LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

During the seven weeks that follow Passover, we number every day in anticipation of all that awaits, just as one might count down to a birthday or anniversary. Along the way, tradition encourages us to look within and do a spiritual checkup on our attributes, such as forgiveness, generosity, compassion and humility. (Today, we call it “mindfulness.”) But to what does this countdown lead? How does the freedom of the Exodus endure? The answer is Shavuot, the holiday that commemorates the Giving of the Law, making it possible to find structure and purpose in its commandments.

In Reform congregations, we associate Shavuot with Confirmation, marking the next chapter in a teenager’s growing understanding of his or her role in our community as he or she matures. But what is in Shavuot for the rest of us? Without the complicated rituals that make holidays like Passover or Purim or Chanukah such joys, Shavuot hasn’t always made the biggest impact.

But it should.

The following is a poignant midrash about an exchange between Moses and God on Sinai, as Moses waits for the Law to be given.

When Moses ascended the mountain, he found God sitting and embellishing the letters by drawing crowns on them. So Moses asked, “Master of the Universe, what’s the reason for the delay? Why can’t you give the Torah as it is?” God replied: “In a few generations a man named Akiva, son of Joseph, will appear. He will need these crowns because he will generate mountains of laws from every nuance of every letter.” Moses said: “Please, let me see Akiva.” God instructed Moses to turn around.

With that action, God brought Moses into the future where he took his place in Rabbi Akiva’s classroom. Since it was the custom to sit according to one’s ability, with the wisest and most accomplished students in the front and younger and weaker pupils toward the back, the midrash tells us that Moses...
sat in the eighth and last row of benches. Because he could not even follow the conversation, Moses felt lost and demoralized. But he perked up when Rabbi Akiva reached a certain point in the discussion, and his students asked: “Rabbi, how did you reach that conclusion?” Akiva answered: “Moses received this law at Mount Sinai and passed it on to succeeding generations.” Finally, Moses felt relieved because he heard Rabbi Akiva citing him. Then, Moses reappeared before God and said, “Master of the Universe, if you have someone like Akiva, why are you giving the Torah through me?”[1]

It might be helpful for us to note that this is the same Akiva who was a simple shepherd his entire life. At the age of 40, the midrash tells us, he passed a well and noticed a beautiful rock that had been carved into an unusual shape by droplets of water that had dripped upon it over time. Akiva reasoned that if a hard substance can be shaped by something as soft as water repeatedly flowing over it, then the greatness of Torah surely would be able to penetrate his heart and mind. And so he began his studies with the alef-bet and rose to become one of our tradition’s greatest teachers.[2]

These two stories from our tradition are meant to help us see the familiar in new ways.

From Moses, we hear both his humility and his frustration. How common it is to measure ourselves against others and sometimes feel diminished. Moses was no different. He could not know then that he would become known to us as Moshe Rabbeinu, Moses, our greatest teacher.

From Akiva, we see that the invitation to learn is available at any age. It is never too late. Even the hardiest individual can be softened by the steady flow of the words of Torah. Just as water carved the rock that Akiva saw, our lives can be reshaped by the currents of Torah. Although the Torah that Akiva taught differed from the one that Moses first received, both are part of an ongoing tradition, to which each of us can add.

Our community and our congregation offer the perfect surroundings for re-engaging with our changing tradition, whether it is through the marvelous offerings in our library, our weekly Torah study, programs offered through the Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center or prayer. As we do, let us bring both the humility of Moses, who came to recognize that change was the hallmark of vibrant discourse, and the courage of Akiva, who was willing to make himself open to learning new things. In that way, the Torah will continue to guide our lives every day.

[1] Menachot 29b

ON THE COVER
Detail from the burning bush-themed stained glass panel in the Leon Lowenstein Sanctuary, designed by Texas-based artist Cecil Lang Casebier. Casebier is a nationally recognized modernist and muralist, known for his vivid work in stained glass.

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BULLETIN
Volume 90, No. 5 is a publication of Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York. We welcome your questions, suggestions and contributions. Please contact Jackie Peterson at 212-507-9312 or jpeterson@emanuelnyc.org.

KEEP US INFORMED
Help us serve you better by keeping us informed of changes in your life. Contact the membership office at 212-507-9514 or membership@emanuelnyc.org.

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Managing Editor
Kathryn Roberts
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Young Families: Baby Shabbat  
Friday, May 11 | 9:15 AM to 9:45 AM |  
Enter at One East 65th Street  
Baby Shabbat is a 30-minute program designed for younger siblings of Nursery School children, although all children younger than 12 months are welcome to attend. Enjoy the company of other families as we anticipate Shabbat with music, blessings and a taste of challah.

Shabbat Kodesh Family Worship Service  
Friday, May 18 | 6:00 PM | Fifth Avenue Sanctuary  
Our final family service of the year will feature joyful music led by Cantor Mo Glazman, Hadar Orshalimy and a three-piece band. Please note our special start time and location. At this service, we will celebrate our students who have earned Religious School with Honors and our Seventh Grade Mitzvah Messengers. After the service, Nursery School, Religious School, teen and alumni families are invited to a family dinner. Payment is required for dinner; early-bird deadline ends May 14. Make your dinner reservation at www.shabbatkodesh.org.

Evening Shavuot Service, Morning Shavuot Service and Confirmation  
Saturday, May 19 | 6:00 PM and  
Sunday, May 20 | 10:30 AM | Both services will be in the Fifth Avenue Sanctuary  
On May 20, we will celebrate with our high school students as they confirm Torah’s place in their identity. This service includes a Yizkor service, one of the four times during the year when we mourn together and recite the memorial prayers to remember those whom we have loved and lost. At 12:00 PM, there will also be a Bagels and Blintzes Brunch. (See details on Page 6.)

