder of its endurance and its depths of interpretation, the most powerful aspect of Torah is that it connects all Jews in the universe, regardless of movement affiliation.

From the most liberal to the most orthodox, Torah is the center of our faith and belongs equally to all of us. Decades ago, a Jewish artist from the Bay Area traveled to the Gondar region in Ethiopia. In a remote village, he walked into a hut

where the Jewish villagers opened the Torah scroll and read the same Torah portion his congregation in Berkeley was reading on that Shabbat.

On June 5th, we complete our biblically inspired count of seven weeks times seven days. It will be 50 days post-Passover.

On the Hebrew calendar, the date is the 6th of Sivan, Shavuot, the anniversary of the giving of Torah to the Jewish people. Early on, Reform Jews stopped the practice of carrying the Torah around the congregation in a *Hakafa* because the ritual struck early Reform Jews as idolatrous. Not only did the ritual return, but it is beloved by congregants to this day because it reminds us that the Torah, our greatest of all books, belongs equally to all of us.

On Shavuot, it is traditional to stay up late into the night studying Torah with friends, and also to eat ice cream and cheesecake. Who can argue with these excellent traditions? We are, after all, a people of the book.



Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Beth Singer



Confirmation Shavuot Service

Friday, June 3, 6:00 – 7:00 pm



Please help us celebrate an Emanu-El Chain of Tradition with this year's 12th grade Confirmation Class. Our Havurah Zebulun students will lead us in prayer, song and their own writings. We will also welcome members of the 50-year Confirmation classes (1970 - 1972)!

Sinai at Night: Reveal Your Torah

Saturday, June 4, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Manny's at 3092 16th St.

Join us for an intimate night of learning, singing and wondering in celebration of Shavuot, the Jewish Spring harvest holiday that also takes us back to the mystery of Torah at Sinai!

Join rabbis and cantors from Sherith Israel, Sha'ar Zahav and Congregation Emanu-El, who will teach gems of Torah and talk about what it means to reveal one's truth. Cantors Marsha Attie, Arik Luck, and Toby Glaser will lead us in revelatory communal singing. Come ready to explore your Torah, think critically about the world and what you know, and see old friends and make new ones. Registration required. Food provided.

Conversation & Dinner with City Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Friday, June 17, 7:30 – 9:00 pm, Reuben Rinder Chapel

The Tzedek Council invites you to a special conversation and dinner with San Francisco City Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and Rabbi Ryan Bauer about the homelessness and housing crisis within our city. This is a rare opportunity to engage with a City Supervisor, ask questions that are important to you, and learn more about what you can do to make our community more equitable for all. Participants are invited to send in questions for Supervisor Mandelman. Space is limited for this event. Members only. Registration is required. The cost of dinner is \$20.



Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Pride Shabbat Service

Friday, June 24, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Emanu-El is proud to partake in San Francisco LGBTQ Pride! All are welcome to join us for our annual Pride Shabbat service at 6:00 pm on Friday, June 24th with Rabbis Jason Rodich and Jonathan Singer and Cantor Roslyn Barak.



Visit emanuelsf.org/calendar to register for events!

Save the Dates

50 and 25 Years in the Rabbinate: Celebrating Rabbi Stephen Pearce and Rabbi Sydney Mintz

Friday, August 5, 6:00 pm

Please join us to honor Senior Rabbi Emeritus Stephen Pearce for his 50 years in the rabbinate and Senior Associate Rabbi Sydney Mintz for her 25 years in the rabbinate with Congregation Emanu-El. *Save the Date!*



Senior Rabbi Emeritus Stephen Pearce



Senior Associate Rabbi Sydney Mintz

Back to Shul Shabbat and BBQ

Friday, August 19, 6:00 pm

Come celebrate the end of summer with your Emanu-El family. Worship, sing, dance, enjoy some good food and rejoice in community.

