JANUARY 2021 BULLETIN

FRIDAY NIGHT

WORSHIP SERVICES

Due to the outbreak of Coronavirus, services have been suspended at the facilities of Temple Emanuel until further notice and it is deemed appropriate to resume.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OUR RABBI ARE MONITORING THIS SITUATION CONSTANTLY AND WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES TO RESUME

Rabbi

Rabbi Mathew D. Michaels

Temple Officers

Wayne Margolis, M.D., President Ken Parker, President-Elect Allison Nathan Getz, Treasurer Gail Williams, Secretary Cheryl Barenberg, Past President

Office Staff

Wilton Allen, Building & Maintenance Jane Kaulfus, Office Manager Sherry Horwitz, Staff Volunteer

> 1120 Broadway Street Beaumont, TX 77701 Phone (409) 832-6131 Fax (409) 832-6023

Office Hours

Closed on Mondays Tue-Thurs 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Fri 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Email

templeoffice@emanuelbeaumont.org

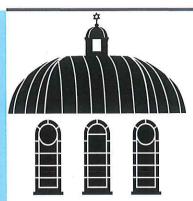
<u>Website</u> www.emanuelbeaumont.org

<u>Visit us on Facebook at</u> Temple Emanuel - Beaumont, TX

Temple Emanuel RSVP Line

When you need to RSVP for any Temple activity or meeting, Please call 832-6131 and press 3.

Please slowly and clearly state the name of the meeting or activity, names of those attending, and your contact number.



TEMPLE Emanuel

A sacred Jewish journey to enrich lives.

FROM OUR TEMPLE RABBI

SEEING THE OTHER SIDE

The election is over and on January 20th we will celebrate one of the most cherished events in our democracy: **the peaceful and orderly transition of political power**. Now let the healing begin. Elections can be nasty affairs, and this one was the nastiest in recent memory. But in order for our nation to move forward in positive directions, the healing needs to begin. While people may differ on public policies, I believe there is no room for the name-calling and demonization of people for their political views.



Now that the election is over and we prepare for the inauguration of a new administration, I would like to throw out a challenge to people on both sides of the political divide. If you voted Democratic, can you defend why someone would choose to vote Republican? If you voted Republican, can you defend why someone would choose to vote Democratic? Can you step aside for a moment to see why someone would support the other side? This is a tradition with a long history in Judaism.

Let me share a simple example. According to Jewish law, certain animals such as lizards are ritually *tamei* (impure). The Talmud speaks of the greatness of one of the leading rabbis, Rabbi Meir. He could find a way to argue the other side; that such an animal was really *tahor* (pure), and that other pure animals were really *tamei* (impure) (Eruvin 13b). The Midrash goes even further: In the days of King David, children who had never tasted sin could find forty-nine ways to declare something impure and forty-nine ways to declare that same thing pure (Leviticus Rabbah 26:2). Obviously, there is some exaggeration here, but the Rabbis are making a point. There is great merit in being able to see both sides of an argument and cogently argue for the other side.

Another of the great sages, Rabbi Yohanan, complained bitterly when his brother-in-law Reish Lakish died - sadly, he died after they had a bitter fight. Rabbi Yohanan said that now everybody agrees with him, but when Reish Lakish was alive he would argue with him. The arguments would sharpen his own understanding of the law.

The ability to understand what the other side is thinking is also part of the secular study of philosophy. Philosophy has its roots in Socratic dialog, where one party would make a point and the other party would argue with that point and make a counterpoint. There is a classic fallacy in philosophy called the ad hominem attack. Instead of arguing with someone's point of view, one denigrates

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their character. To call one's political opponent a radical or a reactionary, an anarchist or a racist, is the worst example of the ad hominem attack. It is the area where political discourse is abandoned, and a brutal nastiness takes over.

I think what bothered me most about this election was the lack of kindness in describing one's political opponent. In the biblical narrative of Abraham's servant Eliezer being tasked to find a proper wife for Abraham's son Isaac, Eliezer does not look for money or beauty or brilliance when he finds Rebecca. He looks for kindness. The young lady who offers him water, and also offers water to his camels, she will be the appropriate wife for Isaac. **Kindness is the central value.** I pray that as our nation moves forward, kindness can reenter our political discourse. It begins when we can see the legitimacy of the other side even as we argue passionately for our own side.

