High Holy Days 2018

SEPT 9 -19 HIGH HOLY DAYS

SEPT 23-30 SUKKOT

SEPT 30 ANAT HOFFMAN
According to Rabbi Eleazar, one of the great teachers of the Talmud, our world was created during the month of Tishrei. Eleazar connected the beginning of existence with the sixth (or unit, as I prefer) day of the creation narrative, because the human story began at that moment. The mystics, however, teach that the world is always being recreated; existence is always upon us! The Jewish New Year is a moment of demarcation that reminds us of our potential to move beyond the static and unite with the holy in the process of renewing our creation.

Within this Gregorian calendar month, our congregation will fully celebrate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah. Also this month, our religious and Hebrew schools and adult learning programs will be opening for the season, and our social justice offerings will be seeking to engage you. It may feel as if the Jewish world is in a sense coming at you, but each holiday and each offering at the temple beckons you to connect and find a gateway to your personal renewal.

We, of course, hope that you will take advantage of what these holidays have to offer. At a time when we conduct so much of our lives virtually—where the pressure of personal achievement diminishes our sense of meaning, where the noise of hate speech and the flashing lights of celebrity culture exhaust your senses—these days of holiness offer an alternative path to renewal. They express optimism that we can grow and change, and that each in his or her own way can make a difference.

RABBI KUSHNER’S TORAH STUDY: MEZRITCH ON THE PARASHA

Discussions on the weekly Torah portion based on the teachings of Rabbi Dov Baer, the Maggid (story teller) of Mezritch.

Saturdays, September 15, 2018 through May 2019, 9:15 – 10:15 am
Room 55 on the fifth floor

Discussions on the weekly Torah portion based on the teachings of Rabbi Dov Baer, the Maggid (story teller) of Mezritch. Dov Baer was the principal disciple of the Baal Shem Tov and teacher to the earliest generations of Hasidic masters. He and his disciples set the agenda for Jewish spirituality, even up to modern times. Each week, we will read one of the selections in Hebrew and discuss it in English. No Hebrew is necessary to follow along and join in the discussion.

The text for this study group is the two-volume “Speaking Torah: Spiritual Teachings from around the Maggid’s Table,” ed. Arthur Green (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2013). We highly encourage participants to purchase these two volumes to add to their own Jewish library, although we will have a few copies available for on-site use (not to take home).

RISE FOR CLIMATE, JOBS & JUSTICE: INTERFAITH SERVICE AND MARCH

Saturday, September 8
Interfaith Service: 9:15 am, Ferry Park
Pre-march gathering: 10:00 am, Embarcadero Plaza
March: 11:00 am, Embarcadero Plaza to Civic Center

Join Rabbi Carla Fenves as we call for strong action at the Rise for Climate, Jobs & Justice March on Shabbat morning, September 8. Following an interfaith service at Ferry Park, we will assemble at Embarcadero Plaza in song and celebration, with thousands of others from the various faith communities, and then march from Embarcadero Plaza to Civic Center. To learn more and to RSVP, visit ca.riseforclimate.org/faith.

ANAT HOFFMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE IRAC/ DIRECTOR OF WOMEN OF THE WALL

September 30, 9:30 am, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Emanu-El welcomes back Anat Hoffman, the courageous leader of Women at the Wall! This organization fights not just for the right to egalitarian prayer at the holiest site of the Jewish people, but for upholding the values of pluralism and democracy for all Israelis. Hoffman is also the Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center, the legal and advocacy arm of the Reform Movement in Israel.

As proud supporters of Anat Hoffman’s work, we feel privileged that she has agreed to speak at our temple and share her insight about the Nation-State bill, the conflict, Israeli awareness of American Jewish alienation, and what we can do collectively to keep working for a better Jewish future.
Eleazar connected the beginning of existence with the sixth day (or unit, as I prefer) of the creation narrative, because the human story began at that moment. The mystics, however, teach that the world is always being recreated; existence is always upon us! The Jewish New Year is a moment of demarcation that reminds us of our potential to move beyond the static and unite with the holy in the process of renewing our creation.

Within this Gregorian calendar month, our congregation will fully celebrate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah. Also this month, our religious and Hebrew schools and adult learning programs will be opening for the season, and our social justice offerings will be seeking to engage you. It may feel as if the Jewish world is in a sense coming at you, but each holiday and each offering at the temple beckons you to connect and find a gateway to your personal renewal.

We, of course, hope that you will take advantage of what these holidays have to offer. At a time when we conduct so much of our lives virtually — where the pressure of personal achievement diminishes our sense of meaning, where the noise of hate speech and the flashing lights of celebrity culture exhaust your senses — these days of holiness offer an alternative path to renewal. They express optimism that we can grow and change, and that each in his or her own way can make a difference.

According to Rabbi Eleazar, one of the great teachers of the Talmud, our world was created during the month of Tishrei.

In our Jewish tradition, each holiday builds upon the other, and that is especially true this month. It’s time to take off from your routine. Bring your children and friends along as we celebrate the convergence of four holidays:

Rosh Hashanah, which welcomes the new year with sweetness and a call to personal growth. Join us in prayer and then gather at the beach to cast off the weight of pain or numbness that has been holding you back.

Yom Kippur, which invites you to embrace a day of deep personal introspection supported by a community renewing itself in prayer, meditation, learning, and the nurturing of hope! Stay the day and participate in this form of Jewish communal therapy as you seek forgiveness and look to a better future.

Sukkot, which beckons you to reconnect with the life-giving presence of the earth by celebrating the harvest and dwelling under a canopy of hope. Sukkot is the real conclusion of Yom Kippur as we transition from turning inward to focusing outward on the joy of life’s harvest. This year, you might even build your own sukkah! But also spend some time in our beautiful communal sukkah, greeting others, drinking in the stars above, and allowing your senses to fill with wonder.

Simchat Torah, which asks you to participate in the dance of learning as we unfurl the sacred scroll and turn the year over again, concluding with the beginning as the Jewish dance continues. There will be live music and the blessing of new students, and you will raise the scroll of hope.

This is a month of wonder, and the world is indeed coming at you. Allow yourself to receive the blessing by joining in community here at Emanu-El!

One Shabbat Service Speaker

Rick Jacobs
President, Union for Reform Judaism

November 9, 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Hear from Rabbi Rick Jacobs, leader of the URJ, the largest and most diverse Jewish movement in North America, with almost 900 congregations reaching nearly 1.5 million people. For close to 150 years, the URJ has been at the forefront in promoting an open, progressive Judaism.
WELCOME BACK SHABBAT AND BARBECUE
Friday, August 24
6:00 pm One Shabbat Service
7:00 pm BBQ Dinner
Bring a friend to experience Shabbat at Emanu-El! Meet the clergy and catch up with fellow congregants while enjoying a barbecue dinner in our courtyard following the service. We look forward to kicking off another great year of spiritual togetherness and Jewish education with you!
Admission is free, but please register for this event online so we know to expect you.