Emanu-El Reads

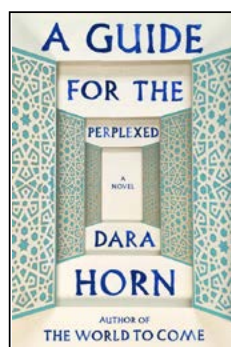


Author Dara Horn

Summer Book Options from Charles Michael Scholar-in-Residence, Dara Horn

Leading up to Dara Horn's October residency at Emanu-El, join us in reading and discussing two of Dara Horn's most outstanding books.

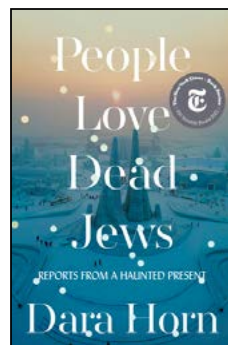
Dara Horn is the award-winning author of six books, including the novels "In the Image," "The World to Come," "All Other Nights," "A Guide for the Perplexed," and "Eternal Life," and the essay collection "People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present." She is one of Granta magazine's Best Young American Novelists. She is the recipient of two National Jewish Book Awards, the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, the Harold U. Ribalow Award, and the Reform Judaism Fiction Prize, and she was a finalist for the Wingate Prize, the Simpson Family Literary Prize, and the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction. Her books have been selected as New York Times Notable Books, Booklist's 25 Best Books of the Decade, and San Francisco Chronicle's Best Books of the Year. Horn received her doctorate in comparative literature from Harvard University, studying Yiddish and Hebrew. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and four children.



"A Guide For the Perplexed" —

Software prodigy Josie Ashkenazi has invented an application that records everything its users do. When she visits the Library of Alexandria as a tech consultant, she is abducted in Egypt's post-revolutionary chaos with only a copy of the philosopher

Maimonides' famous work to anchor her. A century earlier, Cambridge professor Solomon Schechter arrives in Egypt, hunting for a medieval archive hidden in a Cairo synagogue. Their stories intertwine in this spellbinding novel of how technology changes memory and how memory shapes the soul.



"People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present" —

Often asked by major publications to write on Jewish culture, and increasingly in response to a recent wave of deadly antisemitic attacks, Horn was troubled to realize what all of these assignments had in common: she was being asked

to write about dead Jews, never about living ones. In these essays, Horn reflects on subjects as far-flung as the international veneration of Anne Frank to the little-known life of the "righteous Gentile" Varian Fry. She challenges us to confront the reasons why there might be so much fascination with Jewish deaths, and so little respect for Jewish lives unfolding in the present.

Discussion of "A Guide for the Perplexed" with Rabbi Jonathan Singer

Tuesday, June 28, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Virtual

Come together for a virtual discussion of "A Guide for the Perplexed" led by Rabbi Jonathan Singer. Register at emanuelsf.org/calendar.

Discussion of "People Love Dead Jews" with Alexa Asher

Wednesday, July 27, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Location TBA

Our very own Engagement Program Manager, Alexa Asher, will lead the discussion for "People Love Dead Jews." Alexa holds a Master's in Holocaust Studies from the University of Haifa and is passionate about combatting Holocaust denial and antisemitism. Alexa will use her background to inspire Jewish pride during challenging times. Join us for a lively discussion over wine and cheese. Register at emanuelsf.org/calendar.

A New Vision for YFE



Leo Fuchs

"Who do you want your child to be? What is YFE's role in helping your child get there?" Dozens of YFE parents came together over the course of seven meetings this year to answer these core questions. We discussed what content we parents want students to know, what we want in our children's hearts and souls, what we hope they will believe or wrestle with, and what they will be able to do because of their learning in YFE.

The YFE staff, along with members of the clergy, took hundreds of ideas and questions and organized them thematically. Five categories of focus emerged: **Community and connection**, **identity**, **tzedek**, **spirituality** and **study**.