Service with a Special Blessing for Rabbi Sarah Reines  
Friday, June 15 | 6:00 PM |  
Fifth Avenue Sanctuary  
During our service we will offer a special blessing of thanks for our Interim Associate Rabbi, Sarah Reines, in recognition of her service to our congregational community this year.

Join us for a Shabbat service honoring President JOHN H. STREICHER
Friday, May 11, 2018 | 6:00 PM
Welcome to our New Assistant Rabbi

Temple Emanu-El is pleased to welcome Andrue (Andy) Kahn as our new assistant rabbi, starting on July 1. Andy grew up in Tacoma, Washington, and has lived in New York since 2009. Prior to joining Emanu-El, he was the rabbinic intern at East End Temple in Gramercy, where he organized social justice work and young professionals programming around Jewish spirituality.

Prior to starting rabbinical school at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), Andy received a bachelor’s degree from Kenyon College in Ohio, a master’s degree from Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, and a master’s degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in Manhattan. Today, his greatest interests are cultivating and sharing Jewish spiritual practice, exploring new models of community, and crafting innovative ways to help others incorporate Judaism more deeply into their lives. In his spare time, Andy can be found running in Brooklyn’s Prospect Park, listening to podcasts and music, and reading anything… from his Twitter feed, to sci-fi, to the latest in Jewish scholarship.

Torah at a Glance

The following are weekly readings for May and June 2018. Read synopses of the Torah portions at www.emanuelnyc.org/torahataglance. View our clergy preaching schedule at www.emanuelnyc.org/preaching.

**Emor** (Read Saturday, May 5)
Leviticus 21:1-24:23

**B’har/B’chukotai** (Read Saturday, May 12)
Leviticus 25:1-27:34

**B’midbar** (Read Saturday, May 19)
Numbers 1:1-4:20

**Naso** (Read Saturday, May 26)
Numbers 4:21-7:89

**B’haalot’cha** (Read Saturday, June 2)
Numbers 8:1-12:16

**Sh’lach L’cha** (Read Saturday, June 9)
Numbers 13:1-15:41

**Korach** (Read Saturday, June 16)
Numbers 16:1-18:32

**Chukat** (Read Saturday, June 23)
Numbers 19:1-22:1

**Balak** (Read Saturday, June 30)
Numbers 22:2-25:9

WEEKLY TORAH STUDY

The last scheduled session of our Torah study group for the 2017-2018 program year will be Saturday, May 19. Many thanks to Rabbis Sarah Reines, Sara Sapadin and Andy Dubin for guiding us in discussion this year! Torah study will resume regularly on Saturday, September 8. All are welcome to attend.
BREAKING BREAD, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Our congregation continues its relationship with the Muslim community as we host two *iftars*, evening break-fast meals, during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

**JUNE 7 | 6:30 PM**

Temple Emanu-El welcomes members and guests of the NYC Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee. The program will feature speakers and table discussions, followed by a feast. We hope you will come to either or both of these delightful celebrations!

**JUNE 8 | 6:00 PM**

Members of the Diwan Foundation will join us at services as Albert Fox Cahn, Legal Director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY), will address the congregation. Following our service we will share in a festive dinner and enjoy discussion.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 1 | 6:00 PM**

Join us in celebrating the brilliant and innovative 16-year tenure of Emanu-El Organist and Choirmaster K. Scott Warren. Scott, who started at the temple in 2002 as assistant organist and was promoted to his current position in 2006, has been integral in working with our clergy and enhancing the musical vibrancy of our services. His talent and dedication will be deeply missed, and we hope you will join us at this special Sabbath service as we bid him farewell and honor the substantial impression his work has left on our temple.

**FRIDAY, MAY 4 | 6:00 PM**

On Friday, May 4, at 6:00 PM, Temple Emanu-El welcomes Anat Hoffman, Founder and Board Chair of Women of the Wall and Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center, as our guest speaker for services. Ms. Hoffman will speak on “How to be Proud of Israel with Eyes Wide Open.”
Shabbat Kodesh and Congregational Family Dinner
Friday, May 18
6:00 PM Worship
Fifth Avenue Sanctuary
7:00 PM Dinner | IM Wise Hall
Note: Special Time and Location
Our final family service of the year, in the majestic Fifth Avenue Sanctuary, will feature joyful music led by Cantor Mo Glazman, Hadar Orshalimy, and a three-piece band. At this service, we will celebrate our students who have earned Religious School with Honors and our Seventh Grade Mitzvah Messengers. The service will be followed by a special family dinner and a separate dessert reception for Mitzvah Messengers. To register for the dinner, go to www.shabbatkodesh.org.

Confirmation and Shavuot Morning Service
Sunday, May 20 | 10:30 AM
Fifth Avenue Sanctuary
From the Hebrew word for “weeks,” Shavuot is a reference to the seven weeks it took for the Jews to travel from Egypt to the foot of Mount Sinai and the declaration of the 50th day as a holy convocation (Leviticus 23:21). It is customary on Shavuot to read the section of the Torah that defines the Ten Commandments, which Moses received at Mount Sinai. Shavuot also is the second of the three agricultural festivals.

All are invited to join in celebrating with our high school Confirmation students as they stand before our congregation, ready to accept the responsibilities of Jewish adulthood and affirming Torah’s place in their identity. Our Confirmands will join the clergy in leading the community in study and worship. The service is also a Yizkor service, one of four times during the year when we mourn together and recite the memorial prayers in remembrance of those whom we have loved and lost.