SHABBAT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 1
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Friday, September 7
5:30 pm, First Friday Under Five
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)
6:00 pm, Classic Shabbat Service
(Main Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 8
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Main Sanctuary)

Friday, September 14
6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)
8:30 pm, Late Shabbat
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 15
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Main Sanctuary)

Friday, September 21
6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 22
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Main Sanctuary)

Friday, September 28
6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 29
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Martin Meyer Sanctuary)
10:30 am, Shabbat Morning Service
(Main Sanctuary)

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Rabbi Carole Balin, Ph.D.
Friday, October 26 through Sunday, October 28

Rabbi Carole B. Balin is Professor Emerita of History at the New York campus of HUC-JIR. She writes and lectures on topics as diverse as Jewish women in Tsarist Russia and the Maxwell House Haggadah. Rabbi Balin is currently working with Wendy Zierler on a volume of writings by Hava Shapiro (1878–1943), to be published this year by Wayne State University Press. Balin’s first book, To Reveal Our Hearts: Jewish Women Writers of Tsarist Russia (HUC Press, 2000), won a Koret Award for publication, and her second book with Wendy Zierler, Behikansi atah [In my entering now, Selected Works by Hava Shapiro] (Resling Press, Tel Aviv, 2008), was published with funds awarded by the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute and the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation.

This weekend is made possible by The Charles Michael Lecture Endowment Fund.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT
Sponsoring an Oneg-Shabbat for Friday evening is a lovely way to honor or remember a loved one or to celebrate a Simcha. When you sponsor an Oneg-Shabbat, you help us welcome Shabbat with the warmth and community that are characteristic of our congregation. For more details, please contact Svetlana Leykin at sleykin@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2541 x123.

Thank you to the following for co-sponsoring recent Oneg-Shabbat receptions:
Anonymous, in memory of Leon Mitchell
Greenberg-Juliussen Family, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Greenberg
Mila Treiser, Armin Treiser, Sarah Cogan, David Cogan, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Mila Kogan Hughes
Jason Friend and Alina Katz, in honor of their wedding
EMANU-EL SF

FALL 2018

Start the New Year off right with one of our fantastic Adult Education Classes! TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Cost: Members $36; nonmembers $54

Taube Emanu-El Scholar Stephen S. Pearce poetry workshop is free.

The Cento Patchwork Poetry Workshop – with Taube Emanu-El Scholar and Rabbi Stephen S. Pearce

There is a poet in everyone – even you – really!!!
October 16, 23, and 30, and November 6

Introducing: Emanu-El READS!
The Literary World of Philip Roth

Read the book and join us for our first meeting on Tuesday, October 23, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Library

Last year’s book group was so much fun, and this year we’re proving to be even more ambitious! We invite the entire congregation to read three books, and then enjoy a lively discussion led by one of our engaged readers. Our first selection, to be read by October 23, is American Pastoral by Phillip Roth (one of the most important writers in recent American letters, who died this past year). This is our chance to engage Roth’s work, discuss this seminal and often controversial figure, and make new friends. In addition to a loquacious discussion, the evening will include libations!
Friday and Sunday Study Options

Cheshvan Yoga: Yoga for Rest with Julie Emden
Fridays, October 19 and 26, and November 2, 9, and 16, 12:00 – 1:15 pm

Hebrew Decoding the Alef-Bet with Cantor Marsha Attie
Sundays, September 30 and October 7, 9:30 – 11:15 am

Raising a Jewish Child: A Scaffolding for Independence and Responsibility with Taube Emanu-El Scholar and Rabbi Stephen S. Pearce
Sundays, October 7, 14, and 21, 9:30 – 11:15 am

Pre-registration is required for all of our featured Adult Education courses. To learn more, visit www.emanuelsf.org/learning/adult-education or contact Ariana Estoque, Director of Adolescent and Adult Education, at (415) 751-2541 x307 or aestoque@emanuelsf.org.

Taube Emanu-El Scholar Stephen S. Pearce poetry workshop is free.
THE WISE AGING PROGRAM

Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal state in their book, Wise Aging: Joy, Resilience and Spirit, “[w]e cannot grow older alone. Not if we want to do it well. The good news is that what is true for us is true for others. When we share stories with others we realize that our personal story is deeply connected to larger narratives. We have a lot to offer to each other and to our communities and our society.”

Such is the essence of the Wise Aging program offerings. Due to the program’s successes, as described in more detail below, Congregation Emanu-El will be offering two new groups, and we invite you to participate. We are planning to offer both morning and evening groups.

During this past year, the participants in our initial groups discovered that being with others at a similar stage of life provided a richer social existence and an opportunity to learn from one another. We shared optimism, laughter, and understanding. We also shared tears; one group member recently lost her mother, another lost her husband and still others suffered financial setbacks or had adult children who faced serious illnesses. Despite the difficulty of these challenges, the new and enriching relationships formed during Wise Aging provided critical support and helped facilitate new strength and perspectives. Group participants strive for honest communication by sharing humor and an intimacy that makes our time together easier and more productive. From our discussions, participants gain contemplative listening skills and a deeper appreciation for reflection, mediation and the cultivation of spiritual qualities (Middot).

Current members realize that simply being and learning together is part of the fulfilling process of aging wisely. Sarah and Max Neiman’s testimony emphasizes the importance of their new found community:

My wife and I were invited to participate in the first Wise Aging group at Congregation Emanu-El after another couple had dropped out. Our initial hesitancy stemmed from our general satisfaction with our own “aging,” and a sense that we had heard all the advice about the physical, social, and emotional aspects of moving into “senior status.”

But, after some discussion we decided to participate. Utilizing the book Wise Aging as an organizing tool, our facilitators Audrey and Perry have guided us through each chapter. Their experience, empathy and willingness to adjust and respond sensitively to the seminar participants’ concerns and needs has helped to create a very thoughtful and safe environment.

In addition to discussing each chapter, we have created a bond with the members of the group that has allowed us to learn how to listen carefully, express our feelings and gain insights from one another. There is a sense of affinity with each other that is rewarding and immensely satisfying.

Although the group is obliged to be rigorously mum about what is done and said during our sessions, we are unhesitating in declaring how worthwhile and personally rewarding the Wise Aging experience has been for us.

All congregants ages fifty (50) and older interested in participating in the new groups are highly encouraged to contact Julie Mayer, Congregation Emanu-El Pastoral Care Provider at (415) 751-2541 x258 or jmayer@emanuelsf.org.

