## NOVEMBER 2025 BULLETIN

#### FRIDAY NIGHT

#### **6:00 PM WORSHIP SERVICES**

#### AT THIS TIME ALL SERVICES WILL BE IN-PERSON and via ZOOM

Nov 7Shabbat ServiceNov 14Shabbat ServiceNov 21Shabbat ServiceNov 28Shabbat Service

#### **Temple Officers**

Cynthia Wolf, President Sherry Horwitz, President-Elect Cheryl Barenberg, Treasurer/ Sisterhood President Bene' Rutman, Secretary

#### **Administrative Office Manager**

**Sarah Thomas Pessink** 

#### **Office Staff**

**Sherry Horwitz, Staff Volunteer** 

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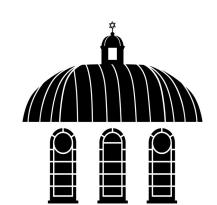
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www.emanuelbeaumont.org

#### Visit us on Facebook at

Temple Emanuel - Beaumont, TX



# TEMPLE EMANUEL

A sacred Jewish journey to enrich lives.

## FROM OUR TEMPLE PRESIDENT

Dear Congregational Family and Friends of Temple Emanuel,

The passion and leadership of our membership are what drive our Congregational Family...and so much pas-



sion and leadership were put into the successes of October 2025 Happenings and will also be put into the successes of November 2025 Happenings and Beyond! THANK YOU!

<u>FIRST</u> - We celebrate that the remaining 20 living hostages taken on October 7, 2023 have been returned. We now await the bodies of the remaining hostages who died in captivity. Rather than include anything more about this subject in the *President's Message*, I have gone into depth in another article in this bulletin. Please read *Journal of Reflections Dating from October 7*, 2023 by Cynthia Wolf.

<u>NOW</u>, What's Happening at YOUR Temple Emanuel; and, please keep in mind that there will always be MORE LATER...

#### **HAPPENINGS IN OCTOBER**

Rabbi Jon Nelson was with us all but one Shabbat in October; and, of course, several of those dates covered Kol Nidre through the conclusion of the High Holy Day Cycle...with some of those dates covering Shabbats. When Rabbi was here for Shabbats, he also led Torah Study on Shabbat mornings. (By the way, the average attendance at Torah Study is 18 – 20 students of all ages.) Following Yom Kippur, Rabbi took a short break. Wayne Margolis was Shabbat Prayer Leader the first Shabbat of October. Rabbi Jon and our volunteer

Shabbat Prayer Leaders know that it not just a matter of standing on the Bimah the day/night of the Service. There is so much preparation that goes into making the Service right for the Congregation... and that includes working with Angela regarding the music/songs and developing the Cue Sheet and so very much effort goes into preparing for the D'var Torah for that Service...researching and reading the weekly Parashah and reading essays about it and coming to terms with what that Torah Portion means to the speaker and what it will mean to those gathered and, of course, practicing! (I obviously speak from experience.) And for the High Holy Days, the sermons were about being the best version of ourselves that we can be...both by Rabbi Jon and by Wayne Margolis! THANK YOU to Rabbi Jon and THANK YOU to Wayne Margolis! Rabbi and Wayne, Mitzvot well done!