End-of-Year Assemblies
Sunday, May 20 | 11:00 AM and Monday, May 21 | 5:00 PM
10 East 66th Street
During the final days of Religious School, families are invited to join with their children to celebrate the achievements of our students and to look back on the highlights of the past year. The Sunday morning assembly will be followed by a Bagels and Blintzes Brunch, which is free for Religious School and Teen families and $18 for all other temple members and guests. Reservations are required (see below).

Bagels and Blintzes Brunch
Sunday, May 20
12:00 PM
10 East 66th Street (Blumenthal Hall)
It is traditional to eat dairy products on this holiday (although there isn’t any one definitive explanation as to why). Perhaps it is because cheese is good! And as it has been a good school year, we invite you to come celebrate the Festival of Shavuot and the end of the year with your congregational friends and family. This event is free of charge for Religious School students, teens and their families; $18 for all other temple members and guests. Reservations are required. Go to www.bagelsandblintzes.org for details.

Teen Trips Registration
Emanu-El teens had a blast on our teen trips in 2018. Registration is now open for next year’s trips!
**Eighth Grade Trip: New Orleans**  
— January 17-21, 2019  
Eighth graders from Temple Emanu-El, Temple Israel and Temple Shaaray Tefila will travel together to help rebuild the city of New Orleans and explore the delicious food and unique culture of the city!

**Ninth Grade Civil Rights Trip**  
— February 28 - March 3, 2019  
Ninth graders from Temple Emanu-El, Temple Israel and Temple Shaaray Tefila will travel together to cities in Alabama and Georgia to learn about this crucial period in American history and the impact of the Jewish community.

**High School Trip: Washington D.C.**  
— Winter, 2019  
Passionate about social justice and making a change in the world? Join teens from all around the country as we travel to Capitol Hill to meet with our representatives and senators to lobby them on issues we care about. Throughout the weekend we will learn about everything from gun reform to LGBTQ civil rights to international relations and will have a chance to have our voices heard!

Registration is now open at [www.emanuelnyc.org/teentrips](http://www.emanuelnyc.org/teentrips).

**Early Childhood**

**Young Families Outing**  
Saturday, May 5 | Departure from One East 65th Street  
We will meet at the temple before heading out on a city adventure with other Emanu-El families. Families are encouraged to bring along special people in their children’s lives; dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other family and friends. RSVP to youngfamilies@emanuelnyc.org.

**Young Families: Year-End Rooftop Party**  
Sunday, May 20 | 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM | 10 East 66th Street  
Young Families ends its program year with an annual rooftop party. If the weather is nice, then we’ll play in the pools. Bring sunscreen, bathing suits, towels, hats and a change of clothes. If it rains, then the party moves inside to Blumenthal Hall. (This event is for preschool/Nursery School children.) RSVP to youngfamilies@emanuelnyc.org.

Parent/child programs led by child psychologist Dr. Juliet Cooper and Rabbi Amy Ehrlich offer discussion opportunities for parents and activities for children through weekly guided sessions. Following is our schedule of classes for Fall 2018:

**New Parents**  
For children 3 to 11 months old  
September 17 - December 10  
Mondays – 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM

**Toddler Group**  
For children 12 to 19 months old  
September 17 - December 10  
Mondays – 10:45 AM to 12:00 PM

**The Twos Group**  
For children 20 to 28 months old  
September 26 - December 14  
Meeting twice weekly:  
Wednesdays and Fridays  
9:15 AM to 10:45 AM

**TO REGISTER GO TO EMANUELNYC.ORG/PARENTING**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Our vibrant and caring Religious School community is a fun way for children and their families to learn, celebrate and worship together. At our school, which meets one day a week, Jewish learning is always meaningful, relevant and empowering.

Please contact Associate Director of Lifelong Learning Rachel Brumberg at 212-507-9526 or rbrumberg@emanuelnyc.org with questions. Registration forms are available on our website at www.emanuelnyc.org/RSforms, or through the school office.

The first 2018-2019 sessions of school for Pre-Kindergarten to Seventh Grade are as follows:

- Sunday, September 16
- Monday, September 17

For registration information about our teen programs, contact Emma Kate Lindsay, coordinator of Youth Learning and Engagement, at 212-507-9529 or elindsay@emanuelnyc.org. Please note that you must be a member of Congregation Emanu-El to enroll your child in the Religious School.
We are very excited to offer the following programs this summer. Children must be at least 2 years, 7 months by June, 2018.

**June 11-21 | 2 Weeks | $1,545**
This program works well for older children who may be attending another camp beginning in late June. Younger children who choose this option will be placed with their peers.

**June 11-28 | 3 Weeks | $2,050**
For those who wish to enroll in camp until the end of June.

**July 2-26 | 4 Weeks | $2,770**
For those who may be away in June, we offer a four-week July option. Your child will join an existing, age-appropriate group.

**June 11-July 26 | 7 Weeks | $4,600**
Our seven-week program. Children will be grouped by age with their peers.

The hours of each program are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Camp will be closed on July 4. Please note that children in the youngest age group will phase in for the first two weeks. As the children separate and become acclimated, the day will be extended.

In all groups, the transition to camp is particularly easy as they are led by our experienced Nursery School teachers. Our air-conditioned rooms provide a bright, welcoming environment for all campers. A typical day of Summer Camp includes playtime in our classrooms, arts and crafts, dramatic play, block building, LEGOs, and lots of outdoor play. The children will enjoy wading pools, bubble tables, and sprinklers on our rooftop playgrounds. Our music and yoga teachers come weekly to work with each group. Campers bring their own lunches.