We revised our vision statement for YFE to read as follows:

Our children will be builders of our Jewish future. They will not only soak in our tradition, but develop our people's project — a way of life, spiritual for the individual, just and compassionate as a society.

YFE enhances our students' sense of connectedness to each other, our local and global Jewish community, and their individual sense of Jewish identity through strong and carefully planned curricula and experiences.

We identified the following strategies as central to accomplishing this vision: Teacher Development, Quality Curriculum, Pathways, Parent Empowerment, and Powerful Family and Youth Experiences. For each of these strategies, we have developed a corresponding set of actions.

A group of clergy then met to organize the content across grade levels, so that students will experience a program that builds from one year to the next and have the opportunity to become literate Jews in a fun and engaging way that goes beyond what we have offered in recent years.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Leo Fuchs at Lfuchs@emanuelsf.org.

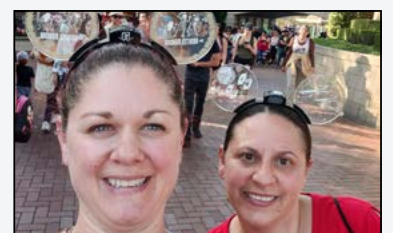


LA Jewish Heritage Trip

For the last weekend of our YFE program, Teen Program Manager Tori Starks and Director of Member Experience Ariana Estoque took 39 teens from our 8th & 9th grade classes down to Los Angeles for 36 jam-packed hours.

After an early plane ride to LAX, they went directly to Beit T'Shuvah, one of two Jewish 12-Step Recovery Centers in the U.S. They joined the Shabbat Service and participated in their Partners in Prevention Program. There, three residents talked to the group about their journeys of addiction and recovery. It was quite intense, but the residents made themselves available for all kinds of questions.

Disneyland was the next stop on their journey. There's a reason it's called "The Happiest Place on Earth." The kids had an evening filled with Dole Whip, Churros, and lots of Mickey Mouse!



Ariana Estoque and Tori Starks

As difficult as it was to wake up on Sunday morning, everyone got out of bed and made their way to "the Jewish Mile" and walked around Pico Robertson. This was the highlight of the trip for most of the students.

(continued on bottom of page 7)

Hebrew Roots

by Cantor Marsha Attie



Cantor Marsha Attie

Happy Sevens! On Saturday, June 4th, we celebrate the holiday of Shavuot, or שבועות. Shavuot is the time in our spiritual calendar that commemorates the receiving of Torah. It is also part of our agricultural calendar and celebrates the grain harvest for the summer. In addition to Pesach and

Sukkot, Shavuot is one of our three pilgrimage festivals when, in biblical times, we went to Jerusalem to offer our first fruits to God.

This month, I would like to look briefly at the word Shavuot itself. The word שבועות (Shavuot), means *weeks*, thus the holiday is sometimes called the “Festival of Weeks.” שבועות (Shavuot) is the plural form for the singular word שבוע (shavua) or *week*. You might recognize this word from the end of Havdalah, when we sing “Shavua tov” a “good week.” The root of this word is ש-ב-ע (shin/vet/ayin) which forms the word שבע (sheva) which means the number *seven*. Thus, a *week* is called a שבוע (shavua) as it contains *seven* days. You may also recognize the word שבעה (shivah) which is the first 7 days (*week*) of mourning after a loss.

The same root, ש-ב-ע (shin/vet/ayin) for the number *seven*, has two other fascinating meanings. שבעה (shvoo-

ah) means *oath* or *promise*. Did you know that we have an ancient tradition of *swearing* or *making an oath* on the number *seven*? We find evidence of this practice in many places in the Torah. In one example, Abraham and his son Isaac dug *seven* wells in a particular area as a sign of their *oath* with King Avimelech. (Genesis 21:31) This area became known as באר שבע (Be'er Sheva or Beersheba) which is translated as “*The Well of Seven*” or the “*Well of Oaths*.”