L'Shalom,

Mart

Rabbi Matt Michaels

As we continue to deal with COVID-19, please don't hesitate to be in touch with me directly, whether by phone, email or Facetime. We need each other now more than we ever imagined. By reaching out we connect with each other, we strengthen one another, and we help in the healing process. Please stay in touch and stay safe.

SAVE THE DATE



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be handled virtually through Zoom on Sunday, January 31, 2021

at

7:00 pm

As the date approaches an e-blast with the Zoom link will be sent

Thank You,

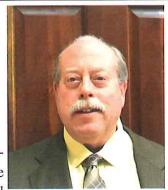
Temple Board of Trustees

FROM OUR TEMPLE PRESIDENT

In Ongoing Pursuit Of: **Teshuvah-**Forgiveness and Acceptance, **Tefillah-**Meaningful Worship, **Tzedakah-**Righteous Acts

MY JOURNEY with COVID-19

On a Sunday early in November my wife Susan began to complain of diffuse muscle pain and fever. The next day on Monday she tested positive for Covid-19. The following Tuesday I began to experience shortness of breath, sore throat, and



cough. The following Wednesday morning I had fever and tested positive for Covid-19. Over the next 14 days, I experienced the following: low grade fever early in the course of the disease, shaking chills, shortness of breath with exertion and sometimes at rest, headache, loss of appetite (I lost 10 pounds), nausea, cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, and severe fatigue, I was sleeping 16 hours a day. I was using a triple drug respiratory inhaler twice a day, taking ibuprofen 600 mg twice a day, vitamins D, C, and zinc, monitoring for fever at least twice a day and monitoring my blood oxygen saturation several times a day. A sustained decrease in my oxygen saturation to 93% or less would have led to my being directly to the hospital by Dr. Arfeen for Remdesivir and Convalescent Plasma infusion. Fortunately this was not needed. Unfortunately, 1 week after I was well enough to return to work based on strict following of the CDC guidelines, I developed pain in my left leg posteriorly just below my knee joint. The following Monday a scan of the veins of my left leg, by my office ultrasound technician, confirmed my suspicion that I had developed deep venous thrombosis of my left popliteal vein. I am now taking potent blood thinners and will do so for the next 6-12 months depending on my clinical course. Blood clots due to Covid-19 can involve arteries and veins throughout the body and are one of the dreaded complications of the disease. These clots can lead to death, stroke, pulmonary emboli, gangrene with extremity amputation, and loss of function of major organs. I was fortunate in having the knowledge and resources to quickly diagnose and treat myself. Physically speaking, both Susan and myself are currently back to our pre-infection baselines. I will rescan my leg veins in 3 months to evaluate for clot resolution.

Mine and Susan's illness occurred before two major breakthroughs in the treatment of this disease became available.

1. The FDA emergency use authorization of Regen-Cov2 antibody cocktail infusion (given to President Trump pre-approval under a compassionate protocol), for those high risk patients with Covid-19, as soon as possible after a confirmed diagnosis with mild to moderate symptoms. High risk is defined as any one of the following: body mass index ≥35, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, immunosuppressive disease, age ≥65, or age ≥55 plus either cardiovascular disease, or hypertension, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/other chronic respiratory disease.

This treatment was shown to significantly reduce the incidence of progression to severe disease requiring hospitalization.

2. The FDA emergency use authorization of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for Covid-19.

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Despite these breakthroughs, now is not the time for us to let our guard down. We need to remain vigilant and continue with masking, social distancing, frequent hand washing/hand sanitizer and not touching our faces. For these reasons our services will remain virtual for now and our Annual Congregational Meeting will also be virtual.

Susan and I both plan on taking the vaccine as soon as it is available for each of us. I would strongly encourage everyone reading this article to do likewise. The experts estimate that $\sim 70\%$ of the US population will need to be vaccinated to reach herd immunity.

I am optimistically looking forward to a return to in-person services sometime in 2021 when our Covid-19 Task Force and Temple Board feel it is safe to do so. To facilitate this decision, I would like to request that all congregants, and Temple Emanuel Employees please notify the Temple Office after you have completed your vaccination course for Covid-19 so we can utilize this data in our decision making process.

Together we can accelerate a return to normalcy if we all do our part. I truly miss seeing each and every one of you in person and look forward to the day, that as a closely knit congregation, we can again express this to each other in close proximity.