If you wish to enroll your child in our Summer Program, please email sfischer@emanuelnyc.org or call 212-507-9531 for additional information. You do not have to be enrolled in the Nursery School to attend Summer Camp, so please feel free to share this information with your friends at other schools.
We know that living in New York City provides many opportunities to do just about anything you want at any given moment, and we appreciate that so many of our students and families choose to join Temple Emanu-El for events outside of Religious School hours. Religious School with Honors is our way of recognizing our students’ ongoing commitment to our community.

In order to be approved for Religious School with Honors, students must attend five temple events outside of Religious School hours and then submit an application listing the events and “describing something NEW you learned or something MEANINGFUL you experienced by participating in” these events. There are three levels of Honors, each with added levels of requirements.

Reading student responses gives us invaluable insight into how they perceive the services and programs they attend. This feedback can also help us plan future programs. One particularly thoughtful and inspirational set of responses was submitted by sixth-grader AveryRose Ames-Karvounis:

Family Dinner & Shabbat Kodesh Service
This was the first family service and dinner my family has gone to. We don’t really get to do Shabbat at home, so it’s nice to be able to sit down with my gramma and mom for dinner and talk and laugh. It’s like being home but kinda better too since I can also see my friends from Religious School. It’s meaningful to me because we’re so busy everyday that we don’t always have time for each other, so now we’re making time for each other.

Simchat Torah Service & Family Dinner
Two things. First, the sukkah is the best and most beautiful structure ever. I love getting to see it every year. I wish I could be there when they build it. Second, the unrolling of the

Torah is crazy. I never really knew how long it actually was yet the letters are so small. I also think the point of the service is meaningful, that there is a beginning and an end and yet it’s a circle which has no beginning or end. As long as we remember how we started and we continue to talk about it and we pass on the traditions there’s never an end — which is cool.

Three Weddings
My mom really wanted to go to this and asked if I wanted to go. She explained why these people were having their weddings at our temple and what it means to have your country not be ok with who you are and who you choose to marry just because they aren’t “really Jewish” or because they are gay. It’s sad to think that a country could say to someone that just because you weren’t born Jewish or weren’t born in Israel that you can’t marry the person you love. Then I think about us here in America. And even though we’re changing, it was like that here, too, and still is in some places. It makes me happy to know that our temple stands for love and acceptance.

For more information about Religious School with Honors, or to access the application, go to www.emanuelnyc.org/rs-honors.
Celebrate Israel’s 70th birthday with our family... and yours!

Ten incredible days: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Dead Sea, Masada...
Plenty of activities for all ages

The ideal place to become a bar or bat mitzvah in a worship service led by Rabbi Davidson.

Join Rabbi Davidson, Saul Kaiserman and our families for an unforgettable, life-changing vacation.

For more information, or to register, visit [www.emanuelnyc.org/familytrip](http://www.emanuelnyc.org/familytrip)
Tal Ben-Shahar
A CommUnity Conversation

The Israeli-born happiness expert and bestselling author will share his insights on a range of topics— from achieving happiness to his return to Israel as an adult.

In partnership with UJA. UJA believes in the power of coming together as a community to act on our Jewish values. Let’s do good together.

Ohad Naharin, the renowned choreographer of Batsheva Dance Company, appears on our stage — and our screen in the hit documentary "A string serenade of Mozart, Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky".

Mira Awad, David Broza and Achinoam Nini raise their voices for a better world.

A CONCERT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

AN EVENING WITH GENERAL COLIN POWELL

Conversations with the most influential people of the 21st century.

COMMANDMENTS RABBIS CHEESECAKES

Rediscover the Ten Commandments with ten rabbis and ten flavors of cheesecake.

PAUL ANKA

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

MENDEL BLUMENFELD

MAY & JUNE 2018 AT THE TEMPLE EMANU-EL

Rabbi’s 10 Commandments Cheesecakes

Made possible by the generous support of Temple Emanu-El members Robert B. Menschel and Richard Menschel.
Composing for Peace
A CONCERT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE
Mira Awad, David Broza and Achinoam Nini raise their voices for a better world

MAY 10

St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble
Mozart Divertimento in D Major, K. 136
Mendelssohn Concerto for Violin in D Minor
Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings, Op. 48

Made possible by the generous support of Temple Emanu-El members Robert B. Menschel and Richard Menschel.

MAY 14

STREICKER CENTER Emanuelstreickernyc.org

JUNE 6

DAN ABRAMS, GEORGE STEPHANOPoulos AND ABE LINCOLN

Abrams will discuss his latest book, which reveals the man who would become one of America’s admired presidents.

JUNE 12

Happier Together
A CommUnity Conversation with Tal Ben-Shahar

The Israeli-born happiness expert and bestselling author will share his insights on a range of topics – from achieving happiness to his return to Israel as an adult.

In partnership with UJA. UJA believes in the power of coming together as a community to act on our Jewish values. Let's do good together.
In a photographic tour celebrating Israel's 70th birthday, explore the multitude of communities—and worlds—that dwell side by side within Israel's meager 8,000 square miles, just the size of New Jersey.

Once a month for seven months, our exhibition will rotate through the diversity that is Israel, from the ultramodern to the ancient, the religious to the secular and the new generation to the survivors of Jewish triumph and tragedy.

AND PERHAPS A FREE TRIP!