- And, by the way, THANK YOU to our Tech Guru Michael Hendrix, Owner of DEFcor IT systems, for providing me the YouTube of the following: October 1st Kol Nidre Service, October 2nd Yom Kippur Morning Service and Yom Kippur Afternoon/Yizkor/Concluding Services that ended with the Shofar Duet and October 3nd Shabbat Service.) I thoroughly enjoyed praying hours after each Service in the Sacred Space of YouTube like so many others who chose Zoom or Facebook or YouTube as I did for each of those Services! Michael Hendrix, Mitzvot well done!
- While I am offering my gratitude:
  - THANK YOU to the Temple members who participated in both Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur Services: Rita & Barry Davis; Steve Diamond (behind the scenes); Caleb Fontenot; Mike Getz; Judy Granger; S. L. Greenberg; Maggie Harris; Regina Hayes; Beverly Hickman; Bruce Hoffer; Sherry Horwitz; Sarah Pessink; Marilyn Manson-Hays; Wayne Margolis; Arline Meyers (Past Sisterhood President via Zoom); Iris & Jerry Nathan; Dan Neel; Wendie Nordgren; Ken Parker; Kate Roberts; Bene' Rutman; Janet Shackelford; Mike Spector; Marleen Swerdlow; Laura & Gene Thomas; Sage Wiess; Gail Williams; and Cynthia & Michael Wolf! And, there were many more than these named who attended multiple Services in the Main Sanctuary, on Zoom, on Facebook, and via YouTube!
  - THANK YOU to Marleen Swerdlow, Ritual Chair, who worked with Rabbi Nelson to organize the participation of our Congregational Family and was responsible for coordinating the contracts of our professional musicians!
  - THANK YOU to our professional musicians Angela Pickering, Dwight Peirce, and Tom Schroeder; your music...vocal, organ, and cello...always enhances our spiritual experience...but especially with the somber tones of Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur!

 THANK YOU to our Tech TEAM from DEFcor IT systems consisting of Len Savignano for Kol Nidre and Michael Hendrix for Yom Kippur...and, of course, they were on duty for Rosh Hashana and Shabbat Services as well!

- THANK YOU to our Security TEAM!
- To ALL of the above, THANK YOU; and Mitzvot well done!
- On October 2<sup>nd</sup> following the Concluding Service of Yom Kippur and the Shofar Duet by Rabbi Jon and Wayne Margolis (THANK YOU to Rabbi Jon and THANK YOU to Wayne Margolis!)...Congregational Family and Friends of Temple Emanuel experienced the traditional Sisterhood Break-the-Fast coordinated by Sherry Horwitz with the dedicated assistance of the following volunteers, some of whom were also included in this listing by Sherry because they were volunteers helping with the Temple Board Luncheon following Rosh Hashana Services. THANK YOU to Sherry Horwitz and to ALL of the following: Cheryl Barenberg; Rita Davis; Beverly Hickman; Tracie Horwitz; Kathy Johnson; Wendie & Joe Nordgren; Sarah and Tim Pessink; Bene' Rutman; Janet Shackelford; Mike Spector; Laura & Gene Thomas. THANK YOU to the Temple Board of Trustees for sponsoring the Rosh Hashana luncheon and THANK YOU to Sisterhood for sponsoring Break-the Fast! THANK YOU to ALL who said HINEINI! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!
- The importance of remembering our loved ones was observed during Yiz-kor Service the afternoon of Yom Kippur. THANK YOU to Laura Thomas and Sarah Pessink for capturing the essence of remembering so beautifully in the Memorial Book, a project of Temple Emanuel Sisterhood! We each remembered beloved family and friends. (For many years, this project was my baby, so I speak from experience in recognizing the time and effort that Laura and Sarah put into the 2025 Memorial Book.) I am so proud of the Mother-Daughter TEAM of Laura and Sarah for the mitzvah work that they do together! Laura and Sarah, Mitzvot well done!
- NOTE: This past year, we lost long-time members of our Congregation who were our loved ones and our friends: <u>Steve Breen</u>, <u>Paul Kessler</u>, <u>Jeanne Blum</u>, <u>Dan Rutman</u>, <u>Linda Goldstein</u>, <u>Al Dugan</u>, and <u>Paul Horwitz</u>. We remember them ALL!
- On October 5<sup>th</sup>, Brotherhood Members and MORE joined together to build the succah in the Swerdlow-Roosth Social Hall of Rosinger Center; and additional work was done on the succah on October 8<sup>th</sup> by Sisterhood Members. THANK YOU to all of the following who assisted in a variety of ways that led to the building of the succah and the décor of the Swerdlow -Roosth Social Hall of Rosinger Center: Cheryl Barenberg; Steve Diamond; Carson, Charlie & Jeff Hazleton; Arlette Hoffer & 3 Grandsons; Beverly Hickman; Sherry Horwitz; Kathy Johnson; Wayne Margolis; Dan Neel;

Ken Parker; Mike Spector; William Spector; and Laura & Gene Thomas! THANK YOU to the above Members of Brotherhood and Sisterhood and also Friends of both Brotherhood and Sisterhood! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!