Each of us, participant and facilitator alike, has found immense value in our experience and we encourage each of you to become a part of Congregation Emanu-El’s Wise Aging community.

Perry Lisker, LCSW
Wise Aging Co-Facilitator
HIGH HOLY DAYS SUMMARY OF EVENTS

ROSH HASHANAH

EREV ROSH HASHANAH
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 5:00 pm - Family Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm - Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
- 8:30 pm - Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary

ROSH HASHANAH DAY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- 9:00 am - Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
- 10:00 am - Service for families with children under 5 years old, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
- 11:45 am - Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary
- 2:30 pm - Service for families with children ages 5-10, Main Sanctuary
- 3:30 pm - Community Service led by our teens, Main Sanctuary

TASHLICH

- 5:00 pm - Tashlich, Baker Beach

2ND DAY ROSEH HASHANAH

- 9:30 am - Meditative Service

YOM KIPPUR

KOL NIDRE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 5:00 pm - Family Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm - Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
- 8:30 pm - Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary

YOM KIPPUR DAY
STAY THE DAY AND PRAY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 9:00 am - Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
- 10:00 am - Service for families with children under 5 years old, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
- 11:45 am - Study Session, Guild Hall
- 11:30 am - Study Session, Guild Hall
- 11:45 am - Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary
- 2:00 pm - Homeless Youth in San Francisco, Guild Hall
- 2:15 pm - Reflection & Renewal in the Redwoods
- 2:30 pm - Afternoon Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
- 3:30 pm - Community Service led by our teens, Main Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm - Meditation, Guild Hall
- 4:00 pm - Healing Service, Reuben Rinder Chapel

YIZKOR AND NEILAH CONCLUDING WORSHIP

- 5:30 pm - Classic Yizkor and Neilah Services, Main Sanctuary
- 5:30 pm - Contemporary Yizkor and Neilah Services, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Havdalah and Break the Fast following Neilah in the Courtyard.
HIGH HOLY DAYS

Soon shofars will be sounding in our sanctuaries, on Baker Beach and in the courtyard as we hear the call to welcome in a new year of hope, of meaning, of rebalance and renewal.

On these pages you will find gateways to connect to these powerful and sacred days of awe.

Bring your loved ones and friends and come to join in the diverse, engaging services and spiritual opportunities Emanu-El offers as we all heed that ancient and ever relevant call to hope and renewal.

Shanah Tovah U’Metuka

CLASSIC SERVICE
Cantor Luck leads a majestic musical ensemble including strings, clarinet, choir, and keyboards, creating a deeply emotional, uplifting and contemplative experience.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
Cantor Attie and her musicians lead soulful, spirited, participatory, warm and prayerful services.

ROSH HASHANAH

EREV ROSH HASHANAH
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

5:00 PM **Family Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
One hour worship, led in a participatory, educational style by our clergy and musicians. Appropriate for children under age 5 and open to the community.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

6:00 PM Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
Led by Rabbis Carla Fenves and Jason Rodich.
Sermon by Senior Rabbi Beth Singer.
Music: Cantor Arik Luck, the Emanu-El Choir and organist.

8:30 PM Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary
Led by Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer and Rabbi Ryan Bauer.
Sermon by Senior Rabbi Beth Singer.
Music: Cantor Marsha Attie and accompanists.

ROSH HASHANAH
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00 AM Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
Led by Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer and Rabbi Sydney Mintz.
Sermon by Rabbi Ryan Bauer.
Music: Cantor Arik Luck, the Emanu-El Choir and organist.

10:00 AM **Service for families with children under 5 years old, Martin Meyer Sanctuary
Led by clergy.
Music: Cantor Marsha Attie and accompanists.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

11:45 AM Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary
Led by Senior Rabbi Beth Singer and Rabbi Carla Fenves.
Sermon by Rabbi Jason Rodich.
Music: Cantor Marsha Attie and accompanists.

2:30 PM **Service for families with children ages 5-10, Main Sanctuary
Led by Emanu-El clergy.
Music: Cantor Arik Luck and musician Jonathan Ferris.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

3:30 PM **Community Service led by our Teens, Main Sanctuary
Come and be inspired by the music, communal singing, and commentaries created and led by our teens. With Cantor Marsha Attie and accompanist.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

5:00 PM **TASHLICH
Baker Beach
As instructed by the Prophet Micah, we gather to throw breadcrumbs into the water on Rosh Hashanah afternoon. This ceremony is called Tashlich and represents a symbolic casting away of the transgressions of the past year. Dress casually (and warmly), bring some breadcrumbs and join us for this meaningful ceremony of song and personal reflection. Led by Emanu-El clergy and musicians.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

2ND DAY ROSH HASHANAH
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:30 AM Meditative Service, Reuben Rinder Chapel
Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer, Rabbi Ryan Bauer and Cantor Marsha Attie.

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

** OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
YOM KIPPU:

KOL NIDRE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

5:00 PM  **Family Service, Martin Meyer Sanctuary**
One hour worship, led in a participatory, educational style by our clergy and musicians. Appropriate for children under age 5 and open to the community.
NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

6:00 PM  Classic Service, Main Sanctuary
Led by Senior Rabbi Beth Singer and Rabbi Carla Fenves. Sermon by Rabbi Jonathan Singer. Music: Cantor Arik Luck, the Emanu-El Choir and organist.

8:30 PM  Contemporary Service, Main Sanctuary

YOM KIPPU DAY
STAY THE DAY AND PRAY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

9:00 AM  Classic Service, Main Sanctuary

10:00 AM  **Service for families with children ages 5 and under, Martin Meyer Sanctuary**
NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

10:00 AM  **Study Session, Guild Hall**
High Holy Day Learning with Rabbi Lawrence Kushner.
Malicious talk / I’shon ha-ra / לושון הרע Maimonides on the laws governing speech.
NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

11:30 AM  **Study Session, Guild Hall**
High Holy Day Learning with Taube Emanu-El Scholar Rabbi Stephen Pearce:
What Is Your Story?
Muriel Ruykeser advised, “The world is not made of atoms. It is made of stories.” Accounts from our formative years, called “charter narratives” exert influence in such a way that they take on lives of their own. Charter narratives can elevate or use up our future because they most often shape who we are, even though often people do not realize how a formative episode is responsible for future character. This workshop will provide an opportunity to explore the power of charter narratives to help participants reach back in time to explore such significant episodes at this self-reflective time of the year.
NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

EMANU-EL SF
YIZKOR AND NEILAH CONCLUDING WORSHIP

A memorial service called Yizkor (Remembrance) is recited near the conclusion of Yom Kippur. It is said by every person who has lost a parent or other loved ones. Neilah, the full name is Ne’ilat She’arim (Closing of the Gates) referring to the daily closing of the Temple gates in Jerusalem, follows Yizkor. On Yom Kippur, this literal closing is symbolically associated with the closing of the heavenly gates that remained open to prayer until sunset. If you wish to wait until the Yizkor service concludes, you may enter the sanctuary at the beginning of Neilah.