Also, when the ש shin or sh sound, becomes a ש sin or s sound, the root forms the word שובעה (soyav-ah) which means *fullness, completeness, or satisfaction*. Thus, שבע (sheva), the number *seven*, holds within it the meaning of *completion*. Indeed, Genesis tells us that creation was *completed* in 7 days and the 7th day of the week is a *completion* of the *week* that ushers in a sense of *fullness* and *satisfaction*.

The depth of the Hebrew language continues to astonish me. This one simple root, ש-ב-ע (shin/vet/ayin), takes on three significant meanings- *seven, oath* and *completion*. The holiday of Shavuot, the Festival of *Weeks*, is a *completion* of the counting of *seven* weeks after Passover and a time when we *bind ourselves* (*take an oath*) as we receive Torah. Happy Shavuot/Festival of *Weeks/Completion/Oath-Taking* and Happy *Sevens*!

(continued from previous page)

They explored the storefronts, markets, kosher restaurants, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance. There, students were led on an amazing three-hour interactive tour which provided a glimpse into Holocaust history and current examples of prejudice, discrimination and hate. And suddenly, the trip was over! Time seemed to move faster than

usual. The group headed home with new friends, new perspectives, and great memories that will be shared forever. We can't wait to take our next trip with the next group of rising 8th graders! Next year, the rising 10th graders get to take a Jewish Heritage trip to NYC, and that promises to be amazing!



Group at Beit T'Shuvah

Congregation Emanu-El Preschool

Spaces Available in our innovative Adventure TK program!

Congregation Emanu-El Preschool's Adventure TK program is currently enrolling students for the 2022-2023 school year. This full-day (9:00 am – 3:00 pm + optional extended day) program, which serves children ages four and five, takes place both on-site at Congregation Emanu-El, and in the surrounding areas including the Presidio, Golden Gate Park and other parts of San Francisco, accessible by foot from our campus.

We use an inquiry-based approach to learning where teachers and children co-construct a curriculum that is grounded in Jewish culture and traditions while interweaving developmentally appropriate content in the areas of math, science, arts, music, social-emotional development, gross and fine motor skills as well as language and literacy. Our TK year focuses heavily on social justice, culminating with a student-led service project which supports our school or local community. Our program's outdoor component includes daily adventures through the Presidio National Park and utilizes nature provocations to support the group's inquiry-based curriculum and is balanced by more structured in-classroom learning opportunities emphasizing research, collaboration, and foundational pre-academic kindergarten readiness skills.

We offer:

- Exceptionally skilled and experienced educators with graduate-level degrees in education or a related field.
- Small group sizes and low student-teacher ratios.
- Instructional differentiation and individualized support.
- An inclusive and progressive learning environment.
- Music, art, and physical education specialists.
- Plentiful and flexible parent participation and engagement opportunities.
- Individualized consulting and support around kindergarten admissions and school choice for each graduating family

To inquire about our program or the admissions process, please contact Liana Miyamura, Director of Preschool Operations, at Lmiyamura@emanuelf.org.

You may also submit an application at: emanuelf.org/emanu-el-preschool/



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 April 1, 2022 – April 30, 2022.

CANTORS' MUSIC FUND

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

Roberta & Leonard Cohn

in appreciation of Cantor Arik Luck's wonderful Seder

Debra & Scott Hilleboe

in celebration of Jack Noah Hilleboe's Bar Mitzvah

Steven Katznelson & Trudy Edelson

in appreciation of Cantor Arik Luck for being a part of Hannah's Bat Mitzvah

Jennifer & Nir Margalit

Lida & Kaveh Soofer

in celebration of Hudson Fereydoon Soofer's Bar Mitzvah

Katherine & Brian Taylor

in celebration of Olivia's Bat Mitzvah

Sheva Tessler & Daniel Perman

in celebration of Isabel Perman's Bat Mitzvah

Lada Turkenich & Boris Pozharny

in celebration of Aharon Pozharny's Bar Mitzvah and in memory of Tevi Israelivich Zitser, David Digerman, Vera Digerman, Tsilya Turkenich, Leo Turkenich

