



Congregation Emanu-El

Bulletin

AUGUST 2025 | AV - ELUL 5785

VOLUME 79 NUMBER 10

FROM RABBI HAYON



“April is the cruellest month,” wrote T.S. Eliot – but he was wrong. Everyone who lives in Houston can tell you definitively: August is much crueler than April!

This month brings the most unpleasant weather of the year, our children return reluctantly from camp, and families’ summer vacations draw to a close so they can prepare for a new school year. I often visualize the image that the late John Prine sings about in his song “Summer’s End”: “Summer’s end is around the bend, just flyin’ / The swimming suits are on the line just dryin’.” This month, those who fled Houston’s summer heat in search of cooler climates begin making their way home, and many of us are forced to confront long-postponed projects at work and home. August is here, and summer’s end is around the bend.

The trick, of course, is to find a way to hold on to summer’s gifts during the rest of the year. Too often, the relaxation and decompression that we work so hard to make possible over the summer simply vaporizes when we come back home and return to the daily grind of work or school. Family dinners, leisurely conversations and time spent on hobbies and other soul-filling hobbies feel harder to find during the rest of the year. Fortunately, Judaism offers us an effective remedy for this annual challenge, an ancient and powerful spiritual technology: the practice of Shabbat.

Taking some time to observe a day of rest every

continued on page 2



Step UP

We are making excellent progress on our goal to increase annual member commitments. About two-thirds of our members have now renewed their membership and many have Stepped UP to a higher commitment level. Be part of our story – Step UP today.

Adam Pollock and Haran Levy provide an update on page 8.



WAREHOUSE
Shabbat

8.22.25

details on page 23

SHABBAT WORSHIP

Friday night services are streamed on our website, Facebook page, Roku channel, and YouTube. Saturday morning B'nei Mitzvah services are available solely on the website, and Saturday services take place in Proler Chapel as an in-person experience only. Any changes will be shared through synagogue communications.

Shabbat D'varim

Friday, August 1

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, August 2

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel

Shabbat Va-et'chanan

Friday, August 8

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, August 9

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel

Shabbat Eikev

Friday, August 15

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, August 16

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

Bat Mitzvah of **Elliana Gospin**, daughter of Tal and Daniel Gospin

Shabbat R'eih

Friday, August 22

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

8:00 p.m., Warehouse Shabbat

Saturday, August 23

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

Bar Mitzvah of **Truman Edward Yoder**, son of Leah Seewald & Drew Yoder

Shabbat Shoftim

Friday, August 29

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday, August 30

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Proler Chapel

10:30 a.m., Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary

Bar Mitzvah of **Ethan Gelfand**, son of Mayra & Yuri Gelfand

FROM RABBI HAYON continued from page 1

week has demonstrable benefits for our spiritual and emotional lives. Making space in our homes and in our calendars to slow down and recharge our batteries is a reliable practice to help restore our inner well-being. Even simple practices like lighting candles, enjoying a glass of wine, or playing a board game with friends or family can give our minds and bodies a much-needed opportunity to recover from the stresses of the work week. If you aren't doing so already, I encourage you to try incorporating some Shabbat experiences into the weekly rhythm of your life. I'm confident that you will feel the benefits of this precious opportunity for rest and recovery almost immediately.

At our congregation's Annual Meeting this past spring, I shared with you that our Board of Trustees has graciously extended to me the benefit of a six-month sabbatical period to be included in my employment agreement. Since receiving the Board's approval, I have been hard at work with my staff and clergy partners to make plans and arrangements for this valuable time of rest and rejuvenation.

To ensure that my sabbatical will not be overly disruptive to our ritual and holiday schedule, I plan to schedule it in two three-month blocks, which will largely overlap with the holiday vacations at the end of the calendar year. The first block will begin around Thanksgiving this year, and as it gets closer, I will look

forward to sharing more details with you about how I will be spending my sabbatical. After the High Holy Days, you will receive more detailed communications from me and from our temple's lay leadership about the ways we will ensure that the care and healthy functioning of our large community will remain solidly in place during my extended time away from the office.

I am so grateful for this generous benefit. "Sabbatical," of course, shares a linguistic root with the Hebrew word "Shabbat"; both concepts are rooted in the notion that a pause from labor results in greater fruitfulness and better health for an individual or a community. Congregation Emanu El's practice of encouraging clergy sabbatical is built upon this same principle: the understanding that regular periods of rest and replenishment are vital to a sustainable long-term future of wellness and productivity. I am well aware that the benefit of clergy sabbatical represents a significant investment in a rabbi or cantor, and I am extremely thankful for the way it reflects our congregation's faith in me.

Now that summer's end is nearly upon us, I am hopeful that we will all return refreshed and rededicated to our regular schedules of work and study, and that we will find a renewed commitment to spend our finite time on things that really matter: the bonds of family and friendship, our obligations to our community, and the meaningful practice of working to repair our broken world. May this year bring all of us the opportunity to recenter ourselves, and may we come to know the sweetness of Shabbat: a precious opportunity for us to find replenishment, rest and renewal.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

WEDDINGS

Julie Kass Bersin & Michael Brookner

Madison Brewer & Kevin Quigley

Vinh Phan & Dennis Murland

BIRTHS

Leo Morris Kleber, son of Sarah & Troy Kleber

Noah Grey Lorch-Yurchyk, son of Sandy Lorch & Stephanie Yurchyk

Sophie Miriam Reiner, daughter of Amy & Jason Reiner; granddaughter of Cindy & Steven Reiner; great-granddaughter of Julian Silverblatt

James Davis Schroeder, son of Caitlyn Gold & Christopher Schroeder; grandson of Colleen & Andrew Gold