5:30 PM Classic Yizkor and Neilah Services, Main Sanctuary

5:30 PM Contemporary Yizkor and Neilah Services
Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Courtyard Havdalah and Break the Fast following Neilah

SELICHOT
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1

PERFORMANCE: ARISE MY BELOVED AND GO FORTH - EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD.

About Jewish Women’s Theatre
In the fall of 2008, Jewish Women’s Theatre debuted in the backyard of a home in California with the expressed purpose of giving voice to Jewish women on stage. Until then, no theater company in America had pledged to welcome and encourage contemporary stories by Jewish women and to adapt them theatrically, giving them life in front of a live audience.

“We are a people of the book,” we reasoned. “What if we focused on the word, the text, the story? What if we revived the age-old tradition of salons: women hosting culture of the day in their homes?” Sparing the expense of a theater, sets, costumes, and props meant we could fully focus on presenting powerful stories in unexpected and convenient venues, reaching many more local neighborhoods.

6:30 PM Havdalah in Martin Meyer Reception
7:00 PM Performance by Jewish Women’s Theater in Martin Meyer Sanctuary
8:15 PM Selichot service

NO ONE PASS OR TICKET REQUIRED

ONE PASS
With your One Pass, you may attend any service. You will need to show your One Pass for all services except those that indicate “No One Pass or ticket required” or “Open to the Community.” Students are welcome to come showing their school IDs; no passes needed.

Please note: All Passes for High Holy Day services are non-transferable.

SECURITY
For the protection of everyone, security personnel reserve the right to inspect all purses and packages and check identification. In the interest of time, please bring only what you will need during the service. Allow extra time to pass through the security lines.

PARKING CHANGES
Due to the steep decline in use, the Presidio parking and shuttle service to the Temple has been discontinued. For seniors and disabled members residing in San Francisco, we offer transportation for the 6:00 pm Classic Erev Rosh Hashanah service on Sunday, September 9, the 6:00 pm Classic Kol Nidre service on Tuesday, September 18 and the 5:30 pm Yizkor service on Wednesday, September 19, at a heavily subsidized price. Our transportation provider is SilverRide, a company that specializes in transportation for older adults.

Reservations for the subsidized SilverRide service can be made through the Temple, and the firm deadline is Friday, August 17. To reserve and pay, please log in to the MyEmanu-El portal at the top right of our website or contact Director of Membership Services Terry Kraus, membership@emanuelsf.org or (415) 750-7552. The cost is $25 per person for each round trip.

If you would like to look for street parking around the Temple, we have obtained waivers of time limits and street cleaning for both sides of the following streets: Lake from Arguello to 4th Ave. 2nd Ave., 3rd Ave. and 4th Ave. from Lake to California Arguello from Jackson to California Sacramento, Clay, Washington and Jackson from Arguello to Spruce Cherry, Maple and Spruce from Jackson to Sacramento

CHILD CARE
Child care is offered during the morning services on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, from 2:00 – 5:00 pm on Yom Kippur afternoon, and during Yizkor and Neilah. There is no evening child care. Child care is for children 2 - 10 years old. A form must be submitted in advance to enroll your child(ren) for child care. Please log in to the MyEmanu-El portal at the top right of our website to find the form.

If you choose to bring a young child to the Classic or Contemporary services, please be sure that your child is able to sit through the entire service (approximately two hours) so as not to disturb other worshippers. Otherwise, please register for child care when offered, or make other arrangements. A donation of $10 per child is suggested for child care/per service.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL passes FOR HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE.
SUCCOT & SIMCHAT TORAH 2018
Sunday, September 23 through Sunday, September 30
Throughout Sukkot, bring a lunch or dinner (check our schedule online to make sure we’re open) and come shake the lulav! Join us in the courtyard with your meal and participate in the Sukkot ritual.

EREV SUKKOT
   Sunday, September 23, 5:00 – 7:30 pm, Courtyard
   We will begin with a joyous short festive service. Then it’s off to the sukkah to welcome in the holiday, shake the lulav and etrog, and enjoy a scrumptious dinner in our courtyard sukkah. Enjoy music, sukkatinis, and just being in a place of beauty as we celebrate the fall harvest. Reservations are required for dinner; please register online.

FIRST DAY OF SUKKOT SERVICE
   Monday, September 24, 9:00 am, Chapel
   Join us on the first morning of Sukkot for a joyous festival service. Freshly brewed coffee will be served at 9:00 am for the service in the chapel, where Hallel will be sung by the cantor! Afterwards, we’ll have a traditional lox and bagels brunch — and we’ll eat in the sukkah just as our ancestors did!

SUCCOT DINNER: THE TRIBE FOR WOMEN & WOMEN’S GROUP
   Tuesday, September 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Emanu-El Sukkah
   We invite all women in our community to come together and enjoy good food at our annual Sukkot gathering in the Emanu-El sukkah. The evening’s discussion will focus on radical hospitality: what does it mean to be welcoming in our community? We will be outside in the sukkah, so remember to dress for the weather! After you register and pay, we ask that you click the link in your confirmation email to choose your contribution of wine, a side dish, or a dessert. This will accompany our delectable main dishes from Bi-Rite Market. Please register online for the dinner.

DRINKS, DINNER AND MUSIC IN THE SUKKAH
   Thursday, September 27, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
   Warm, friendly home, to be disclosed upon registration.

YOUNG FAMILIES SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE IN THE SUKKAH
   Saturday, September 29, 10:00 am, Home of Rabbi Fenves and Cantor Frommer
   We invite families with children under age 5 for a Shabbat morning service in the sukkah at the home of Rabbi Carla Fenves and Cantor David Frommer. Please join us for an outdoor service and activities for the little ones. Space is limited, so please register online (address will be provided upon registration).

YIZKOR SERVICE
   Bagels and service, 8:30 am
   Have you experienced the loss of someone you love? Join us to honor and remember them at our beautiful Yizkor service with Rabbi Beth Singer and Cantor Marsha Attie.

continued on page 14
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DAYTIME PROGRAMS
AT THE TEMPLE

Meet other congregants at these weekday opportunities at the temple! Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner.

Cooking for Congregants
Thursdays, September 6, 13, and 27, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Kitchen

Do you enjoy working in the kitchen and helping others at the same time? Sign up for Cooking for Congregants, led by two Emanu-El members, where you will prepare meals for congregants facing a recent illness, death, or birth.