EMANU-EL COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Promotes and supports social action and community service programs

Charles & Lenore Bleadon

Joseph & Elizabeth Hartog

in memory of Gabriel Hartog

EMANU-EL LIFE-CYCLE FUND

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

Eileen Kahaner & Daniel Coleman

in celebration of Sean Coleman's Bar Mitzvah

Sheva Tessler & Daniel Perman

in celebration of Isabel Perman's Bat Mitzvah

EMANU-EL PRESCHOOL FUND

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

Nick Gianos & Brynna Deaver Gianos

FLOWERS FOR THE BIMAH

Sheva Tessler & Daniel Perman

in celebration of Isabel Perman's Bat Mitzvah

FOR THE ROOSEVELT FOOD PANTRY

Stephanie Scott

in celebration of Ariana and Marc Estoque's
wedding anniversary

Stephanie Scott

in memory of William Scott

ONEG SHABBAT AND KIDDISH

SPONSORSHIP FUND

**Provides for the weekly Shabbat Oneg, Kiddush,
and other congregational receptions**

Debra & Scott Hilleboe

in celebration of Jack Noah Hilleboe's Bar Mitzvah

Eileen Kahaner & Daniel Coleman

in celebration of Sean Coleman's Bar Mitzvah

Lida & Kaveh Soofer

in celebration of Hudson Fereydoon Soofer's
Bar Mitzvah

Sheva Tessler & Daniel Perman

in celebration of Isabel Perman's Bat Mitzvah

Lada Turkenich & Boris Pozharny

in celebration of Aharon Pozharny's Bar Mitzvah and in
memory of Tevi Israelivich Zitser, David Digerman,
Vera Digerman, Tsilya Turkenich, Leo Turkenich

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.**

Sue & Bruce Bergman

in appreciation of Rabbi Jonathan Singer for being
a part of Aaron Bergman's Bar Mitzvah

Anne Germanacos

in memory of Maxwell A Myers

Mark Goldberg & Jennifer Kodner

Debra & Scott Hilleboe

in celebration of Jack Noah Hilleboe's Bar Mitzvah

Eileen Kahaner & Daniel Coleman

in celebration of Sean Coleman's Bar Mitzvah

Steven Katznelson & Trudy Edelson

in appreciation of Rabbi Jason Rodich for being a part of
Hannah's Bat Mitzvah

Steven Katznelson & Trudy Edelson

in appreciation of Rabbi Beth Singer for being a part of
Hannah's Bat Mitzvah

Marlene Levenson & Barbara Levenson Schweitzer

in celebration of Rabbi Ryan Bauer's appointment to
Senior Rabbi

Letty Morris

Kimberly & Dan Sanner

Marcia Schneider

in honor of Rabbi Ryan Bauer and in memory of
Murray Schneider

Joan Solomon

Lida & Kaveh Soofer

in celebration of Hudson Fereydoon Soofer's
Bar Mitzvah

Beth Steinberg & Richard Shaw

in honor of Rabbi Ryan Bauer

Katherine & Brian Taylor

in celebration of Olivia's Bat Mitzvah

Sheva Tessler & Daniel Perman

in celebration of Isabel Perman's Bat Mitzvah

Lada Turkenich & Boris Pozharny

in celebration of Aharon Pozharny's Bar Mitzvah and in
memory of Tevi Israelivich Zitser, David Digerman,
Vera Digerman, Tsilya Turkenich, Leo Turkenich