DEATHS

Alan Blumberg, husband of Bonnie Blumberg; father of Becky & Justin Blumberg and Julie & Stuart Blumberg; grandfather of Owen, Shayna, Zoe, & Ruby Blumberg; sibling of Beverly Katz and Jill Stern

Richard Bull

Marion Zahn Clark, grandmother of Lucy & Peter Mosbacher; great-grandmother of Bobby, James, & Hannah Mosbacher

Brigette Cohn, stepmother of Leslie Tatar

Joe DiMaggio, husband of Millie DiMaggio; father of Paige Penchas, Anne & Clayton Johnston, David DiMaggio, and Margaret & Geoffrey Chamblee; grandfather of Shai Penchas; sibling of Luke, Mark, & Rilla DiMaggio

Sylvia Goldgehn, mother of Leslie, Diane, Sheri, & Cathy; grandmother of Kim, David, Kristy, Carrie, Jennifer, Josh, Julia, Kayla, Sam, Sarah, Jason, & Adam; great-grandmother of Eliana & Brayden

Kerry Glen Introligator, son of Judy & Dave Introligator; father of Cole & Carson Introligator; sibling of Amy, Lori, & Eric Introligator

Ruth Jeanette Karren, mother of Melissa & Larry Karren, Lynn Karren, and Janet & Steve Newbrough; grandmother of Jami & Adam Lazarov, Haley & Adam Karren, Tori Karren, Divya & Jeffrey Heyman, Olivia & David Flood, Cydney & Jeffrey Newbrough, and Lorena & Ryan Newbrough; great-grandmother of seven

James "Whatley" Langham, husband of Sophie Zimmerman; father of Rachel Langham

Olga Luna, mother of Iris Velasco & Gus Hernandez

Henry Robert "Bobby" Sandler, father of Stephanie Sandler & Mark Sandler; grandfather of Amy & Matthew Sandler & Josh Sandler; great-grandfather of Lola Sandler

Rose Elenor Lefkowitz Savage, mother of Lauren & Alan Gordon, Karen Savage, & Heidi Savage; grandmother of Mollie R. Gordon-Karni & Ron Karni, Jennifer Gordon, Adam Gordon, Mollie E. Savage, Hal Shimkoski, and Dana Shimkoski; great-grandmother of Jesse, Shane, & Lindsey Gordon

Mollie Schaffer, wife of Randy Schaffer; mother of Emily & Josh Schaffer, Cristina & Randy Schaffer, III; grandmother of Sabina, Jacob, and Wyatt; sibling of Jamie Hendershot and Robin Moreno; sister-in-law of Barbie & Don Schaffer and Shara & Kent Schaffer

Adolph Scheiman, partner of Miriam Selig

Bailey Apple Silverman, Jennifer & Dr. Jeffrey Ross, Norman & Daphne Silverman, Jed & Mana Silverman, and Samuel Silverman; grandmother to Ella Silverman; sister of Maxine Weiner & Max Apple

Alan Travis, husband of Jo Anne Travis; father of Helen Savitzky, Liz & William Harry, and Amy Travis & Tim Blackman; grandfather of Sophie Travis, Joseph Blackman, and Jeremy, Joshua, Jessica, & Jennifer Harry; great-grandfather of Jesse Harry

Marvin Weisman, father of Bonnie Weisman & David Papell and Jill & Rob Seskin; grandfather of Darci & Marisa Papell and Kimberly & Marc Seskin

Roberta "Bobbie" Weiss, mother of Michelle Cohn & Nick Jameson, and Linda & Steven Sobel; grandmother of Jackie & Kevin Sobel, Erin & Alex Gitlin, and Daniel Cohen; great-grandmother of Carson & Landon Sobel and Benjamin, Maxwell, & Chloe Gitlin.

Ellison Wittels, husband of Maureen Wittels, father of Stephanie Wittels

A Notice About Bereavement Communications

Bereavement notices for our temple family are distributed with the permission of the deceased's family, and the timing of these notices is dictated by the family's request. Of course, each family grieves in its own way, and we are grateful for our congregation's patience and understanding with different families' preferences about how their loss is publicized.