When someone we know is going through a challenging time, our natural reaction is to help, although we may not know exactly what to do. For those in need, food frequently becomes a low priority, so the support provided by Cooking for Congregants can make a huge difference! As volunteer Sari Swig says, “There is no better gift to yourself than to help others,” while a recipient of meals expresses how “It is such a lovely gesture of community… I was most grateful.”

Register now to fulfill this mitzvah! All menus, ingredients, and storage containers are provided. And if you know a congregant who would benefit from a few delivered meals, please let us know.

The Stories of Your Life: Guided Autobiography and Life Review Writing
No charge; any skill level welcomed.
September 17, 10:00 am – Noon

Join this free and friendly group that meets monthly to share stories on assigned themes — for example, “Your Relationship with Israel,” “Treasured Objects,” or “Your Greatest Accomplishments.” This is an opportunity for self-reflection and the chance to tell your unique story while also getting to know other members of our congregation. No writing experience is necessary! For more information, contact the group facilitator Nancy Alpert, LCSW at nalpo@igc.org.

Scrabble
No charge; drop in; all ages and experience levels welcomed.
Mondays, September 3, 10, 17, and 24, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Do you enjoy the challenge of putting letters together to form words? Join the Scrabble group and play a rousing game or two! Expand your vocabulary along with your social circle. Bring a Scrabble set (optional) and, of course, your appreciation of words.

Mah Jongg
No charge; drop in. Rinder Chapel
Tuesday afternoon, September 4, 1:30 – 4:30 pm
Tuesday evenings, September 11 and 25, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

These sessions are for play time only, no teaching. So if you’re an experienced Mah Jongg player, come join us!

Bridge Club – Lessons and Game
Drop in; Cost: $15 for members, $20 for friends of members.
Tuesdays in September, 10:00 am – Noon
If you are beyond the level of beginner, join this very popular and lively group for duplicate-style bridge. Play while improving your game. No partner needed. Deborah Murphy is the instructor.

CONGREGANT GROUPS & GATHERINGS

Meet other congregants at these weekend and evening opportunities! Please register online.

YOUNG FAMILIES

Young Families Sukkot Celebration
Saturday, September 29, 10:00 – 11:15 am

Families with children under age 5 are invited to a Shabbat morning service in the sukkah at Rabbi Carla Fenves and Cantor David Frommer’s home. Please join us for an outdoor service and kids’ activities. Space is limited, so please register online.

Baby Groups at Emanu-El
Drop in with your little ones (birth to 2 years) and spend time with other parents. Join us as we prepare to welcome Shabbat on Fridays and celebrate Havdalah on Mondays. Enjoy music, stories, puppets, and more with Early Childhood Educator Mimi Greisman! Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents and create lasting friendships.

Cost: Members FREE; $10/session for nonmembers (first session free)

Mazel Tots!
Mondays 9:30 – 11:00 am, Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Note: There will be no session on September 10 (Rosh Hashanah).
Join us instead for the service for families with children under age 5 at 10:00 am

Bagels and Babies
Fridays, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Your Community Engagement Team:
Terry Kraus (tkraus@emanuelsf.org, x111)
Monica Pevzner (mpevzner@emanuelsf.org, x124)
Frana Price (fprice@emanuelsf.org, x100)
Rebecca Reiner (reiner@emanuelsf.org, x170)
MEN’S AND WOMEN’S GROUPS

The Tribe for Men: Mikvah in the Ocean at Dawn
September 16, 5:00 – 8:00 am, from Emanu-El Main Sanctuary to Baker Beach
The High Holy Days are a time of opening up and looking deep inside our souls to examine who we have been and who we want to be. Have we accomplished all we can, and have we done all that we should? Have we treated others respectfully? Were we kind and good? Join Rabbi Ryan Bauer and your fellow Tribesmen (men only) for this morning of spiritual exploration and preparation.

We will meet at Congregation Emanu-El to meditate in the beautiful main sanctuary. Then we will go to Baker Beach for a mikvah in the ocean at dawn! Bring warm clothes, a towel, and an appetite for a nosh afterwards! Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner at reiner@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2534 x170.

The Men’s Group with Rabbi Jonathan
September 16, 9:30 – 11:30 am, private residence
Men of Congregation Emanu-El have a monthly opportunity to socialize and study with a member of the clergy at a private home. This cross-generational group provides a small group experience so important to building community. This month, you’ll have the opportunity to learn with Rabbi Jonathan! Questions? Contact Rebecca Reiner at reiner@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-2534 x170.

The Women’s Group and The Tribe for Women: Elul Mikvah
Sunday, September 9, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Baker Beach
Join Rabbi Mintz, Rabbi Fenves, and women from Congregation Emanu-El’s Women’s Group and The Tribe for Women for a morning of spiritual exploration and preparation for the High Holy Days at Baker Beach. Bring your bathing suit, towel, and a beach blanket. Taking a dip in the ocean is optional!

As a large congregation, we recognize the importance of small group connection, so we create many opportunities for learning, socializing, and enjoying local culture together. These group gatherings generally occur in the evening hours or on weekends. Refer to the Community or Social Justice pages on our website for more information and staff contact information. Remember to register online in the MyEmanu-El portal for all of these programs (unless otherwise noted below) so we know to expect you.

The Women’s Group and The Tribe for Women: Annual Sukkot Dinner
Tuesday, September 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Emanu-El Sukkah
Cost: $18, plus a contribution of wine or dessert
Join us for our annual Women’s Group and Tribe for Women dinner in the sukkah for a night of female bonding and discussion, and wine! We will be outside in the sukkah, so remember to dress warmly. Registration is open to adult women members of Congregation Emanu-El.

Stay tuned to future editions of the Chronicle for information on gatherings with our Interfaith Group (gatherings for Interfaith members and families of Emanu-El).

EMANU-EL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Build Emanu-El in your community with neighborhood gatherings.
Do you love your local coffee shop or farmers market? And does bringing a little Emanu-El into your neighborhood appeal to you? If you’re looking for a volunteer opportunity close to home, consider becoming a neighborhood liaison to reach out to congregants in need, coordinate neighborhood events, and welcome new congregants in the city. Or volunteer to host a local community get-together in your home. Interested? Let us know!