Albert Villa

John & Susan Whalen

in celebration of Brenda Friedler's birthday

Lani Zinn

in memory of Miriam Zinn and in appreciation of
Rabbi Ryan Bauer

TO SUPPORT THE TZEDEK COUNCIL EFFORTS

Kathy Abecassis-Bitton

Danielle Abecassis

Rachel Bilkshorn

Nersi & Eileen Boussina

Suzy Drell

Amy Edelson

Amy & Martin Felsenthal

Debra & Scott Hilleboe

Lecia & Thor Kaslofsky

Jae & Melissa Lee

Mary Lee

Marcy Lynn & David Hershenson

Marisa Pearl & Robert Creamer

Mindy Phillips

Guiv & Deborah Soofer

Abigail Stricker

Peter Yolles & Jill Einstein

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

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

Joanna Forster

in observance of the Yahrzeit of Burton Rosen

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Jerome & Dolores Braun

in memory of Martin H. Braun

Charles Ehrlich & Elizabeth McMahon

in memory of Ann and Stanley Ehrlich

Stanley Goldring & Nina Klein

in memory of Murray Schneider

Matthew Jacobson & Salima Taplin

in honor of Rabbi Ryan Bauer performing
Raya's baby naming

Judith Kneeter & Rabbi Edward Zerin

in appreciation of Rabbi Sydney Mintz's splendid
interview of Rabbi Zerin as one of the oldest members
of the Central Conference of American Rabbis

John Pritzker Family Fund

Merle Ryan

in honor of Rabbi Ryan Bauer

Richard Segal & Dorothy Connelly Segal

in memory of Sylvia Storey

Risha & Joseph Stern

in honor of Jessie & Jenna Satovsky's high school
graduation

Ingrid D Tauber Fund

Joanne & Alan Vidinsky

in memory of Marvin Shaps

Douglas Winthrop & Yamilee Bermingham

in celebration of Leo Shveyd's birthday



A Jewish Journey to Morocco

with Rabbis J. Singer and L. Kushner

Save the Date: November 3 - 13, 2022

Join us for an inside look at Moroccan culture!
Explore the Jewish Club Cercle de l'Union in
Casablanca, Rabat's Royal Palace, Kasbah des
Udayas, the Mosque of Hassan II, the Ibn
Danan Synagogue and more!

To learn more, email Rachel Montana at
Rmontana@emanuelsf.org

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: Myrna and Stuart Aronoff

Myrna and Stuart Aronoff sit side-by-side in their home immersed in abstract works of art. They talk of the cities they've lived in, the projects they've accomplished, and the insights they've learned along the way. Supporters of Emanu-El Next, they view their contribution as a gift to the younger generations who will succeed them. "I believe in giving when your hand is warm, not cold," Myrna says with a forthcoming smile. "We should be generous while we're alive — while we can see the happiness it brings others."

The Aronoffs have lived in San Francisco since 1980. Stuart became Treasurer of Emanu-El in 1991 during our congregation's last major capital project before Emanu-El Next — the renovation of the Temple House. Over the course of his service, he introduced a new dues structure to reestablish Emanu-El's firm financial footing by the late 90s. He also instituted the consolidation of the Home of Peace and Hills of Eternity Cemetery operations.

With humility in his voice, Stuart tells the story of an unprecedented speech he made from the Bimah during Rosh Hashanah in the days when, "no one ever talked about money during the High Holy Days." He told our congregation: "Now is the time to give. Shrouds don't have pockets, and we should be generous while we live." He remembers how some had considered it a heretic remark. But Stuart understood the urgency

of the campaign and stepped up to institute change. As he reflects on the years he's been with Emanu-El, he takes pride in the strides the congregation has taken to adapt to our ever changing world.



Myrna and Stuart Aronoff

Myrna shares her husband's fortitude and strong Jewish identity. She grew up in Springfield, New Jersey, always knowing she'd marry somebody Jewish, and when her children were born, they would be members of a synagogue and follow in the Jewish tradition. Stuart's father was the oldest (at 94) serving head usher at Temple Emanu-El in Beverly Hills. Stuart was bar mitzvahed there, graduated from UC Berkeley in 1954 (where he was president of the fraternity Sigma Alpha Mu). He then went into the army for two years and pursued a twelve-year IBM career.