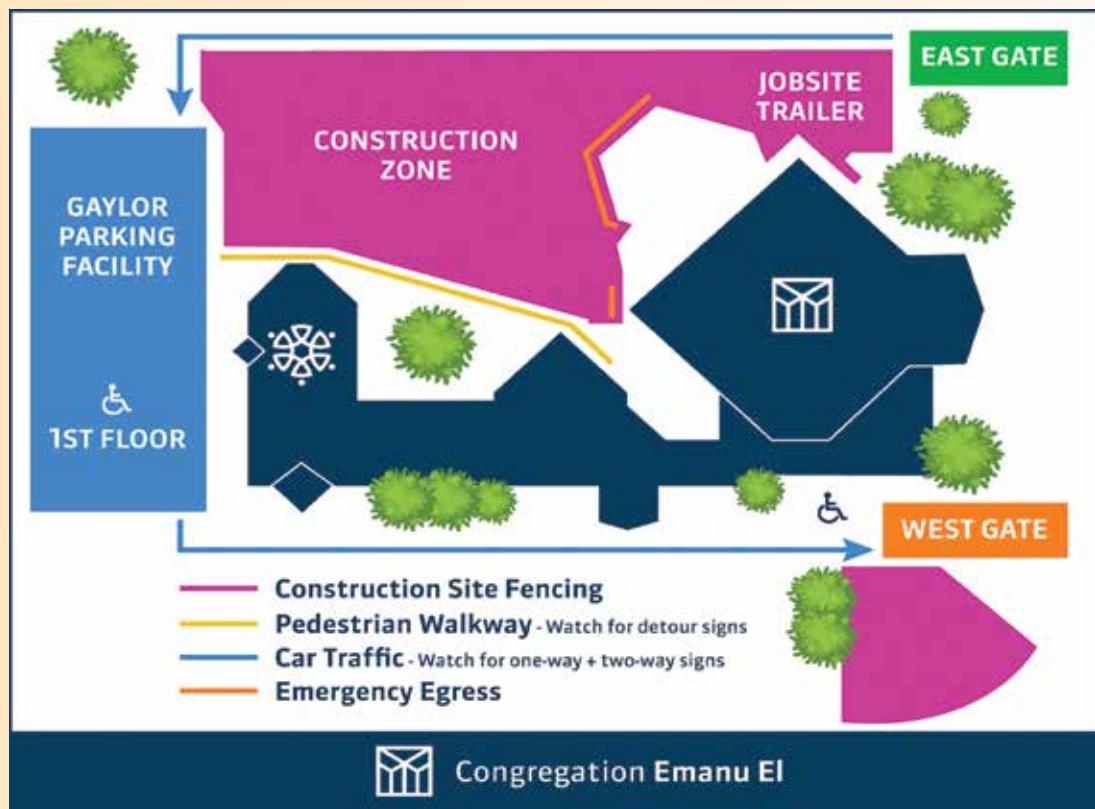
Construction Update

Construction of The Jerold B. Katz Family Center for Jewish Learning is officially underway. In July, construction crews installed a temporary walkway that will be in use through completion of construction. Becker Camp pre-k and kindergarten kids and Emanu El staff had an opportunity to write their names in concrete. Also in July, the temporary cottages and sukkah were demolished.

In August, you can expect to see (and hear!) demo and removal of concrete under the temporary cottages and former walkway, and prep for the new building's foundation. Construction crews will do their best to mitigate dust, and we will work closely with the Becker School administration team to plan inside activities for days we expect to be excessively dusty.

Parking spaces outside the reception area or Rotunda are now exclusively reserved for accessible parking and drop off. Once those spaces are filled, please use Level 1 in the Gaylor Parking Facility. Levels 2-4 are to be used by all other members, guests, and visitors. Level 5 (the roof) is reserved for construction workers.

Construction progress updates and key information are posted each Tuesday at <https://emanuelhouston.org/construction>, and on Facebook and Instagram, and in the Wednesday eletter. If information needs to be communicated quickly, we will use email and/or text message. If you are not already receiving our weekly text Shabbat messages, please add your cell number to your Shulcloud account.





UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT EMANU EL

More information on temple programs and their registration forms (if applicable) can be found online at <https://emanuelhouston.org/calendar>.



Summer Movie Series Friday, August 1

Summer Movie Series, *For the Love of Baseball* featuring, "Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel."

Join us one last time for our final movie of the summer. "Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel", highlights the 2017 underdog journey of Israel's national baseball team competing for the first time in the World Baseball Classic.

Guests will dine on a Build Your Own Nacho bar with fried Oreos for dessert!

The cost is \$15 for Emanu El members and \$18 for community members. We hope to see you in the Sunset Lobby following Shabbat service.

Please register online at
<https://emanuelhouston.org>



Men's Lunch Club Monthly Program Wednesday, August 13

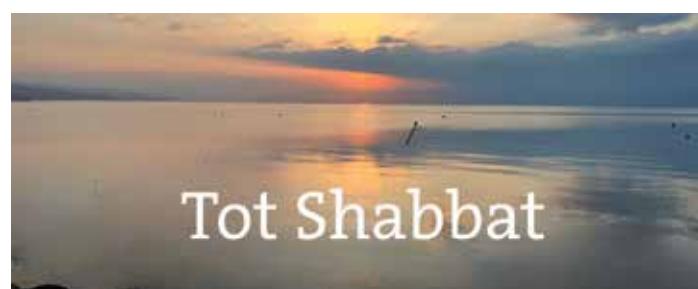
Our monthly lunch club is back in August! The Men of Emanu El Lunch Club is designed to build on friendship and community. Whether you're retired, a stay-at-home dad, or in need of a change of scenery at lunch time, this monthly lunch has space for you. Bring your lunch and we will provide desserts and drinks.



Summer Community Shabbat Dinner Friday, August 15

School is starting back, and vacation is almost over. Now is the perfect time to join Congregation Emanu El for our last community shabbat dinner of the summer. The set menu will include BBQ and banana pudding for dessert! The cost for dinner is \$12 for members, \$15 for community members and \$20 for walk-ins at the door.

Please register online at
<https://emanuelhouston.org>



Sunshine Shabbat – Morning Tot Shabbat Breakfast & Service Saturday, August 23

This month, we are excited to invite families with tots to join us for Morning Shabbat breakfast and service. We will greet each other with a warm welcome of Boker tov beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The cost for breakfast is \$8 per person and will include egg bites, turkey bacon, and mini pancakes. Wakey wakey, eggs and turkey bakery!

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Coffee with the Clergy

Wednesday, August 27, 9:00 a.m.

Are you looking to connect with the Emanu El clergy team on a more personal level? Do you enjoy drinking warm, caffeinated beverages in the morning? Then Coffee with the Clergy is the perfect fit for you! Lite bites and coffee will be served beginning at 9am in the Conference Room.



Classics Shabbat Dinner

Friday, August 29

The Classics will host their quarterly dinner following Kabbalat Shabbat on **Friday, August 29**. The catered dinner is a limited-seating occasion and pre-reservation is required.

The Classics is comprised of both couples and singles ages 55+, and offers events throughout the year such as Shabbat dinners, wine tastings, game nights, theatrical productions, and museum tours. This group is also open to the community.

Please register online at

<https://emanuelhouston.org>

New Member Brunch

Sunday, September 7, 11:30 a.m.

Congregation Emanu El welcomes our newest members to join us for a delicious brunch starting at 11:30 a.m. If you've joined Emanu El since January 2025, be on the lookout for your personal invitation. During this time of togetherness, those who are new to the congregation will be joined by members of the clergy, committees and board of Congregation Emanu El.