Kol tuv,

Wayne

Wayne Margolis, M.D.—Temple President

PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

I am requesting that all congregants and employees of Temple Emanuel to please notify the Temple Office when you have completed your course of the COVID-19 Vaccine.

This will facilitate in our decision as to when we can safely re-open our Temple.

Wayne Margolis, M.D.—Temple President

ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND THE TEMPLE EMANUEL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I WISH TO THANK AND RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING CONGREGANTS FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE TEMPLE EMANUEL BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

STEPHEN EISEN
BEVERLY HICKMAN-HAY
MIKE SPECTOR
CYNTHIA WOLF



TEMPLE EMANUEL

Is being called on once again for our Tzedakah service

The Women and Children Shelter is asking for funds to purchase packages of underwear for the women and children who are displaced to their facility. The need is great and our service is always much appreciated.

Contributions can be made by:

CALLING the Temple Office (409-832-6131) if you would like to charge your donation or MAILING a check to Temple Emanuel—Social Justice Fund (1120 Broadway, Beaumont, TX 77701) OR a check made out to Family Services of Southeast Texas.

THANK YOU

Arlette Collins-Hoffer

SISTERHOOD SCHMOOZE - JANUARY 2021

Well, I for one am happy to welcome January 2021 and say good-bye to 2020. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, whether you were able to expand your bubble and safely travel or you just stayed in Beaumont and enjoyed your immediate family. I am excited to see the pandemic hopefully "turning the corner" with the availability of two vaccines being brought into Beaumont for frontline workers, extended care patients and then hopefully the rest of the population. I for one will go get the vaccine as soon as it is made available to me. My hope is that each of you weigh the pros and cons and make an informed decision about what is best for you.

Sisterhood has continued to meet virtually over Zoom and we even had a Zoom program on December 6, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. Latkes and Lights was a demonstration on how to make delicious latkes whether you are a sweet potato or Idaho potato aficionado! Homemade apple sauce was also demonstrated. Recipes for the latkes and homemade apple sauce were mailed to all Temple Emanuel members with a note that hopefully next year we can all be together to celebrate the miracle of Hanukkah. As sisterhood president I received many positive comments and appreciation for keeping Temple Emanuel Sisterhood connected during the pandemic.

During our December Board meeting we discussed the possibility of having our 32nd Annual Deli Day in March 2021. A lively discussion ensued, and it was determined that since Temple Emanuel remains closed the probability of having our usual Dine-In Service on Thursday and deliveries on Wednesday was not feasible. However, there may be a way to offer some type of Deli Day to the Beaumont community. Further discussion of Deli Day 2021 will be held at the January 6, 2021 Board meeting. All sisterhood members are invited to attend. If you are interested in being involved in the Deli Day discussion, please either email me or call me: cabarenberg@yahoo.com or 409-351-4482.

As we all start a New Year my hopes are that this pandemic has run its course and that perhaps by the end of summer, the beginning of fall we will all be able to gather as a sacred community again. I wish everyone a Happy, Healthy 2021. Be well, stay safe, wash your hands often, socially (physically) distance when appropriate and please wear a mask when out in public.

L'Shalom

Cheryl

WEDNESDAY – January 13, 2021 11:30 am - Sisterhood Schmooze 12:00 noon – Sisterhood Birthday Luncheon/Meeting via

ZOOM

(a Zoom link will be emailed to Sisterhood Members)



FERRUARY 2021 YAHRZEITS

Week Ending 2/6 to be Read 2/5

Edna Bennett Morris Lefkowitz Rabbi Newton J. Friedman Isadore G. Harris Dorothy Saldoff Kelman Alice Arkeen Isadore H. Brookner William M. Gusfield David Kramer Janice Bernstein M. Bittensky Dorothy K. Gordon Irving Silverberg Isadore Fallis A. E. Finegold Mildred Friedman Wayne K. Horwitz Dora Kassoff Rose Finegold Sam Goldenberg Sylvia F. Goldstein Phyllis Lapine

Week Ending 2/27 to be Read 2/26

Robert Diamond Recha Goldblum Hannah Goldstein Miriam Herman Gertrude Waldman Krasnow Herman Lederer Michel Lederer Julie Parker Gerson Scheps Doris Waldman Spector Phil Stein Rose Flatow Faye Blum Manuel Breen William Gedaly Arnold Goldstein Dr. Philip B. Greenberg Byrdie Goodman Miller Jacquie Allen Frank Dover Abe S. Goldstein Joe Markewich