Myrna and Stuart married in 1967 in New Jersey. Myrna was a very independent person and traveled before she got married. She feels that Stuart supported her wholeheartedly in her independence throughout their marriage, which was especially meaningful to her at a time when not many women were in her position.

In 1969 they moved to Los Angeles where their first son, Alan, was born. There, Myrna got to know Stuart's family — the Aronoffs and the Dillers. "It was lovely to come to LA and have all these cousins because I'm a very family minded person," Myrna says. The couple had their second son, Todd, in 1971, and Stuart again moved the growing family in 1972 to their next stop: London. Myrna remembers with great fondness the nine years they spent there, where they became members of West London Synagogue, grew close with the Jewish community and volunteered with the Joint Israel Appeal.

The Aronoffs came to San Francisco in 1980 when Stuart was appointed executive vice president of Booth Financial, a computer leasing company. They made new friends, found a home and adorned it with marvelous collections of glass and abstract art. To Myrna, art is a passion. She lives immersed with it and shares it with her children, family and friends. Her passion for collecting art, and the feeling of serenity it brings her, has only grown with time.

Early on in their years in the Bay, they toured synagogues to find their Jewish home. When they visited Emanu-El, the couple received what Myrna calls an unbelievably warm reception from Rabbi Asher. They joined our congregation, both their boys were bar mitzvahed here, and Stuart became deeply involved.

"I believe that being Jewish comforts who you are and helps you strengthen your community," Stuart says. Over the years, he's been on the board of the JCCSF, the Jewish Community Federation, the President of the Northern Division of Israeli Bonds, and Board President at Congregation Emanu-El. Knowing that he could provide in his small way a prolonging of the

Jewish tradition has always meant a lot to him. He thinks synagogues have to be on the forefront of community involvement, and to do so, they have to be realistic about the circumstances of modern society. "It's our ability to adapt to everyday life and consider new ideas that makes us relevant," he says. To that end, Stuart believes Congregation Emanu-El has excelled through the years.

Myrna's involvement with Jewish fundraising has been an important factor of her life. She got involved in 1981 and was campaign chair for the San Francisco Women's Division and held various other positions in numerous Jewish organizations. She was also on the board of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Her life has been fulfilling, and she has felt a part of the San Francisco Jewish community.

"You have to keep moving forward," Stuart says. "Whether it's physically, financially or philosophically. And that takes effort and intensity." Stuart asserts that the continuity of Jewish life depends on young families. He brings up the Emanu-El Next initiative to upgrade our religious school as an important example of how the temple is moving forward by giving young families the spiritual, yet modern, education their children need in order to continue to cultivate a vibrant Jewish community.

"Thanks to our community's generosity, Emanu-El will be here for years to come," Myrna says, proud of the part that she and Stuart have played in helping give long life to our temple. Myrna and Stuart say that Jews hold hands around the world. Wherever they are, they hold hands and think about one another. "This is our way of holding hands with the next generation."

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 jweinberg@emanuelsf.org or (415) 750-7557.

Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered A Recent Loss

Diane Lowenstein (Anthony) on the loss of her mother; and Katie, Julia and Anna Lowenstein on the loss of their grandmother, **Helene Ettelson**.

Adrienne Rovens on the loss of her husband; Elise Shanfeld and Michael Rovens on the loss of their father, **Louis Rovens**.

Jonathan Shenk (Bonnie) on the loss of his step-father; and Anabel and Abraham Shenk on the loss of their grandfather, **Sidney Cohen**.

Holli and Lynne Thier on the loss of their father; and Benjamin and Jacqueline Thier on the loss of their grandfather, **Dr. Herbert David Thier**.

Kirsten Salmeen (Dr. Terry Platchek) on the loss of her mother; and Theodore Platchek on the loss of his grandmother, **Trudy Salmeen**.