Mitzvah Day

Sunday, September 14

We are taking Emanu El "Back to the Future" with the return of our beloved Mitzvah Day. Join us on **Sunday, September 14th** to get engaged and volunteer as one community. Congregation Emanu El is excited to offer a wide variety of activities, both on-site and in the community, for all ages and stages.

For those volunteering at Emanu El, we will meet in Feld Hall beginning at 11:30 a.m. for introductions, assignments, and lite bites. Featuring a full roster of nonprofit organizations including Kids' Meals, Undies for Everyone, and SEARCH Homeless Services (on-site at Emanu El) and Feeding the Lonestar, Aishel House, Houston Food Bank, Second Servings, Emanu El Memorial Park, Morningstar Senior Living (at nonprofit locations).

Mitzvah Day has something for Everyone!

"This year's Mitzvah Day is a 'Choose your own Adventure' for the entire family. We hope you will join us for a powerful day of hands-on service to help make a difference in our community. Pick your project, bring your family, and have fun!" – Misha Marmo, Youth Representative, Mitzvah Day Planning Committee.

On **September 14**, we're sending you "Back to the future!"

Visit <https://emanuelhouston.org/mitzvahday> for all Mitzvah Day information.

continued next page

'Living on a Spare' Bowling Event

Thursday, September 18

Emanu El's newest kehillah, Bayou City Jews, invite you to "Living on a Spare" bowling event. This 2-hour event includes shoes, dinner, and an assortment of desserts. Each guest will also receive one drink ticket to enjoy their choice of either beer, wine, or seltzer.

\$40 per person. Limited space available! Register you and your team today!

Do you identify as Jewish or Jewish +? Do you love Houston, and want to do fun things in the community? This congregant-led kehillah is the perfect social club for all ages and will host a variety of activities in and around Houston.



Widow to Widow Support Group

Thursday, October 16, 4:00 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El is pleased to welcome the return of Rabbi Seth Stander for the next Widow-to-Widow program.

Rabbi Seth previously joined us in November to discuss grief and reinvestment in life. In this upcoming program, he will address the bereavement process and focus on navigating the next chapter.

Following the discussion, guests are invited to enjoy a catered dinner and desserts from Houston Catering Concepts.

Dinner is \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members.



It's Time to Renew Your Annual Commitment

If you are one of the many who have already renewed your annual commitment, thank you! If you have Stepped UP to a higher commitment level, thank you for recognizing all that Emanu El offers, for generously supporting our mission, and for helping subsidize memberships for those who cannot afford it! This is truly the Emanu El way.

Thanks to you, we are excited to report excellent progress towards our goal of increasing annual member commitments by \$1 million.

- As of July 11, more than two-thirds of our members have renewed their membership and we are closing in on 50% of our goal!
- Further, more than 50% of our members have renewed at Sustaining or Enhanced levels compared to only 30% last year. That is simply awesome.

For those of you who've yet to renew, what are you waiting for? High Holy Days are right around the corner and passes are a perk of membership. We're excited for you to continue being a part of Emanu El's story.

Please submit your renewal soon and consider renewing your member commitment at the Sustaining Level or at an Enhanced Level. As a reminder:

SUSTAINING LEVEL \$2,000 for a single-adult or \$3,000 for a two-adult household

ENHANCED LEVELS **Supporters:** \$2,001+ (single-adult) or \$3,001+ (two-adult)

Pillars: \$4,600+ (single-adult) or \$6,000+ (two-adult)

Rabbi's Circle: \$9,000+ (single-adult) or \$12,000+ (two-adult)

**A mandatory \$500 security assessment is added to each commitment level.*

You can renew your annual commitment now by visiting emanuelhouston.org/step-up or by contacting Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement, at AnnaS@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771.

Thank you again for your generous and continued support of Congregation Emanu El.

Adam Pollock
President, Congregation Emanu El

Haran Levy
Treasurer, Congregation Emanu El

SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

August 2025

Evening Mah Jongg

Wednesday, August 20
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Let's get our mahj-on! Join us for mah jongg and a light dinner for \$7. You are welcome to play whether you are a seasoned player or are just learning.



Please register at emanuelhouston.org or by contacting the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org. Registration is a must!



Lisa Falkenberg

Sisterhood Opening Dinner

Roots & Wings: Stories of Strength, Growth, and Possibilities

Wednesday, August 27, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of entertainment and fellowship at Sisterhood's opening dinner, "Roots & Wings: Stories of Strength, Growth, and Possibilities," inspired by a familiar phrase that emphasizes the importance of belonging and the freedom to explore and grow independently. "Roots" represents the secure foundation and connection that Sisterhood provides to the community, while "wings" symbolize our ability to venture out, learn, and develop our talents.

This annual Sisterhood tradition marks the beginning of an exciting year filled with inspiring programming for members and welcomes guests interested in joining the Sisterhood.

The opening dinner will feature Lisa Falkenberg, a three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and senior columnist at the *Houston Chronicle*. A dedicated mentor and volunteer, she has earned recognition from the Texas Legislature, the City of Houston, and numerous organizations, including the Texas AP Writer of the Year award from the *Associated Press* and the Women of Influence award from the Houston Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women. She will share her passion for writing through commentary deeply rooted in her home state of Texas and inspired by her family and community. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, celebrate, and be inspired by her journey and the many stories she has told. A buffet dinner will precede the program.

The cost to attend is \$18 for Sisterhood members, non-members, and guests. Register by **Wednesday, August 20**, online at emanuelhouston.org or contact the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233, or email sishood@emanuelhouston.org. *After the deadline, the cost will increase to \$25.