Week Ending 2/13 to be Read 2/12

Alexander Z. Franklin Morris Lipoff Harry Moskowitz Sarah Night Dr. Harold Roosth Henry D. Weinbaum Arie Tadmor Johanna Szafir Mrs. A. Walker Milton G. Getz Elsa Loeb Goldberg Bess Lichenstein Dr. Joseph M. Loewenstein Marie Miller Mayer Margaret Swerdlow Lois Wolf Louis Julian Alexander Kevin Michael Curry Ida Goldstein Morris Goodman Hattye Kline Gordon Bertha Gray Julie Rogers Joan Sampson Alice Selber Philip Horwitz Seymour G. Rosenthal

Week Ending 2/20 to be Read 2/19

Morris Adler Sara Rogers Davis Sue Mayer Nora Mielz Cherna Bittensky Betty Reuben Natalie Loeb Alexander Jerry Battelstein Libby Rose Lubel Ernest Mayer Harvey Night Rose Schoenfeld Mary Fleckman Altman Harry Dugan Sara Litvin Franklin Freeda Friedman Minnie Rogers Ida Hymes Gross Dr. Harold Roosth Mack B. Waldman Stanislas "Stan" Duplechin Nathan Gingold Sigmund Greenberg Sandy Liebling Mervin F. Sandman Betty Klein Estelle Levy Lena Mayer Paul Moskowitz **Edward Schultz** Helen Segal

Edith Tettenbaum
Marion Doss
Cora Lee Goldstein
Isaac Levin
B. Levy
Celyne Levy
Jerry Moss
Frances Goldfine Austin
Isidore Roos
Jacob A. Szafir
Solomon Engel Gordon
David Greenberger
Zipporah Hoffer

Yetta M. Protas

5781 2021

February shevat adar



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January tevet shevat



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SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY	15

JANUARY 2021 YAHRZEITS

Week Ending 1/9 to be Read 1/8

Sam Roosth Ben Schwarz Sarah Diamond Elizabeth Kolba Gaston Mayer June Rogers Harold Klein Leo E. Ney, Jr. Leo E. Ney, Sr. Annie Brookner Nancy DiModica William S. Hurwitz Walter Mielz Jenny Roos Sonia B. Sobel **Toby Elkins** Jeanette Zuber Folloder Eli Lerman Nathan Swerdlow Jeanette M. Weil John Schellhorn

Week Ending 1/30 to be Read 1/29

Harry Benson William Brookner Jacob S. Friedman Lillian Perl Margulies Joseph Solinsky Maxine Blankfield Anna Fishbine Jeanette Sophia Klein Carrie Meyer Arthur Moskowitz Jerome M. Ney, Sr. Elise Shields Bernard Wyde Clara Miller Chinski Weston J. Harrington Chaney Lee Holland Phyllis Kossover Lalla Lazarus Feigelson Chaim Fishbine Dorris Starr Greenberg Sadie Jacobs Julius Myers Levy

Week Ending 1/16 to be Read 1/15

Elizabeth Ann (Betty) Poole Berry George Braun Nathan Roggen Sam Saltzman Helen Louise McWilliams Clark Harry Jacobs Helene Joy Klein Toomim J. Brookner Alice Dunner Rose F. Goldstein Greenberg Sadie Greenberg Mary Ann Podrasky Hay Morris Leaman Helen Liebling Joseph R. Rogers Abe Bemel Marcus Levinson Meyer Tanenblatt Sam Wyde Morris Goldstein Carrye Levy Mayer Nolan Montondon Alvene Moss Fannie Lipson Benny Vener David Falkowitz Nathan Falkowitz Lillian Klein

Week Ending 1/23 to be Read 1/22

Hilton Deutser, III Hilton Deutser, Sr. Cyril G. Gradwohl Charles Samuel Hoffer Maurine Kariel Plettman Max William Vinock Max Feldman Elise Grossman Jack Hodes Jacob David Kassel Sol J. Rogers Sarah Faro Pearl Vener Ginsburg Jacob Krasnow Abraham Levy Max Melasky Elisa Mitrani Meyer Blankfield Lily Greenberg Bertha Cohen Rudnick Bessie Vener Ben M. Goldstein Edwin D. Mayer Daniel Berk Saul Forbert Florence Eisen Rosenthal Florence Sadoff Kamras Max K. Mayer, Jr. Nathan Waldman