FRONT PORCH

This innovative program assembles congregants into groups and gives them the tools they need to build deep and meaningful relationships at home-hosted gatherings. The gatherings include short videos filmed by one of our rabbis and discussion questions on Jewish topics relevant to life today. Would you like to join a Front Porch group this fall? Fill out the interest form at https://www.emanuelsf.org/front-porch/

TZEDEK COUNCIL

ECONOMIC JUSTICE
Youth Experiencing Homelessness in San Francisco – Yom Kippur Presentation
Wednesday, September 19, 2:00 pm, Guild Hall
The Emanu-El Tzedek Council is working to make a specific impact in the area of teen and young adult homelessness, and we want you to be a part of our effort — beginning with a very special opportunity to learn about this national epidemic! At this presentation, young people will share their personal stories and experts in the field will share important research and outline the steps we can take to make a difference in the lives of these at-risk youth.

Please join our Tzedek Council in addressing this national epidemic by attending a special Yom Kippur presentation. You will learn directly from youth who have experienced homelessness in San Francisco as well as from experts in the field. Rabbi Rodich will ground this learning in Jewish tradition, connecting it to our Yom Kippur observance.

continued on page 14
SIMCHAT TORAH
Sunday, September 30, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, Guild Hall
Turn it over and you will always find something new in it! This we actually do as we celebrate Simchat Torah — expressing the joy of ending and starting the Torah anew. We will greet each other in the courtyard with klezmer music and then dance joyously in Guild Hall as we do the seven hakafot (circles) and unfurl the entire scroll. There will be a special bar for adults (as is the Hasidic custom), as well as a live band, food, and consecration for our new students. We will conclude and begin again the reading for this annual cycle. Don’t miss this highlight of the year! Please register online so we know how much food to order.

QUESTIONS
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HIGH HOLY DAYS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR HIGH HOLY DAYS OFFICE AT (415) 751-2541 X138 OR EMAIL HHD@EMANUELSF.ORG.

VISITORS
You may include your friends or relatives who would like to attend in one of the following ways:
Please log in to the MyEmanu-El portal at the top right of our website to find the for to request tickets. Tickets are $175 per seat per service or $600 if you are requesting tickets for all five services (two evenings, two mornings and Yizkor). Please include a check or credit card authorization.

If your visitors belong to a Reform or Liberal congregation, please ask them to request tickets by having their synagogue send us a URJ Courtesy Request form. Your guests should ask their synagogue to indicate on the Courtesy Request form that they are attending with you.

We have a limited number of tickets available for visitors and they can only be purchased by members of the synagogue. It is important to emphasize that Congregation Emanu-El members are our first priority with respect to space at High Holy Day services.

TRAVEL
We are past the deadline for requesting reciprocity to other synagogues.

HIGH HOLY DAY USHERS
Every year at High Holy Day services, our Temple ushers make the experience of fellow members a positive and spiritual one. They extend a warm welcome, hand out prayer books, help congregants with seating, and answer general questions. Would you like to enrich your High Holy Day experience by volunteering to be a High Holy Days usher? We have openings for every service. Please log in to the MyEmanu-El portal at the top right of our website to sign up.

Requirement: You must arrive 45 minutes prior to the start of the service to be at your post and ready to greet congregants when the doors open. For more information, please contact Terry Kraus at tkraus@emanuelsf.org or (415) 750-7552.

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO THE HUNGRY IN SEPTEMBER AND ON HIGH HOLY DAYS

When you are asked in the world to come, “What was your work?”
And you answer, “I fed the hungry,”
You will be told, “This is the gate to the Lord, enter into it, you who have fed the hungry.” (Midrash Psalms 118:17)

Would you like to start your new year by helping those in need?
Congregation Emanu-El is the single largest Bay Area donor of nonperishable food to the San Francisco Food Bank. In addition, this will be our second year of donating to the Jewish Family and Children Services food pantry program.
To continue this mitzvah, we need your help! Please remember to bring non-perishable food donations (no glass please) to Congregation Emanu-El during High Holy Day services as well as throughout the month of September.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT continued from page 13

Emanu-El’s Healthy Children’s Pantry Program
Mondays, 2:00 – 5:00 pm, Roosevelt Middle School, San Francisco
We are seeking volunteers to help facilitate Emanu-El’s weekly Healthy Children’s Pantry Program, in partnership with The San Francisco Food Bank at Roosevelt Middle School. Volunteers set-up and facilitate this farmer’s market-style food pantry. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your community and help others obtain basic needs.

Please email Rebecca Reiner at reiner@emanuelsf.org if you’d like to become a weekly volunteer! (Note: We need a team member who is fluent in both English and Chinese, so if you or someone you know fits that bill, please let us know!)

HUMAN RIGHTS
UNITY GROUP
Congregation Emanu-El and First African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church sponsor an African-American/Jewish Unity Group that meets monthly.
Second Thursdays of the month, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
African American Art & Culture Complex, 762 Fulton Street, San Francisco
For the past two years, a group of Emanu-El congregants have met monthly with members of the Bay Area African-American community – for fellowship and to advance the cause of racial justice in the Bay Area and beyond.

Please contact Saundrah Anjali (sanjali@emanuelsf.org) for more information or to be added to our Unity Group mailing list.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION
As many may or may not know, the Jewish calendar has FOUR traditional “new years.” The first of Tishrei (Rosh HaShanah) marks the start of a new calendar cycle. The fifteenth of Shvat (Tu B’Shvat) marks the turning of the natural and agricultural cycle. The first of Nisan (two weeks before Pesach) celebrates the beginning of our identity formation as a Jewish people/nation. And the first of Elul, which in ancient days was essential tax day.

Though Rosh HaShanah is likely the most well-known and observed (and happening this month!), we are also celebrating many new beginning that are upon us.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New YFE Family Welcome Orientation</td>
<td>August 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day of YFE/TEF Sunday Programs</td>
<td>Sept 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Week of Monday Hebrew Classes</td>
<td>Sept 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day of Beyachad (4-5th grade family education)</td>
<td>Sept 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Week of Thursday Hebrew Classes</td>
<td>Sept 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day of YFE Wednesday Programs</td>
<td>Sept 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the cycle swings around again, you can expect a new year full of great things you love and remember returning, as well as new additions and changes. 5779 brings:

• 650 returning and 45 new students in Sunday/Wednesday programs
• 56 returning and 18 new teachers to the YFE educator team. We have completely refreshed our Teacher Training and Orientation Day to inspire, collaborate, and prepare for the first day of school
• the launch of our brand new Teen Accelerator Initiative – TISCH, a monthly Friday night Shabbat Service for any and ALL 9th - 12th grade students looking to explore identity, community and spirituality
• two 6th grade overnight retreats, an all-day adventure, and six special Shabbat experiences
• a special first day of school High Holy Days Fair
• and more! Including our extensive Arts Studio, Hebrew Through Movement, Jonathan Bayer, 7th grade Mitzvah Corps, Family Days, Purim, on and on!