Pick up your Passport to the Jewish World during your first visit to the exhibition, then get a new stamp every month as the photographic themes change. By filling your passport with all seven stamps, you'll not only enjoy a visual journey across the breadth of Israel, but you'll be entered to win the ultimate extension of our exhibition, a free trip, including a round-trip coach flight from NYC and a five-night hotel stay in Tel Aviv.
Community Mental Health Forum
Tuesday, May 1 | 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Sutton Place Synagogue (225 East 51st Street)
This special evening will bring together three guest speakers, followed by a panel discussion.

- Dr. Alan Manevitz (Psychiatrist) | Mental Illness
- Dr. Gayatri Devi (Neurologist) | Alzheimer's and Brain Health
- Jonathan Katz (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) | Substance Abuse and Addiction

Sponsored by the NYC Chapter of the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs/Men of Reform Judaism, this event is open to all temple members.

BRCA Genetic Testing Study
The BRCA Founder Outreach Study (BFOR) is seeking to increase access to testing for one of the most common tests for hereditary cancer: BRCA genetic mutations. Women and men with a BRCA gene mutation have a greater risk of developing several types of cancer. Most of those at risk do not know that they carry a BRCA mutation.

This study will offer BRCA genetic testing at no cost to participants: women and men age 25 years or older with at least one grandparent of Ashkenazi (Eastern European) ancestry. This ethnic group is at least 10 times more likely than the general population to inherit certain kinds of BRCA mutations. This testing will provide patients, families and their doctors with knowledge that can reduce cancer risks and improve outcomes for those who carry a BRCA mutation. For more information or to sign up, log on to www.BROFStudy.com. Or, call 310-571-8264, ext. 1001 or 1002.

Volunteering

Stitch’n Time
Sunday, May 6 and Sunday, June 3
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM | One East 65th Street
Stitch’n Time volunteers knit warm scarves and caps for clients of the Sunday Lunch Program, as well as hats, sweaters and blankets for babies. All skill levels are welcome; instruction is available. Yarn and patterns are provided, but please bring your own #8 needles. Delicious refreshments are served. Please join us! The more the merrier.

Ronald McDonald House
Tuesdays: May 15, June 19, July 17 and August 21 | 5:00 PM | 405 East 73rd Street
Once a month, volunteers from Temple Emanu-El prepare and serve dinner for families that are staying at Ronald McDonald House of New York, a “home away from home” for families of seriously ill children undergoing treatment. This activity is suitable only for adults over 18 who are in good health. All volunteers will receive a call back from the Women’s Auxiliary to confirm their volunteer dates. (Please, no walk-ins!) To volunteer, call 212-744-1400, ext. 235 or send an email to womaux@emanuelnyc.org.

Summer Angels
The Sunday Lunch Program needs temple members who can be called on short notice to help during July and August. Call 212-507-9513 to have your name added to the list. Thank you!
Men's Club

For questions about Men's Club events, call 212-744-1400, ext. 250, or send an email to mensclub@emanuelnyc.org. To register for events, log on to www.emanuelnyc.org/mc-cal. To become a Men's Club member, log on to www.emanuelnyc.org/mensclub.

Annual Meeting and Samuel Sacks Achievement Award Reception
Thursday, May 17 | 6:00 PM | One East 65th Street
All temple members and their guests are invited to attend the Men’s Club annual meeting, which includes the election of officers and presentation of the Samuel Sacks Achievement Award, which was started in 1977 to recognize members of the congregation for their service and support of the temple. This year’s recipients are Wendi Kornfeld (left) and Michelle Paretti Goldstein (right).

Wendi became a temple member in 1988, but she began attending services as early as 1972, captivated by the temple’s uniquely beautiful and inspiring music. She often says, “I came for the music and stayed for the message.” Wendi volunteers with the Sunday Lunch Program and serves as a tour docent and a Sabbath greeter. She is a member of the Women’s Auxiliary Nominating Committee, is the founder/facilitator of the Community as Family group for temple members without adult children or other family to assist them, and was co-chair of Club 65 (with Max Moss) during its first three years. She also is a regular attendee at our weekly Torah Study. In retirement, Wendi focuses on activities at Temple Emanu-El, volunteers with the Central Park Conservancy, and advocates for the rights and respect of older persons.

Since retiring in 2016, after spending more than 20 years working in commercial real estate finance on Wall Street, Michelle has enjoyed being an active volunteer at Emanu-El, where she and her husband, Glenn, and their children, Brentt, Jarett and Erynn, have been members since 2010. Michelle currently leads Emanu-El Cares with Lynda DeLott, is a member of the Membership Committee, and leads New Member Engagement with Bettina Decker. She also serves on the Educational Leadership Team Committee and was a member of the Religious School Parents Association for four years, which she led for two of those years. In addition, she co-chaired the Religious School Simchat Torah and Chanukah dinners and sponsored the “Mom's the Word” performance with Rabbi Ehrlich. She also served on the Woman’s Seder Committee.

The charge for the event is $50.00 for Men’s Club and Women’s Auxiliary members and $60.00 for all temple members and guests. A cocktail reception and ceremony with dinner to follow. RSVP by Friday, May 11.

Club 65

Club 65 is a monthly social group and educational program for senior members of the temple, both men and women. Attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Participation is free of charge. QUESTIONS? Call 212-744-1400, ext. 250.

Covenant Theology
Tuesday, May 8 | 11:00 AM | One East 65th Street
Rabbi Joshua M. Davidson will lead us in discussing the philosophy of Rabbi Dr. Eugene Borowitz and help us explore our own beliefs about God and responsibility to our community.