Harry Starr
Lois Szafir
Jerome I. Unick
Max H. Unick
Frank Greenberg
Sidney Kaplan
Morris Leaman
Fay Levine
Ervie Levine Philipson
Craig Devoll
Alma H. Harris

TEMPLE EMANUEL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS:

Memorial & Tribute Fund

For a speedy recovery of Fern Roos By: Lois Rutman

> For a speedy recovery of Marleen Swerdlow By: Margaret Whipkey

In honor of the birthday of Arline Meyers By: Pat Klein

In honor of **Temple Emanuel**By: Richard Drapeau, Ph.D.
By: Euphemia & Fritz Heufelder
By: Jeri Kirkendall

In honor of
Angela Pickering
Dwight Peirce
Rabbi Mathew Michaels
By: Charlie Weinbaum

In memory of **Deanna Spencer** By: Judy Granger

In memory of **Zipporah Hoffer**By: Barry, Linda, Hollan
and Harlo Hoffer

In memory of
Jodie Hoffer

By: Susan & Wayne Margolis
By: Pat Klein
By: Judy Granger
By: Charlie Weinbaum
By: Harold Eisen

In memory of Penny Richard

(Judy Granger's sister)
By: Susan & Wayne Margolis
By: Margaret Whipkey

In memory of Herb Goldstein

By: Judy Granger By: Charlie Weinbaum By: Susan & Wayne Margolis

In memory of
Alvin Pickering
(Angela Pickering's father)
By: Judy Granger

In memory of Ira Idell By: Lois & Artie Feld In memory of Annette Dover

By: Judy Granger
By: Norma Frachtman
By: Pat Klein
By: Charlie Weinbaum
By: Temple Emanuel Sisterhood

In memory of
Joan Allen (Wilton Allen's mother)
By: Judy Granger
By: Pat Klein
By: Miriam & Jim Thompson
By: Susan & Wayne Margolis

High Holiday Music

For a speedy recovery of Fern Roos By: Sarah Hawes

In memory of Joan Allen (Wilton Allen's mother) By: Sarah Hawes

Becky & Edwin Gale Love Thy Neighbor Community Fund

In honor of Rabbi Mathew Michaels By: Margaret Whipkey

In loving memory

Dr. Robert Swerdlow

By: Natalie, Brett, Brian

& Benjamin Barth

Floral Fund

In loving memory of my father, Sidney Golob By: Pat Klein & family

In loving memory of Joseph G. Perl By: Mary Lynn & Arnold Perl

In loving memory of my mom, **Gertrude Petrova** By: Beverly Hickman-Hay

In loving memory of
Ben Rogers (my wonderful father)
Bernard Rogers (my dear brother)
Nate Rogers (my special uncle)
June G. Hall (my beautiful aunt)
By: Regina Rogers

Social Justice-Orchard In memory of Jodie Hoffer

By: Marilyn & Richard Hayes By: Miriam & Jim Thompson Social Justice-Some Other Place

In memory of our 1st female President of Temple Emanuel

Annette Dover

By: Temple Emanuel BOT

Social Justice
In honor of their anniversary
Rita & Barry Davis
By: Margaret Whipkey

In loving memory of Annette Miller Dover By: Regina Rogers

Building Fund

In loving memory of

Herb Goldstein

By: Mollie Pollack

By: Rene' & Michael Spector

By: Candy Holder

By: Regina Rogers

By: Miriam & Jim Thompson

By: Sandra K. Howley

By: Jamelan Hemphill

By: Penelope Sanders

By: Lori Kaplan

By: Terry Gildea

Cemetery Fund
In memory of
Jodie Hoffer
By: Rene' & Mike Spector

By: Judie & Mike Kumpel

In memory of

Joan Allen (Wilton Allen's mother)

By: Margaret Whipkey

By: Rene' & Michael Spector

In loving memory of
Anna Sampson (grandmother)
Gerald Sampson (brother)
Mose Sampson (father)
By: Norma & Alan Sampson

In honor of Rene' & Michael Spector
By: Their neighbor, Laura Assunto

Rabbi Discretionary Fund
In memory of
Annette Dover

By: Arlene & Alan Gerger

In memory of
Herb Goldstein
By: Cheryl & Andrew Barenberg
By: Barbara Ayer Forbert

TEMPLE EMANUEL SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE (JANUARY 2021)