NEW TRADITIONS SUMMER HOURS:

New Traditions is still operating by its summer hours:

Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Also available by appointment! 713.529.5771, ext. 234



Helfman Religious School

Helfman Religious School enrollment is underway!

Enrollment takes place using Congregation Emanu El's online portal.

1. Visit <https://www.emanuelhouston.org/learning/helfman/> and click "Enrollment," then log on to your account.
2. Fill out all of the required information.
3. Payment of the discounted \$250 per child, non-refundable, Registration & Security Fee is necessary to confirm your enrollment. Payment must be made online.
4. The tuition charges will be added to your account upon enrollment. For your family's enrollment to be confirmed, your Temple account must be in good standing, and you must have an Annual Commitment on file for 2025-2026.

Contact Elizabeth Townsend, Family Engagement Associate and Registrar, at ElizabethT@emanuelhouston.org or 713.535.6401 with any questions!



Mazel tov to our 10th grade students on their Confirmation!



WATCH FOR THE
2025-2026 SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT
COMING SOON IN YOUR MAIL

tinyurl.com/MEE25-26

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 Congregation Emanuel

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EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/EEMP



“Under Construction: Building Memories at Becker Summer Camp!”

This summer, The Becker School has been buzzing with creativity, laughter, and learning as we dove headfirst into our Becker Construction theme, in conjunction with the start of construction on The Jerold B. Katz Family Center for Jewish Learning. With hard hats on and imaginations in high gear, our campers have spent the summer exploring new ideas and creating joyful moments together.

The summer program at Becker was a hub of creativity and exploration. Every week brought new adventures, from splash-filled Water Days every Friday to joyful music sessions with local favorite Rachel Buchman.

Campers also enjoyed a variety of exciting “in-house field trips” featuring special guests. Highlights included visits from Orion, the Sugar Land Space Cowboys mascot; Toro and cheerleaders from the Houston Texans; Pirate Pete from Children’s Express Theater; and the ever-popular Mad Science crew. We also sang, danced, and giggled with Tom’s Fun Band, an interactive musical group known for original songs and world-class silliness that had both kids and adults grooving along. Children had the chance to kick, twirl, and pose with Tippy Toes Ballet, practice soccer skills with Soccer Shots, and explore photography with Isle Monette, who helped them capture camp life through a fresh lens. Additional memorable moments included hands-on fun with the Houston Mobile Petting Zoo, a special visit from author Joy Saxton, who read from her book *Joy Goes to Mexico* and shared her cultural journey, and a smile-filled dental health lesson from Dr. Alejandra Guzman.

Community involvement made this summer even more special. Becker welcomed 15 teen volunteers, including students from the Emery Weiner School and members of Congregation Emanu El, who served as kind-hearted role models for younger campers. The school also celebrated new babies in the Becker family, with beloved great-grandmother Bitsy Proler regularly stopping by to read and nurture the littlest learners.

From books to bubbles, builders to ballet, this summer laid the foundation for friendship, joy, and growth. With the spirit of construction in the air Becker Camp reminded us all that the best memories are the ones we build together.







We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through July 10, 2025.

ABLON FUND FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

To provide creative arts programs

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Alene Ross Levy

ACCESS FOR ALL FUND

To support the highest-priority programs and to provide ongoing care for the needs of our congregation

In Honor

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah & 83rd Birthday of Rabbi Roy Walter

Sandy & Sam Block

In Memory of

Alan Blumberg

Shirlee & Mark Rosenthal

Milton Frankfort

Saranne & Livingston Kosberg

Joyce Goodman

Pat & Aaron Fradkin
Pam & Richard Leshin

Joseph Pulaski

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

ALAN GAYLOR TEACHING ASSISTANT FUND

To support Helfman Religious School teaching assistants

In Memory of

Stuart Miller

Joni & Gary Lewis

Roberta "Bobbie" Weiss

Cynthia G Pleason

AUBREY & SYLVIA FARB COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

To support small and emerging organizations that improve life for underserved Houstonians

In Honor of

The 99th Birthday of Sylvia Farb

Barbara Colton

In Memory of

Milton Frankfort

Sara Speer Selber

Stuart Miller

Beverly & Howard Robinson

BARBARA & MARK BROOKNER CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide scholarships for attending Jewish camps or programs

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Sandybeck Hoffman Lease
Jennifer & Jeffrey Ross

In Memory of

Scott Simon Gertner

Janice Goldstein

Delores Krakower

Esther Topek Lepow

Ellie Sugarman

Jennifer & Jeffrey Ross

Bailey Silverman

Tammy & Steven Plumb

BARBARA & MILTON WAGNER BUILDING SECURITY & SAFETY FUND

To support ongoing building security and safety costs

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Alisha & Jonathan Risch

In Memory of

Joseph Pulaski

The Risch Family

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

To provide and enhance Becker School programs

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Rabbi Brian & Karen Stoller

In Memory of

Joyce Goodman

Joseph Pulaski

Evelyn R. Wisenberg

Rose Elenor Lefkowitz Savage

Janet & James Golden

Roberta "Bobbie" Weiss

Heather & Randy Reichstein

BECKER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To provide Becker Early Childhood Center scholarships

In Honor of

The Birth of Edith Lily Hammer

Sylvia & Steven Brody

In Memory of

Ruth Karren

Linda Pulaski

CANTOR-STONE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To ensure all students have access to a superb Jewish education

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Bobbie & Steve Slogoff

CARY PASTERNAK CEMETERY FUND

To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

Jeanne & Matt Pasternak

In Memory of

Peggy & Louis Ashe

Sharon & Herb Cohn

Rose Ann Martin Finkel

Stephanie Barthlow

Fradkin

Pat & Aaron Fradkin

Bonnie Forkosh

Carol & Barry Goodfriend

Roni Light

Sharon & Herb Cohn

Sandy & Robert Light

Joseph Pulaski

Barbara Miller

Rose Elenor Lefkowitz Savage

Jeanne & Matt Pasternak

CHESTER MARCUS CAMPERSHIP FUND

To provide scholarships for attending Jewish camps or programs

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah and 83rd Birthday of Rabbi Roy Walter