And I will definitely be saying many Shehecheyanu’s throughout the year to revel in all the blessings that come with my first year as the Director of Education in this amazing learning community. Welcome to the New Year, the new school year, new families, new teachers, new friends, and new programs that will inspire, strengthen, and bring us all together.

Lom Friedman
Director of Education

Contemplative Listening, Jewish Text Study, Meditation and Your Stories

Evening Group:
Bimonthly on Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, beginning October 30

Morning Group:
Bimonthly on Wednesdays, 9:45 – 11:45 am, beginning October 10
Alexandra “Ash” Greenberg  
Bat Mitzvah: September 1  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Amy Greenberg and Hogni Juliusson  
Torah Portion: Ki Tavo

Jeremiah Lerner  
Bar Mitzvah: September 8  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Akiba and Sunny Lerner  
Torah Portion: Nitzavim

Mila Hughes  
Bat Mitzvah: September 8  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Jessica Kogan and Cameron Hughes  
Torah Portion: Nitzavim

Daisy Dean  
Bat Mitzvah: September 15  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Amy Denebeim Dean and Chris Dean  
Torah Portion: Vayelech Shuvah

Amiya Stroumza  
Bat Mitzvah: September 15  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Ratna Jain and Jerome Stroumza  
Torah Portion: Vayelech Shuvah

Caleb Darsky  
Bar Mitzvah: September 29  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Aaron Darsky  
Torah Portion: Hol Hamoed Succoth

Andrew Eidelhoch  
Bar Mitzvah: September 29  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary  
Parents: Sarah and Arthur Eidelhoch  
Torah Portion: Hol Hamoed Succoth

Gracie Felsenthal  
Bat Mitzvah: September 22  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Amy and Martin Felsenthal  
Torah Portion: Haazinu

Nate Felsenthal  
Bar Mitzvah: September 22  
Main Sanctuary  
Parents: Amy and Martin Felsenthal  
Torah Portion: Haazinu

CELEBRATING A SHEHECHEYANU MOMENT?
Congregation Emanu-El is a partner in the transitional moments of our members’ lives. Be it a baby naming or brit milah, bar or bat mitzvah, conversion or wedding ceremony, or a recovery from illness, the Temple clergy and staff strive to ensure that each sacred ‘Shehecheyanu Moment’ is deeply fulfilling and personal. A donation to the Emanu-El Life-Cycle Fund is a lovely way to mark a personal life-cycle experience, to honor friends or family celebrating a happy milestone or in gratitude for the services, the clergy provide during these profound moments. Please donate online at https://www.emanuelsf.org/donate-now/ or call the Development office at (415) 750-7554.

SAVE THE DATE
Donny Friend: President, Emanu-El Board of Directors

November 30, 6:00 pm, One Shabbat Service  
Martin Meyer Sanctuary

Hear from Donny Friend as we celebrate the end of his tenure as President of Emanu-El’s Board of Directors.
MAZEL TOV TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED JOY

Abigail and Brian BloomKing on the birth of their son, Arthur Abraham Levi BloomKing
Rachel Posman and Timothy Gillihan on the birth of their son, Avi Posman Gillihan
Christine Russell and Mark Schlesinger on the birth of their granddaughter, Rose Schlesinger

CONDOLENCES TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUFFERED RECENT LOSSES

Bruce Cohen (Robyn) on the death of his mother, and Joshua, Benjamin, and Zachary Cohen on the death of their grandmother, Grace Michele Cohen
Stacey Silver (Jon Yolles) on the death of her father, and Sasha and Mia Yolles on the death of their grandfather, Aaron Silver
Friends and family of longtime member Gerardo Joffe
Jamie Slaughter (Staci) on the death of his mother, and Jacob and Benjamin Slaughter on the death of their grandmother, Virginia Slaughter
Chris (Sara) Ehrlich on the death of his father, and Charlotte and Harrison Ehrlich on the death of their grandfather, Michael Ehrlich
Vicki (Scott) Kahn and Steven (Donna) Gothelf on the death of their father.
Adam and Zoe Schauer on the death of their father, Gregor Schauer
Sheila Lippman on the death of her companion, Zev Hymowitz

Donate Online and save postage, paper, and time!

Don’t let unexpected simchas, mitzvahs, and Life-Cycle events catch you off guard!
Donating online is a quick and easy way to honor friends and family while supporting your synagogue; and it saves paper, postage, and time!
Just go to https://www.emanuelsf.org/support-us/, and follow the steps to make a gift over our secure server. Be sure to include all dedication information and to let us know if we should notify someone. You will receive an electronic confirmation, followed by an acknowledgment letter in the mail from the Temple. That’s all there is to it! If you need assistance, please contact the Development Department at (415) 750-7554 or t.rothman@emanuelsf.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Ali Littman on the upcoming publication of her first novel, Radio Underground, which takes place in Budapest during the Cold War
Benjamin Friend, Oren Henry, and Sean Taube on being selected for the Wexner Heritage program
Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann on her selection as the Fulbright Association’s 2018 Lifetime Achievement Awardee

NEW MEMBERS - Welcome!

Ms. Katie Barnett, Mr. Andy Goldberger • Mrs. Vida Bierman, Mr. Ron Bierman, Kaya Bierman, Sinai Bierman • Ms. Audrey Boguchwal, Mr. Randall Henner • Noa Endelman, Mr. Michael Endelman, Mrs. Nina Endelman, Miriam Endelman • Ms. Stephanie Fine, Benjamin Fine-Cohn • Stella Finkelstein, Ethan Finkelstein, Mrs. Marla Finkelstein • Mr. Steven Harris • Ms. Alexandra Taplin, Mr. Jordan Whitney, Ms. Nina Laufbahn • Mr. Sam McCabe, Mrs. Ashley McCabe • Noam Mizrahi, Ms. Jessica Wilson, Omer Mizrahi, Mr. Miko Mizrahi • Ms. Tao Nordlicht, Mr. Jonathan Nordlicht • Mr. Charles Ortenberg, Ms. Patricia Ortenberg • Ms. Julia Dobtsis, Mr. Tomer Peri • Ms. Valerie Qi • Ms. Mira Rao • Dr. Clark Rosen • Mr. Andrew Yandell, Ms. Talia Rothman • Mr. Ethan Davidoff, Ms. Elizabeth Santos • Mr. Jonathan Seff, Ms. Amy Seff, Kyle Seff, Olivia Seff • Mr. Noah Shanok • Ms. Ellen Starkman • Mr. Jeffrey Weissner, Benjamin Weissner, Ms. Shari Weissner, Danielle Weissner • Mr. Benjamin Yerushalmi, Jordan Yerushalmi

REJOINED MEMBERS - Welcome Back!