Expressions of Appreciation for 'Love Thy Neighbor' Tzedakah Shared in 2020

Temple Sinai (Lake Charles, LA) for **Disaster Relief** following Hurricane Laura in the amount of \$13,585:

From Karen Kleinman, Temple Sinai Board Member and Past President: Incredible! Cynthia, thank you and your congregation! Very generous and appreciated...I am blown away by the outpouring and kindness...What a beautiful article and an incredible group of people. Thank you for your love and generosity...Y'all are such a blessing, and we certainly could never adequately express our appreciation to all the donors...All of you are just some of the dearest and sweetest people in my life, and I am extremely grateful...Y'all really are beyond words. We don't want to ever have to repay you as we pray you are never in need; but as a Board, we are committed to being there for y'all should you ever need us like you have been there and are there presently for us.

From Michael Goldman, Temple Sinai Treasurer and Past President: Cynthia, I am overwhelmed with gratitude...Thank you again for all your help...Thank you from the bottom of our hearts...No words can express our gratitude and friendship...I hope and pray that this will never happen to any of us again; but rest assured that as y'all were and are here for us, we will always be there for you and your wonderful community...Cynthia, there are no words to express our gratitude for the generosity of the Beaumont Jewish Community. With love and profound admiration for all the people who helped to make us whole.

From Temple Sinai Board of Trustees: On behalf of the entire congregation of Temple Sinai, thank you for your generous donation...We have been working very hard to both repair our temple building and to address the needs of all of our congregants. At this time of need, it is truly heartwarming to see the response from our friends and family from all over. We have sustained a terrible blow to both our temple and our city; but with the help and caring of people like you, we will come back even better and stronger...Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. (signed by Joel Davidson, President; Michael Goldman, Treasurer; Barry Weinstein, Rabbi)

Beaumont Pet's Alive for \$1,050:

From Dr. Kelley Kayes: Your members are animal lovers, and Beaumont Pets Alive is so grateful for your support...Beaumont Pets Alive is solely funded through donations and run by volunteers. Your generous donation of \$1,050 from Temple Emanuel is greatly appreciated! Together we are saving lives! Thanks for being a BPA Paw hero!

NOTE: In 2020, Beaumont Pet's Alive has saved over 400 dogs and cats!

Southeast Texas Food Bank for \$1,842 from our High Holiday 'Funds for Food' Drive which provided 5,526 meals to our Southeast Texas Neighbors:

From Dan J. Maher, President/CEO (see next page)



November 23, 2020

Cynthia Wolf Social Justice Chair Temple Emanuel 1120 Broadway Beaumont, TX 77701

Dear Cynthia,

I am so grateful for the continued association of the Southeast Texas Food Bank with Temple Emanuel through the shared blessings of your High Holy Days in the form of an annual food and fund drive. In a challenging year for all of us, your congregation is to be commended for standing up as a beacon of hope within our community through its generous donation of \$1,842.00 in donations to help the Southeast Texas Food Bank advance its mission of fighting food insecurity in Southeast Texas.

As you noted in the letter sent to me at the time of making that wonderful donation, your congregation has helped provide more than 5,500 meals to Southeast Texans in need. Certainly, the number of those in need has risen during 2020, so I am deeply grateful that Temple Emanuel has aligned itself so strongly with us in our efforts to provide for that growing need in our community.

I hope you and your faith community will be richly blessed for your role in helping us receive and deliver this vital support to Southeast Texans in need.

Sincerely

Daniel J. Maher President/CEO destro for Manys brief so personally argentive of what we do to fight huges in Southerst Tyres!

PAGE 14 TEMPLE EMANUEL

From Matzo to Gumbo: Museum explores Southern Jewish life

Written by STACEY PLAISANCE, Associated Press—Published in The Beaumont Enterprise

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - A new museum under construction in New Orleans will explore the journey of immigrant Jews and subsequent generations to the American South who brought with them a religious way of life they struggled to maintain while seeking acceptance in the home of the Bible Belt.

With multimedia interactive exhibits and a collection of more than 7,000 artifacts, the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience will illustrate the ways Southern and Jewish cultures influenced each other's families, businesses, religions, politics and food habits as Jewish staples like potato latkes and matzo ball soup were met with Southern grits and gumbo.

There will also be exhibits on harder-hitting issues, such as race relations, Jewish slave ownership and anti-Semitism.