Shirley Burkom and Children

CLERGY GOOD WORKS FUND

To provide Emanu El's clergy with funds to help individuals in need and to support organizations that benefit the community

In Appreciation of
The outstanding work of Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pamela Silk, Rabbi Joshua Fixler & Cantor Rollin Simmons

Linda & Richard Zoll
Rabbi Joshua Fixler & Cantor Rollin Simmons
Brooke & Jonathan Reichek
Rabbi Pamela Silk
Rebecca & Jost Lunstroth

In Honor of
Rabbi Pamela Silk
Dessert Gallery Holdings, LTD
Paige Penchas

In Honor of
The 100th Birthday of Julian Silverblatt
Carol & Barry Goodfriend

In Honor of
The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter
Patricia Baker
Leslie Cohan & Richard Caplan
Caren Cowen
Adele & Steve Croft
Richard Martin Pesin
Esther & Richard Pritchard
Gloria & Joe Pryzant
Kathleen & Lee Rubinstein
Sarna Sunshine
The entire family of Herbert & Sylvia Winter

In Honor of
The B'not Mitzvah of Beatrice & Josephine Paine
Kathryn & Jonathan Paine

In Memory of
Alan Blumberg
Eileen Rosen Westerman
Eythe Engel
Barbara Loeser & Linda Hayon

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Jack Fink
Michael Fink
Perri & Aaron Fink

I.L. Glassgold
Lori Glassgold-Gibson

Joyce Goodman
Micki & Ben Bronston

Kerry Introligator
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To enhance Emanu El's communications with congregants

In Memory of Milton Frankfort
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Ethel M. "Jeannie" Tiras
Lorraine Lake Williams

The Anniversary of Susie & David Askanase & The Birthday of David Askanase
Jennis Kaufman

In Honor of The 85th Birthday of Carol Goodfriend
Charlotte A Berkowitz

In Memory of Joseph Pulaski
Carol & Barry Goodfriend

Jennis Kauffman
Helaine Wayne Lane & David Lane
Marsha Wallace

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Marlene A Rubin

ETERNAL FLAME FUND
To support the highest-priority programs and to provide ongoing care for the needs of our congregation

In Honor of The 85th Birthday of Carol Goodfriend
Anita & Morton Seline

In Memory of Joseph Pulaski
Anita & Morton Seline

Rose Elenor Lefkowitz Savage
Cindy & David Senior

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Tzedakah collected by congregants throughout the year that benefit the Aubrey & Sylvia Farb Community Service Fund

A Donation
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Renee Halfman
Nanette & Barry Puttermann

FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND
To support leadership development for Emanu El lay leaders, staff, clergy, and the congregation

In Honor of The Marriage of Dennis Murland & Vinh Pham
Myra Lipper

In Memory of Joseph Pulaski
Myra Lipper

FREDELL LACK EICHHORN CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND
To enhance musical programming

In Honor of Ann Frohbieter
Terry & Martin Cominsky

In Honor of The Speedy Recovery of Richard Zoll
Claire & Dick Brooks

HELEN & HARRY REICHEK FUND
To provide lifelong adult Jewish education programs

In Memory of Joyce Goodman
Robin & Brad Stein

JASON & DAVID MARCUS PLAYSPACE FUND
To maintain and enhance the playground

In Honor of The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter
Gay Yellen & Don Reiser

In Memory of H. Robert "Bobby" Sandler
Sandy Marcus & Stan Poladsky

JULIA KAPLAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND
To enhance Halfman Religious School programs

In Honor of The B'not Mitzvah of Beatrice & Josephine Paine
Kathryn & Jonathan Paine

JULIUS NATHAN MUSIC FUND
To provide musical programs

In Memory of Joyce Goodman
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KAGAN RUDY CHAPEL FUND
To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

In Memory of H. Robert "Bobby" Sandler
Judy & Allan Lazor

L'DOR VADOR CAMPAIGN
To expand our learning and gathering spaces and ensure a welcoming, secure, and accessible campus for all

In Appreciation of Dr. Howard Rubin
The Manning Family

In Honor of Mitchel Blitz
Barbara Gervis

Tania & Rick Oshman
Karen & Mel Kronick

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter
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The Baby Naming of Eliana Weingast
Kathy & Mick Turken

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Jerry Katz
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Joel Laser

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Ellison Wittels
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MARIANNE GREENFIELD SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND
To support Bima flowers for Shabbat and holidays in the Barish Sanctuary or Proler Chapel

In Honor of The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter
Benjamin, Kelly, Ethan & Hannah Walter, Michael Walter & Jason Hyde & Aaron Walter & Michael Kinsley

In Honor of The 65th Birthday of Elizabeth Greenfield Krohn
Rose Marie & Ron Wagman

In Honor of The 85th Birthday of Carol Goodfriend
fredi & Paul Franks

In Honor of The Bat Mitzvah of Penelope d'Aulaire
The d'Aulaire Family

In Honor of The Birthday of Judy Salmon
Phyllis Berman
Marlene A Rubin

In Honor of The B'not Mitzvah of Evelyn Krohn & Penelope Madof
The Krohn & Madof Families

continued next page

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The Miller & Pepper Families

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The Paine Family

Reagan Reichek & Sydney Pasternak

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Gertrude Wertheimer

Gerson, and Golda

Wertheimer Shulman

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To provide prayer books for worship