Margaret Levine, Alexander Levine, Ms. Mary Oleszek • Mr. David Levine, Caleb Finkelstein, Ari Finkelstein, Mr. Alex Finkelstein, Ms. Devra Nanes • Sofia Treyger, Ms. Victoria Treyger, Erez Putterman, Odelia Putterman, Eran Putterman, Mr. Jed Putterman
AN INVITATION TO EMANU-EL FAMILIES

Nearly three years ago, my wife Liz and I received a call from an old friend asking if we were interested in adopting an unborn child. Without hesitation, we agreed.

Eight and a half anxiety-provoking months later, I cut the umbilical cord and placed our perfect man-child Isaac in Liz's arms, launching our nascent family into Jewish parenthood. On day eight, in a strip mall in southern Missouri, I said the prayers commemorating Isaac's covenant with God. A few minutes later a Mennonite doctor performed the circumcision, unaware that she was fulfilling the mitzvah of welcoming Jewish males into the sacred community of Israel.

By six months old, we had stumbled through trial and error on what would be our best spiritual practice. Every Saturday, we dress up and spend the morning and early afternoon at Congregation Emanu-El. First, I stroll Isaac on the 10-block journey to the temple (or as Isaac says, "The Torah"). We usually catch 15 to 25 minutes of Torah study. Then Liz meets us for the bar or bat mitzvah service.

We have exposed Isaac to occasional Tot Shabbat and Mazel Tots services. But we noticed that nothing engages Isaac more than the first half hour of the Saturday morning service: five big melodies interspersed with a bit of prayer and welcoming by the clergy. Through consistent attendance, Isaac has learned all the songs. And he knows when it's time to be quiet. However, once the Torah service starts, all bets are off. If he's jittery, we walk around the beautiful courtyard where Isaac lovingly engages with everyone he sees.

SAY HELLO TO EMANU-EL EDUCATION’S NEW HIRE!

We are delighted to welcome Joshua ‘JC’ Cuttler to our Emanu-El Education team! JC will help lead our new TISCH (Teen Accelerator Initiative) program. He will assist with general teen engagement, Friday night TISCH services, and other social events for teens in the 9th through 12th grades. He will also lead our Teen Leadership Committee.

JC grew up in Sacramento and Lake Tahoe. After years away, he is not only excited to become part of the Emanu-El community, but also to return to Northern California. JC graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas this past December with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences. He previously worked in Southern California as part of the San Diego Jewish Teen Initiative until becoming a member of the leadership team at URJ Camp Newman as a rosh eidah (unit leader) this past summer. Jewish education, both formal and informal — being a member of a Jewish fraternity and Hillel in college, Hebrew/Sunday school, NFTY, and most significantly Jewish summer camp (both as a camper and staff member) — has had a great impact on JC’s life. He will lead and inspire our vibrant group of teenagers as they develop and grow within the Jewish community.

APPRECIATED STOCK GIFTS

Did you know that you could make charitable gifts, including your Emanu-El membership Dues and Impact Fund gift by donating your appreciated stock? This is an excellent time to avoid capital gains taxes while generously supporting the Congregation.

If you are making a stock gift, please use the following information:

First Republic Securities Co, LLC
Account Name: Congregation Emanu-El
For Further Credit to Account Number: 33L064574
Clearing Firm: Pershing LLC
Pershing LLC DTC# 0443

Also, please make the Development Office aware (lzinn@emanuelsf.org or (415) 751-7557) of your stock gift before it is transferred so that your donation can be tracked and appropriately directed as you wish.

Corporate Matching

Does the company you work for participate in corporate matching?

Many Bay Area companies will match your gift dollar-for-dollar. Please contact your company’s matching gifts coordinator to learn how their matching gift program works.

Thank you to the following companies for matching our member’s donations:

• Apple • Clorox • Google • BlackRock
• Deloitte and Touche • Salesforce • Visa • Gap, Inc
• Pacific Gas & Electric Co.
AN INVITATION TO EMANU-EL FAMILIES

Nearly three years ago, my wife Liz and I received a call from an old friend asking if we were interested in adopting an unborn child. Without hesitation, we agreed.

Eight and a half anxiety-provoking months later, I cut the umbilical cord and placed our perfect man-child Isaac in Liz’s arms, launching our nascent family into Jewish parenthood. On day eight, in a strip mall in southern Missouri, I said the prayers commemorating Isaac’s covenant with God. A few minutes later a Mennonite doctor performed the circumcision, unaware that she was fulfilling the mitzvah of welcoming Jewish males into the sacred community of Israel.

By six months old, we had stumbled through trial and error on what would be our best spiritual practice. Every Saturday, we dress up and spend the morning and early afternoon at Congregation Emanu-El. First, I stroll Isaac on the 10-block journey to the temple (or as Isaac says, “The Torah”). We usually catch 15 to 25 minutes of Torah study. Then Liz meets us for the bar or bat mitzvah service.

We have exposed Isaac to occasional Tot Shabbat and Mazel Tots services. But we noticed that nothing engages Isaac more than the first half hour of the Saturday morning service: five big melodies interspersed with a bit of prayer and welcoming by the clergy. Through consistent attendance, Isaac has learned all the songs. And he knows when it’s time to be quiet. However, once the Torah service starts, all bets are off. If he’s jittery, we walk around the beautiful courtyard where Isaac lovingly engages with everyone he sees.

What prompted this invitation for your family to join us on our temple adventure was a pleasant interaction over dinner with another toddler’s father after Tot Shabbat. He said he appreciates being invited once a month to spend time with his family in the synagogue. I informed him that my mother brought my family every Saturday morning, and that now I take my family every Saturday morning — the highlight of our week. And I hope my son will do the same thing for his child some decades hence.

Thanks to the weekly services, two-year-old Isaac sings Hallelujah, Mah Tovu, the Shema, and Torah Ora at the drop of a hat. Cantor Marsha Attie remarked, “One day Isaac is going to know this service better than all of us.” But, importantly, he’s comfortable in the synagogue. And the synagogue is comfortable with Isaac — a tribute to the clergy, staff and regular worshippers. L’dor v’dor: As we usher our son into the world of community and weekly worship, we are mindful of continuing the practice that has kept our tradition alive from generation to generation, always mindful of the poet Ahad Ha’am’s maxim: “More than the children of Israel have kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath has kept the children of Israel.”

How wonderful for you to bring your families (young and old) to synagogue on Saturday mornings. Dress up, look good, sing our songs, chant our prayers, and then walk around the courtyard when you are so moved. And as an added bonus, there’s usually a nice nosh.

My family looks forward to seeing you soon. Isaac, Liz, and I will be sure to say Shabbat Shalom.

Allen Mathis
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.