Emanu-El Israel

June 3 | 11 AM | Gather on Fifth Ave. for the parade
Enter at One East 65th Street for the museum
Celebrate Israel with Emanu-El at a special museum-viewing event with curator Warren Klein, featuring “Lens on Israel: Bedouin and Arab Israeli Communities in the Negev.” Coffee and Bagels will be available. Afterwards, head out to Fifth Avenue in your blue and white, and join other congregants in front of the temple as we gather to celebrate the Israel Day Parade.

Community As Family

Now in its fourth season, Community As Family (CAF) is a group for temple members age 48 and forward who are without adult children. We meet monthly to create stronger ties within the Emanu-El family and the greater community, as well as to discover ways to become more informed self-advocates on a variety of topics, including finance, health, housing and home care.

Please note: We will close out our 2017-2018 program year by attending the Shavuot morning service and Yizkor on Sunday, May 20 at 10:30 AM. We will join the congregation at brunch after the service; go to www.bagelsandblintzes.org to register.
Women's Auxiliary

For questions about Women’s Auxiliary events, call 212-744-1400, ext. 235, or send an email to womaux@emanuelnyc.org. To register for events, log on to www.emanuelnyc.org/wa-cal. To become a member, log on to www.emanuelnyc.org/womaux.

Spring Meeting and Luncheon:
Raising Strong and Powerful Women
Thursday, May 10 | 11:45 AM | One East 65th Street
All temple members are invited to our Annual Spring Meeting and Luncheon, which includes the election and installation of board members and officers, as well as guest speaker Jamie M. Howard, PhD. The charge for this event is $30 for Women’s Auxiliary and Men’s Club members, $40 for all other temple members and guests. We will also host a raffle. Price: $10 per ticket or $25 for three. Winners need not be present. Proceeds from the raffles benefit ongoing Women's Auxiliary projects. RSVP online at www.emanuelnyc.org/wa-cal by Tuesday, May 8.

Women’s Auxiliary Book Group
Monday, May 14 | 11:00 AM | One East 65th Street
All temple members are invited to our discussion of The Genius of Judaism by Bernard-Héri Lévy, led by Rabbi Joshua Davidson. For more than four decades, Lévy has been one of the great moral voices of our time. Now Europe’s foremost philosopher and activist confronts his spiritual roots and the religion that always has inspired and shaped him.

Note: A few copies of the book are available in the temple library; call 212-744-1400, ext. 360 to reserve a copy. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP by Thursday, May 10.

SAVE THE DATE! FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
All temple members are invited to join us for our opening Community Sabbath Dinner at 7:15 PM, following the Friday worship service at 6:00 PM. Details to come. Look out for our emails or visit the temple website for updated information.

Membership Information Update

Temple Emanu-El is fortunate to have members whose families have been with us for generations, and we continue to be enriched by those who choose to join our congregation each year. As our membership continues to grow, we are working hard to provide new and meaningful ways to connect with one another and strengthen our community.

To best meet the needs of our members and provide opportunities to engage with Jewish life and each other, we ask that you please complete and return the member information update that was recently sent to your home. We have included information we have on file, and we ask that you update those details as needed or fill in any gaps that may exist. If you have your current email address on file, this form was also sent electronically. You can also access it here: http://bit.ly/members18. As always, information you share will be kept confidential.

Please contact the Membership Office at membership@emanuelnyc.org or 212-507-9515 if you have any questions.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The annual membership meeting of Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York will be held on Thursday, May 24, at 6:00 PM in Greenwald Hall, Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street, New York City.

Information about the annual meeting will be mailed separately to temple members and will include details on membership dues and seating information for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Reception to follow.
The following students of our Religious School will become b’nei mitzvah in May and June.

Saturday, May 5
- [Emma Schlosser](#), daughter of Kimberly and Lewis Schlosser
- [Celia and Owen Stafford](#), children of Sarah and Jeffrey Stafford
- [Sheera Finkelstein](#), daughter of Carole and Steven Finkelstein

Saturday, May 12
- [Arden and Reid Mandell](#), children of Barbara and Andrew Mandell

Saturday, May 19
- [Alessandra Moses](#), daughter of Kimberly and Andrew Moses
- [Jessica Solit](#), daughter of Barbara and David Solit

Saturday, May 26
- [Maks Coven](#), son of Diana and David Coven

Bimah flowers at worship services have been donated by the following congregants:

For the Sabbath of May 4 and 5:
- Mrs. Burton Kossoff in loving memory of Burton and Stephanie Lynn Kossoff

For the Sabbath of May 11 and 12:
- Carol, Carl, Alexandra, Robert and Peter Hess in loving memory of mother and grandmother Frances Aaron Hess
- Linda, Gilbert and Jennifer Snyder in loving memory of Stephanie Lynn Snyder’s birthday
- Rabbi Stanley T. and Ivy R. Relkin in loving memory of Leonard Jay Reade

For the Sabbath of May 18 and 19:
- William Fruhauf in loving memory of my parents, Frankye and Henry Fruhauf, and of my aunt, Sara Fruhauf Beekman
- Kimberly Atwater Moses and Andrew Moses, in honor of the bat mitzvah of our daughter, Alessandra.