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of

Rabbi Roy Walter

Phyllis & Allen Applebaum

PROLER CHAPEL FUND

To maintain and enhance the Proler Chapel

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of

Rabbi Roy Walter

Maureen & Jody Proler and Family

In Memory of

Jerry Kissner

Maureen & Jody Proler and Family

RABBI ROY & LINDA WALTER ENRICHMENT FUND

To support the highest-priority programs and to provide ongoing care for the needs of our congregation

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Roy Walter

Sandra & Kirk Smith

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah and 83rd Birthday of Rabbi Roy Walter

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Hodgkins Family

Ina Perlman

In Honor of

The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of Rabbi Roy Walter

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Phyllis Berman

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In Honor of
**The 83rd Birthday of
Rabbi Roy Walter**

Marlene Addlestone
Bursten
Betty Signer

In Honor of
**The Anniversary of Carol &
Barry Goodfriend**
Punkin & Walter Hecht

In Memory of
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Family

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Zach Jacobs

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Joseph Pulaski

Sheila & Jerry Kaplan
Gladys Schnurr
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SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
To provide scholarships for
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students
In Honor of
**The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
Elaine Helfman

**RIVA & LARRY
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CONGREGANTS FUND**
To support Congregation
Emanu El in providing
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physical, and other
essential assistance to
congregants in need
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Cindy Greenberg
Adolph Scheiman
Susan & Ed Septimus

**ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL
JUSTICE FUND**
To send congregants
to the Consultation on
Conscience at the Religious
Action Center
In Honor of
**Scott Bormaster – 2025
Ernest Krautkopf
Congregant of the Year**
Diana Brackman

In Memory of
Joseph Pulaski
Diana Brackman

**RONALD BROCHSTEIN
EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND**
To enhance preschool
education
In Honor of
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**The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
**The Anniversary of Carol &
Michael Wilk**
Phyllis Turkel

In Memory of
Kerry Introligator
Joseph Pulaski
Phyllis Turkel

**ROSE & ED GOODFRIEND
ISRAEL BOND FUND**
To support the gift of an
Israel Bond for every B'nei
Mitzvah student on the
celebratory occasion of
their B'nei Mitzvah
In Honor of

**The 85th Birthday of
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Arlyne & Maynard Gimble

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ENRICHMENT FUND**
To provide training
programs for Emanu El
teachers

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Lisa Brooks
Claire & Dick Brooks
**The 2nd Bar Mitzvah of
Rabbi Roy Walter**
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In Memory of
H. Robert "Bobby" Sandler
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SISTERHOOD FUND

To provide for the
Sisterhood
In Memory of
Sylvia Goldgehn
Sylvia & Steven Brody
Rose Elenor Lefkowitz
Savage
Ann & Rick Goldfarb

**SOL & HELEN LAUFMAN,
BILL LAUFMAN COLLEGE
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To provide engagement
opportunities for Emanu El
college students

In Memory of
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Molly Ann Kaplan

**SUSMAN FUND FOR
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To support programs for
families
In Memory of
Sara Astrich
Diana Brackman

TEMPLE FUND
To support the highest-
priority programs and
to provide ongoing care
for the needs of our
congregation
A Donation
Anonymous

In Appreciation of
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Tenenbaum**
fredi & Paul Franks

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Rabbi Joshua Fixler
Adrienne & Justin Colborg
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Leah Lax & Susan Baird
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Susan & Syd Waldman
**The 100th Birthday of
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fredi & Paul Franks
**The 85th Birthday of
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**The Birthday of Sondra
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Sandler**
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Krafcheck
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Valeria Novy

Below please find a high-level schedule for the High Holy Days. Additional detail on services and events, as well as our guest pass policy for this year, parking, and more will be provided in the coming weeks.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

S'LICHT

Saturday, September 13

S'Lichot Music at Emanu El Concert, 7:30 p.m.

S'Lichot Service, 9:00 p.m.

ROSH HASHANAH

Monday, September 22

High Holy Days Kick-Off Reception, 5:00 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah Rejoice and Renew, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 23

Rosh HaShanah Children's Service, 9:00 a.m.

Morning Service, 10:30 a.m.

TASHLICH

Tuesday, September 23, 1:00 p.m.

Bill Coats Bridge (Hermann Park)

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 26, 6:00 p.m.

OUTDOOR HIGH HOLY DAYS FAMILY EXPERIENCE

Sunday, September 28, 9:00 a.m.

Nature Discovery Center (7112 Newcastle St.)

CEMETERY SERVICE

Sunday, September 28, 5:00 p.m.

Emanu EL Memorial Park (8341 Bissonnet St.)

KOL NIDRE EVENING SERVICE

Wednesday, October 1, 7:30 p.m.

YOM KIPPUR

Thursday, October 2

Children's Service, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Morning Service, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Experience, 12:45 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Healing & Wholeness, 3:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Yizkor & N'ilah, 4:45 – 6:45 p.m.

Break Fast, 6:45 p.m.

SUKKOT

October 12, 11:30 a.m.

Sukkot on Sunset

SIMCHAT TORAH

October 14, 6:00 p.m.

Simchat Torah Service

October 15, 10:30 a.m.

Simchat Torah Festival & Yizkor Service

GENERAL INFORMATION

DIGITAL PASSES

Emanu El will again be using digital passes for High Holy Day services.

You must be a member in good standing to receive High Holy Day passes. Each adult member of your household will receive one digital pass via email which may be used for all High Holy Day services. If only one member of your household has an email address on file, passes for all adults will be emailed to that address. You will receive an email from orders@simpletix.com which will be sent to the email address in your ShulCloud account.

You can print your pass at home or save it on your phone to be scanned when you arrive for services. Passes can also be saved to your Apple Wallet or Google Wallet. Your name will be on your pass and passes are NOT transferrable. Please remember to bring your cell phones or printed versions of your digital passes. Only individuals with High Holy Days passes will be permitted entry to the Emanu El campus.