In the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, most Jewish immigrants lived in the Northeast, but thousands settled across the South, said Kenneth Hoffman, the museum's executive director. "This can tell us about the history of the South in a way that we haven't looked at it before," Hoffman said. "It can tell us about diversity and the importance of diversity for strengthening not only our Southern communities but America in general."

A museum highlight is a colorful patchwork quilt that a group of Jewish women in Canton, Mississippi, made in 1885 to raise funds to build a synagogue there. The gallery with the quilt will have an interactive station where visitors can sit down at a table and use a touchscreen to create, electronically, their own quilt square and add it to a quilt of other digital squares made by fellow visitors. "It speaks to the coming together of many different pieces, many different colors, many different fabrics to create something brand new and beautiful," Hoffman said.

Once open, museum visitors will be able to watch a video introduction in a theater gallery and view elaborate Jewish spice boxes, prayer books and tzedakah boxes often found in Jewish homes that are used for collecting coins for charity.

Organizers say the museum is designed to be a source of pride for the Jewish community, but it's also intended to be a welcoming and informative space for the general public.

"This is a lesson on the American experience, what happens when strangers come to a strange land, where we work together to build communities ... accept people that are different than ourselves," said Jay Tanenbaum, the museum's chairman, whose great-grandfather emigrated from Poland to the tiny town of Dumas, Arkansas, eventually running a cotton gin there and establishing roots for four generations.

Tanenbaum says his family history is one repeated "thousands of times over" across the South, as Jewish families like his worked hard to adapt and built strong, loving bonds within their communities. He said he's hoping that sharing these stories will help curb violence against Jews. In the years leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic, acts of violence against American Jews was on the rise, with 2019 seeing the most violence in four decades, according to the Anti-Defamation League. That year included deadly attacks on a California synagogue, a Jewish grocery story in New Jersey and a rabbi's New York home.

"If we put together a museum and have lots of visitors who are not Jewish who come to understand the similarities and the way we all work together and the loving relationships, we think that is maybe the best thing we can do to promote the safety and security of Jewish communities and Jewish individuals." Tanenbaum said.

The museum's artifact collection comes from the original Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience, which first opened in 1986 at a Jewish summer camp in rural Utica, Mississippi. It was founded as a repository for artifacts from small Southern communities as Jewish populations began leaving for bigger cities. That museum was shuttered in 2012, when organizers began looking for a location with better public access and to expand the mission from small-town artifacts to telling the full Southern Jewish experience across 13 states and spanning some 300 years, from Colonial times through the civil rights movement.

New Orleans was selected for the reboot for its vibrant tourism base, long Jewish history and historical connection to the broader South. The museum is being constructed in a more than century-old building along one of the city's main streetcar lines near the National WWII Museum, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art and the Contemporary Arts Center. Originally scheduled to open in fall 2020, construction was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which shut down much of New Orleans when the city emerged as an early hotspot for the deadly virus. Tourism remains crippled, but the museum is on track to open within the first quarter of 2021, Hoffman said. An exact date has not been set.

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BIRTHDAY LIST - JANUARY

2 ~ Janet Shackelford 30 ~ Joshua Horwitz

24 ~ Fern Roos 30 ~ Marleen Swerdlow

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29 ~ Sarah Barenberg 31 ~ Jay Mandel

Anniversary List - JANUARY

10 ~ Miriam & Jim Thompson

20 ~ Cara & Dan Eisen

27 ~ Norma & Alan Sampson

January Shabbat Hostesses and Greeters (SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

January 1 - Robin & John Goebel

Sarah Hawes

January 8 - Sherry & Paul Horwitz

Tracie Horwitz

January 15 - Judy Granger

Janet & Richard Shackelford

January 22 - Beverly & Paul Hay

Gloria Seligman

January 29 - Judy Night

Gail Williams

CONDUCTING ZOOM SERVICES & TORAH STUDY

January 1-2, 2021 Rabbi Kogan

January 8-9, 2021 Rabbi Michaels

January 15-16, 2021 Rabbi Kogan

January 22-23, 2021 Rabbi Michaels

January 29-30, 2021 Rabbi Kogan

Mazel Tov

On the birth of

Scottie Fern Seline

December 14, 2020 6 lbs. 9 ozs.

Parents: Brian & Jonna Seline

Grandparents: Dorothy & Gary Seline

Great-Grandparents: Fern Roos Anita & Mortin Seline



Marianne & Benjamin Sampson

On your marriage
SON of Norma & Alan Sampson