For the Sabbath of May 25 and 26:
- Susan and David Rahm in loving memory of Susan’s father, Allen H. Berkman

For the Sabbath of June 1 and 2:
- Edythe, William and John Heyman in loving memory of George H. Heyman Jr.
- Joseph Lesser in loving memory of Samene Webber Lesser and in celebration of the bar mitzvah of our grandson John (“Jack”) Webber Maguire

For the Sabbath of June 8 and 9:
- Dr. Sandra P. Gluck in loving memory of her aunt, Mildred Hammer
- Joanne Josephy, remembering my dear husband, Warren, always and especially on what would have been his 100th birthday

For the Sabbath of June 15 and 16:
- Mrs. A. Coleman Poll in loving memory of her parents, Mildred and Jacques G. Coleman
- Susan and David Rahm in loving memory of David’s brother, Carl Michael Rahm
- Roger L. Strong and Family in loving memory of his mother, Marguerite G. Strong

For the Sabbath of June 22 and 23:
- Barbara W. Kummel and Family in loving memory of Eugene H. Kummel
TEMPEL EMANU-EL
Clergy, Officers and Staff

CLERGY
Joshua M. Davidson, Senior Rabbi
Amy B. Ehrlich, Rabbi
Mo Glazman, Senior Cantor
Sarah Reines, Interim Associate Rabbi
Sara Sapadin, Adjunct Rabbi
Dr. Ronald B. Sobel, Senior Rabbi Emeritus
Dr. David M. Posner, Senior Rabbi Emeritus
Lori A. Corrison, Cantor Emeritus
Alexandra Kurland, Cantorial Intern

OFFICERS
John H. Streicker, President
Andrew F. Moses, Vice President
Gregg M. Rechler, Vice President
Brian L. Pessin, Treasurer
Dena Kleiman, Secretary

STAFF
Administration and Planning
Cara L. Glickman, Vice President, Administration and Planning
Mark H. Heutlinger, Administrator
Evan Brown, Director, Communications
Jessica Ingram, Director, Member Services
Rodney Rodgers, Director, Information Technology
Rachel Rothman, Director, Special Events and Operations
Anton Shkreli, Director, Facilities

Finance
Steven Jones, Vice President, Finance

Development and Philanthropy
Marilyn F. Kohn, Vice President, Development
Robyn W. Cimbol, Senior Director, Development and Philanthropy
Wendi Glick, Assistant Director, Development

Lifelong Learning/Religious School
Saul Kaiserman, Director, Lifelong Learning
Rachel Brumberg, Associate Director, Lifelong Learning
Jackie Schreiber, Program Director, Faculty and Family Engagement
Emma Kate Lindsay, Coordinator, Youth Learning and Engagement

Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center
Dr. Gady Levy, Executive Director
Erika Resnick, Program Director
Merrill Alpert, Education Coordinator
Hadass Attia, Creative Director
Warren Klein, Curator, Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica
Marjorie Shuster, Librarian, Ivan M. Stettenheim Library

Nursery School
Ellen Davis, Director, Nursery School

Funerals
Charles S. Salomon, Funeral Director

Young Members
OF TEMPEL EMANU-EL

ROOFTOP WINE TASTING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6
6:30 PM | ONE EAST 65TH STREET

Join Bedell Cellars of Long Island, owned by Emanu-El Board Member

Michael Lynne
On the temple’s rooftop to celebrate the arrival of Summer

UPCOMING EVENTS
For Jewish professionals in their 20s and 30s

ICE CREAM SOCIAL SHABBAT
MAY 18, 2018 | 7:30 P.M.

For additional events and ticket information, visit: www.saviv.org
Stephen Hawking died last week, at the age of 76. His passing leaves a black-hole sized void in the world of science, but his legacy will surely endure. Hawking gained tremendous fame in his life, as a writer, speaker and public figure. He used his platform to shine a light upon issues of the day, including climate change, the global economy, and disability advocacy. Regrettably, Hawking also became an ardent advocate for the BDS (or boycott, divestment and sanctions) movement against Israel, something we fervently oppose here at Temple Emanu-El.

That being said, Dr. Hawking did share a close, longstanding academic relationship with Israeli Professor Jakob Bekenstein, a man with whom he initially sparred over the nature of black holes, but later credited for refining his own understanding of both black holes and the universe.

Stephen Hawking was, in no uncertain terms, a revolutionary thinker, who changed the way we understand the notion of time and space, and altered our perspective of the universe. To be sure, Hawking was a true scientific unicorn, whose theories pushed us to make the inconceivable conceivable, and the impossible possible. An unfathomably brilliant mind, he captured the fascination of the world with his genius and his remarkable productivity in the face of profound disability, brought on by ALS.

Dr. Hawking sought to answer the most elemental questions about the nature of life and existence. He plumbed the vast darkness of the universe and probed deep into a world thought to be inscrutable, only to find fragments of intelligibility and meaning. He was a seeker, and he was nothing if not driven to discover the truths hidden within the cosmos above.

Since the beginning of civilization, humanity has been preoccupied with the search for these very same truths: How did the universe begin? What is the source of life? And why are we here? For some, these questions are materialist in nature. But for others, they overlap with our search for God, and with our yearning to find Divinity in a world where it is so often hidden.

 Humanity’s pressing desire to draw near to God is currently on full display in our Torah, as we continue our...
“Here’s to always looking up and seeing into infinity.”

RABBI SARA SAPADIN

trek through the book of Vayikra, or Leviticus. Arguably one of the most enigmatic books of our Torah, Leviticus focuses on the service of the Temple and the ways in which our people will become a holy nation. The medium through which that sanctity can be obtained and preserved, is the practice of sacrificial worship.