As in previous years, members in good standing may request up to two passes for out-of-town guests. Please email Lisa Damen at lisd@emanuelhouston.org with the name and email address of your guests so that they can receive the simpletix email with their guest pass.

We also welcome members of the community who have moved to Houston since last High Holy Days. Please ask them to contact Anna Shabtay at 713.529.5771, ext. 261 or AnnaS@emanuelhouston.org to arrange for newcomer passes.

PARKING

Levels 1 and 2 of the Gaylor Parking Facility will be reserved for accessible parking. Space is limited and we encourage you to park off-site. Buses will run continuously between satellite parking and Emanu El.

Parking for Erev Rosh HaShanah and Kol Nidre will be at the Medical Clinic of Houston (1707 Sunset Blvd; the parking garage entrance is on Rice Blvd). Parking for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur will be available at Rice University. For Tashlich, we encourage you to take the shuttle to and from Emanu El as parking near Bill Coats Bridge is limited.

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessible seating is available for High Holy Day services, but seats must be reserved by September 10. Please contact Christian Simmons at 713.529.5771, ext. 262, or christians@emanuelhouston.org, and include the service(s) you plan to attend. Those requesting accessible seating may be granted a maximum of four additional seats for family members. Please note this seating will be released 15 minutes prior to the beginning of services.

We're deeply grateful to the supporters of this transformative project for Congregation Emanu El. To add your name to this list, please go to <https://emanuelhouston.org/ForOurFuture> or contact Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement, at AnnaS@emanuelhouston.org.



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*of blessed memory

This list represents commitments to L'Dor VaDor: For Emanu El's Future received through July 1, 2025. We sincerely regret any errors or omissions. If you believe there is an error, please contact Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement, at AnnaS@emanuelhouston.org.

Welcome Our New & Returning Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest and returning members to our congregational family from May 13 – July 10. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

Pedro Caruso

Rebecca & Dora Cisneros

Tom Elka & Daniel Chor, son Lavi

Anna Fields & Roy Olson, daughter Stella

**Caitlyn Gold & Christopher Schroeder,
son James**

**Rachel Goldstein & Derek Shriftman,
daughter Sydney**

Jing Jin & Todd Rachowin, daughter Liya

Holland & Jennifer Kaplan,

sons Henry & Russell

Sarah & Troy Kleber, son Leo

Rachel Kossar & Dean Burse

**Lauren Mordukhaev & Brian Lestz,
daughter Emmy**

Alexandra & Evan White, son Max

**Sherri & David Zimmermann,
daughter Melanie & son Daniel**

New members will be shared regularly in the *Bulletin*. Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town or looking to find a way to connect with Emanu El? Contact Anna Shabtay at AnnaS@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 261.

DOCTORS ON CALL

We are seeking doctors willing to be “on call” in the event of medical emergencies during High Holy Days. You can volunteer for one or as many services/times as you wish. As a thank you, we will arrange special seating for you/your family.

If interested, contact Beryl Chernov, berylc@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771.

ATTENTION:

Members or parents of members of the Emanu El Confirmation Class of 1991

A time capsule was buried on the north side of the Proler Chapel by the Emanu El Confirmation Class of 1991. If you have any knowledge of the specific location, contents or other pertinent information, please contact Rabbi Hayon at RabbiHayon@emanuelhouston.org



2025-2026
Membership Renewal
Initiative

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Find Us On YouTube!

Looking for a one-stop shop to catch the latest worship services, musical selections, videos from our schools and more?

Find us on YouTube by searching “Emanu El Houston Video” and subscribe today!



Warehouse Shabbat Congregation Emanu El

Friday, August 22, Doors open 7:30 p.m., service at 8:00 p.m.

Join Rabbi Fixler, Cantor Simmons and their live band for Warehouse Shabbat! This rocking, adults-only worship event is a dynamic, lively and musical prayer experience to rejuvenate your heart and uplift your spirit. Come enjoy local desserts and drinks during this exciting Shabbat program!

All adults are welcome to join us for this Shabbat service at Congregation Emanu El. The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and the service will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Register online at <https://emanuelhouston.org/warehouse-shabbat-august-2025>

Warehouse Shabbat is supported by the Robert Reichek Youth & Young Adult Fund.

ATTENTION ALL RECENT EMANU EL ALUMNI

Calling on all recent HS graduates! We hope to continue to provide you with the same fun, heartwarming connection that our alumni have come to expect.



Let us know what your plans are this fall and to make sure we know how to reach you. <https://members.emmanuelhouston.org/form/emanu-el-alumni-2025.html>

Our clergy
want to
know ...

If you or a loved one is sick or hospitalized, please let us know.

Contact the synagogue at 713.529.5771 so that our rabbis can reach out and visit and be a source of strength and support.

Visiting the sick and praying for those who are ill are important and meaningful mitzvot.



This Bulletin is printed on recycled paper.

Congregation Emanu El

Oren J. Hayon, Senior Rabbi

Pamela B. Silk, Associate Rabbi

Joshua R.S. Fixler, Associate Rabbi

Roy A. Walter, Rabbi Emeritus

Rollin Simmons, Cantor

Beryl P. Chernov, Executive Director

Rachel Spector-McAdam, Director of Becker School

Lucy Mosbacher, Director of Helfman Religious School

Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement

Sharon Donia, Director of Accounting & Finance

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Haran Levy, Treasurer

Dora Klaff, Secretary

Stuart Gaylor, Honorary President

Judy Simon, President of Sisterhood

EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG



Going out of town for the High Holy Days?

Are you going out of town for Rosh HaShanah or Yom Kippur?

Though our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), our congregation enjoys reciprocity with hundreds of synagogues across the country.

Please contact Sue Lewis at suel@emanuelhouston.org. We will work with our partners to make sure you have a seat at your destination synagogue.



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