Welcome New Members

Mr. Zachary Ammirato
Henry Ammirato
Alexandra Ammirato
Ella Lila Anvari
Dr. Eiman Anvari
Mrs. Denise Dautoff
Mr. Justin Dautoff
Dr. Bitu Fakhri
Ms. Mariah Halperin

Ms. Rachel Kanter
Beatrice Lawson
Aria Lawson
Mrs. Shayna Lawson
Ms. Julia Maniccia
Mr. Matthew Satlak
Cedar Satlak
Mr. Brian Simpson

Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

Erica and Andrew Einfeld on the birth of their daughter, **Lillian Jean Einfeld**.

Bitu Fakhri and Eiman Anvari on the birth of their daughter, **Ella Lila Anvari**.

Mark Pincus and Hilary Shaw on the birth of their son, **Enzo Wylde Shaw Pincus**.

Matthew and Salima Jacobson on the birth of their daughter, **Raya Alexandra Jacobson**.

Eric S. Reiter on publication of his article, "Overcoming the Quantum Mechanics Measurement Problem by Experiment and Theory," in the June issue of Physics Essays: An International Journal Dedicated to Fundamental Questions in Physics.

Chelsea Eng on her writing, "Coney Island Shiva," being selected by The Braid/Santa Monica, CA for their salon show "Wide Open/True Jewish stories of opening yourself to the unknown" May 1-19.

Joshua Herzstein and Jing Yi Ng on the birth of their son; Lynn Altshuler and Stanley Herzstein on the birth of their grandson, **Luwen Herzstein**.

Welcome Back Rejoined Members

Ms. Chandra Sen

YFE Registration

Get excited! Youth and Family Education (YFE) registration is launching at the end of June!

Please visit emanuelsf.org/yfe for your YFE needs.



B'nei Mitzvah



Mia Yolles

Bat Mitzvah:

June 4, 2022

Parents:

Stacey Silver and Jonathan Yolles

Torah Portion:

Bemidbar



Levi Saltiel-Negrillo

Bar Mitzvah:

June 18, 2022

Parents:

Erica Saltiel Levin and Belmer Negrillo

Torah Portion:

Behaalot'cha



Tallulah Strober-Holt

Bat Mitzvah:

June 4, 2022

Parents: Jonathan Strober and

Francisco Caravayo-Strober z"l

Torah Portion:

Bemidbar



Sasha Seid

Bat Mitzvah:

June 18, 2022

Parents:

Deborah Jaffe and Jamin Seid

Torah Portion:

Behaalot'cha



Maxwell Donner

Bar Mitzvah:

June 11, 2022

Parents:

Michael and Christine Donner

Torah Portion:

Naso



Lilian Gross

Bat Mitzvah:

June 18, 2022

Parents:

Stefanie Rosenberg and Chris Gross

Torah Portion:

Behaalot'cha



Samantha and Zoe Gorman

B'not Mitzvah:

June 11, 2022

Parents:

Lisa and Ari Gorman

Torah Portion:

Naso



Hudson Soofer

Bar Mitzvah:

June 18, 2022

Parents:

Lida and Kaveh Soofer

Torah Portion:

Behaalot'cha



Charles Greenstone

Bar Mitzvah:

June 11, 2022

Parents:

Scott and Diana Greenstone

Torah Portion:

Naso



Jonah Smorgon

Bar Mitzvah:

Israel

Parents:

Jennifer and Tony Smorgon

Torah Portion:

Korach



Congregation Emanu-El
Two Lake Street
San Francisco, CA 94118
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(415) 751-2535

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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PERIODICAL



TOT SHABBAT

at Congregation Emanu-El



Photos by Susan Adler and Marc Estoque

Tot Shabbat!

All kids ages six and under and their adults and older siblings are welcome, free of charge, to join us for a kid-friendly meal, teen-led activities, and a 30-minute service. You don't need to be an Emanu-El member, know Hebrew, or understand Shabbat. Tot Shabbat will be on the first Friday of each month, except for July.

Register at emanuelsf.org/calendar