Leviticus doesn’t shy away from violence or gore or carnage; on the contrary, we read about priests “pinching off birds’ heads,” dipping their fingers in the blood of slain beasts, and digging out the entrails of animals brought for sacrifice. Leviticus, we learn, traffics in the graphic physiology of sacrifice quite unapologetically. The narrative, thus, lives in this vivid, messy, invigorating world straddling life and death, a world marked by the presence of blood and inwards; a world heightened by the constant reminder of life’s fragility. Such is the world of the ancient sacrificial system; raw, visceral, uncompromising, and yet utterly and completely humbling and genuine.

As alien as all this sounds, Leviticus exemplifies some of the most profound examples of Divine Encounter that we ever witness in our Torah. The sacrificial system gives our people the most magnificent opportunity to commune with God. Whether they are offering gifts or expressing gratitude; whether they have sinned, intentionally or inadvertently, our ancestors have a path for not only communion, but also, if the need presents itself, for restoration and repair. Their God, once unknowable, untouchable, and invisible, is now accessible through ritual and rite. This is a God who enjoys the reyach nichoach, the pleasing smell that arises from the sacrifices. This is a God who can be sated by a sacrificial bull or a meal offering. In this system, our ancestors know what God desires and, most gratifyingly, they can provide.

In so many ways, Leviticus represents an astounding harnessing of the Divine. Our people, so yearning for connection and meeting, are granted this intimacy in the form of sacrifice. In fact, the Hebrew word for sacrifice, Korban, comes from the root meaning “to draw near,” or “bring close.” What our ancestors attempted with this system of sacrifice was to lasso the essence of God from above and pull God near, as near as the breath of the animal placed on the altar. Reflective of our constant search to understand and know and be near to God, our people engaged in this deeply grounded and elemental form of worship. Amidst the smoke and carcasses, and the chaos and cacophony that define this book, God abides! And God is near.

But where is God now? On Shabbat evening, we read in our very own prayer book: “Oh God, how can we know You? Where can we find You? You are as close to us as breathing and yet are farther than the most distant star. You are as mysterious as the vast solitudes of the night and yet are as familiar to us as the light of the sun.” We often struggle in our search for the Divine, one day drawing so close and the next, drifting so far. We stumble reaching for an unknowable, invisible God.

And yet, we persist in our search, because we long for meaning, and we yearn for truth.

In his seminal work, A Brief History of Time, Dr. Hawking wrote, “if we do discover a complete theory” of the universe...then we shall all, philosophers, scientists and just ordinary people, be able to take part in the discussion of why it is that we and the universe exist...If we find the answer to that,” he continued, “it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason — for then we would know the mind of God.”

Stephen Hawking never did discover a complete theory of everything. He died, still searching for the true nature of existence, still yearning to determine the universe’s grand design. He was a passionate student of cosmology and physics, compelled to discover the workings of the earth and the universe…then we shall all, ordinary people, be able to take part of questions and answers and then, always more questions. He never stopped asking “Why?” He never stopped searching for “How?” And we mustn’t either.

And so, as we sit with our worries and our doubts, our hopes and our fears, I hope we may we heed the famous advice Dr. Hawking was wont to dispense. He would say: “Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the Universe exist. Be curious. And however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. It matters that you don’t just give up.”

Here’s to always looking up and seeing into infinity.
HOST YOUR EVENT AT TEMPLE EMANU-EL

Thinking about hosting your event at Emanu-El?

We have quality catering options for a Kiddush lunch after a bar or bat mitzvah ceremony, a reception for a baby naming or bris, or any other reason you want to celebrate! Contact Rachel Sackman at 212-507-9574 or rsackman@emanuelnyc.org to learn more and schedule your event today.

LEVENTRITT ROOM
Capacity: 100 seated
125 cocktails

ISAAC MAYER WISE HALL
Capacity: 350 seated
300 with dance space

GENE L. BLUMENTHAL HALL
Capacity: 200 seated
150 with dance space
Save the date!

ANNUAL SHABBAT DINNER FOR MEMBERS OF THE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Friday, October 26, 2018

Bequests and other forms of testamentary gifts have long played an important role throughout our congregation’s history. If you have already provided for a bequest to the temple, or are seriously considering doing so, please contact Robyn Cimbol at 212-507-9524 or rcimbol@emanuelnyc.org so that we may invite you to this upcoming dinner exclusively for members of The Heritage Society.

Charles S. Salomon
THE UNIVERSAL FUNERAL CHAPEL
1076 Madison Avenue | 212-753-5300
Our service is available in the temple, home or our chapel.

The Cemeteries of Congregation Emanu-El
SALEM FIELDS and BETH-EL
A limited number of above-ground crypts are available in our community mausoleum. For information, please call Mark Heutlinger at the Temple Office, 212-744-1400.

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
A hearing loop is installed in the Fifth Avenue Sanctuary and the Beth-El Chapel; switch aid to T-coil. Headsets and neck loops are available.

WATCH SERVICES ONLINE
All Sabbath and most holiday services are broadcast online on the following channels: www.emanuelnyc.org/broadcast www.facebook.com/emanuelnyc

SERVICES

WEEKLY SERVICES
Friday Evening
Fifth Avenue Sanctuary
Organ recital at 5:45 PM
Service begins at 6:00 PM

Saturday Morning
Fifth Avenue Sanctuary
Organ recital at 10:15 AM
Service begins at 10:30 AM

DAILY SUNSET SERVICES
Sunday-Thursday at 5:30 PM
Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell
Community House
One East 65th Street

WEEKLY TORAH STUDY
Our Sabbath morning group meets each Saturday, before our worship service, from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM
I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.

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