- On October 10<sup>th</sup> besides Shabbat, we also celebrated Sukkot (Festival of Booths/Gathering of the Harvest). In addition to Shabbat and Sukkot prayers, Rabbi Jon shared a powerful prayer that continues to be needed for the remaining Hostages held since 10/7/2023 even while negotiations were on the table...and, of course, the prayer was also for their families! The O'neg Shabbat was Sisterhood's traditional Fall Feast, which was enjoyed by all! THANK YOU to Sisterhood President Cheryl Barenberg and THANK YOU to all who assisted in a variety of ways that led to the success of this Sisterhood Project: Lori Alter; Robin Goebel; Beverly Hickman; Arlette & Bruce Hoffer; Sherry Horwitz; Wendie & Joe Nordgren; Tim Pessink; and Laura & Gene Thomas! THANK YOU to the above Members of Sisterhood and Brotherhood and also Friends of both Sisterhood and Brotherhood! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!
- On October 17<sup>th</sup>, prior to Shabbat Service, we remembered our departed loved ones during Yizkor; and we also celebrated Shemini Atzeret (the 8<sup>th</sup> day of Sukkot) & Simchat Torah (a component of Shemini Atzeret... marking the reading of the final verses of Deuteronomy and turning the Torah back to Parashah Bereshit in the book of Genesis). THANK YOU to Rabbi Nelson for coordinating the celebratory Service and THANK YOU to Caleb Fontenot, Evan Nelson, Evan Oscherwitz, Marleen Swerdlow, and Michael Wolf for dancing with the Torahs! In fact, because there were precious toy Torahs carried and Israeli flags waved, THANK YOU to ALL in attendance for dancing with joy during Simchat Torah! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!
- On October 18<sup>th</sup>, after Torah Study (during which there were 22 people), the following stayed longer to perform the mitzvot of changing the Torah mantels on 3 Torahs from white to green: Caleb Fontenot, Evan Nelson, Rabbi Jon Nelson, Joe Nordgren, Wendie Nordgren, Evan Oscherwitz, Marleen Swerdlow, and Cynthia Wolf. In addition, the white mantles are back in their white storage bags and hanging in the Admin. Building until next High Holy Day Cycle! THANK YOU to those listed above! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!
- On October 19<sup>th</sup> and also on various dates starting October 10<sup>th</sup> with the conclusion of Sisterhood Feast, members of Brotherhood, Sisterhood, and Friends of Temple Emanuel completely dismantled the Succah and put all elements of the process away until next year. In that I might fail to mention someone who helped, since it was done in various stages, I will simply say THANK YOU to Brotherhood President Mike Getz to ALL who reversed the process of setting up the Succah! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!

• On October 24<sup>th</sup>, during Shabbat Service, Rabbi Jon blessed our Congregants in person and on Zoom with October Birthdays and Anniversaries; and we welcomed Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan. This is a month for our volunteers to rest, as there are no festivals this month...no meals to be coordinated or prepared! As we all rest, Cheshvan is a month of reflection and the time to integrate spiritual lessons learned during High Holy Days into our lives. PLUS it is important to think about what happened in his month in both Biblical times and Modern Jewish history...and THANKS to AI, I am able to share quite easily:

- Biblical times during Cheshvan: The Great Flood, the completion of Solomon's Temple, the death of Matriarch Rachel, and the death of Methuselah at the age of 969 (His death, by the way, preceded The Great Flood: "G-d had promised he would not be killed with the unrighteous").
- Modern Jewish history during Cheshvan: 1938 Kristallnacht, the night of the broken glass and the pograms against Jewish people in Nazi Germany; 1995 - the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

#### Back to Rabbi Jon:

- During October Rabbi has continued working with 6 Conversion Students, 6 Adult B'nei Mitzvah Students, 1 traditional-age Bat Mitzvah Student. What wonderful ongoing Mitzvot coordinated by Rabbi Jon in conjunction with his students!
- Rabbi is also making every effort to get to know more and more of our Congregational Family. THANK YOU to <u>Congregational Family for invit-ing Rabbi Nelson</u> to join you for dinner during <u>Shabbat</u> and/or High Holy Days. Please contact Sarah Pessink in the Temple Office for Rabbi's telephone number, so that you can invite him for a meal the weekends that he is in Beaumont. Your treat or Dutch Treat...either way is such a <u>Mitzvah!</u>
- THANK YOU to Tim Pessink for all that you do in the background with lights and scaffolding and so much more! It is obvious that SERVICE is just part of who you are! You and Sarah make quite a TEAM! So to you both, Mitzvot well done!
- THANK YOU for participating in any and all ways during October...some of which might have been accidentally left out of this article, so please just text me to let me know, as I want to express the *mitzvah* of gratitude as often as possible!

 As Rabbi Nelson often says, "It takes a Village!" What I will add to that from my having had the privilege and pleasure of being Temple Board of Trustees President for almost 22 months is being blessed to witness just how many mitzvot our Congregational Family successfully does on behalf of the entire Congregation and Friends of Temple Emanuel each month. And October was packed with so very many mitzvot opportunities, and your participation throughout the month continues to be appreciated! To ALL, Mitzvot well done!

- There are pictures in this Bulletin of the various times that we gathered together during October. So, ENJOY!
- MORE LATER...

#### HAPPENINGS IN NOVEMBER AND BEYOND

November 1<sup>st</sup>

Brotherhood <u>Sponsored Gathering</u> in conjunction with Beaumont Heritage Society at the former home of Dr. Philip Greenberg (z"l). Dr. Greenberg was the beloved father of Past Temple Board or Trustees President S. L. Greenberg. Address: 2398 Laurel Street, Beaumont 77702. There will also be *Havdalah* with Rabbi Jon.

November 7<sup>th</sup>

The Adult B'nei Mitzvah of 6 Congregants during Shab-bat Service with O'neg Shabbat honoring the B'nei Mitz-vah Class coordinated by Sisterhood. Plus Rabbi Jon will lead Shabbat Morning Services in Kol Israel Chapel at 9:00 a.m. followed by Torah Study on November 8<sup>th</sup>

NOTE: SAVE THE DATE: November 7<sup>th</sup> is the Adult *B'nei Mitzvah* of 6 of our Congregants. <u>Mazel tov to Caleb Fontenot</u>, Maggie Harris, Regina Hays, Wendie Nordgren, Kate Roberts, and Sage Wiess!

November 14<sup>th</sup>

**Shabbat** Service with Rabbi Jon; **Torah** Study on November 15<sup>th</sup>

November 21<sup>st</sup>

Shabbat Service with Rabbi Jon; Blessings for November Birthdays and Anniversaries; Rosh Chodesh Kislev...the countdown to Chanukah! Torah Study on November 22<sup>nd</sup>

November 28th

**NEEDED:** Shabbat Prayer Leader – individual or group. Please contact Sarah Pessink to say *HINEINI*!

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December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Jon; Torah Study on December 6 <sup>th</sup>
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Shabbat</b> Service with Rabbi Jon; <b>Torah</b> Study on December 13 <sup>th</sup>
	Chanukah begins on December 14 <sup>th</sup> and ends on the 21 <sup>st</sup>
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	City of Beaumont <i>Menorah</i> Lighting on the 5 <sup>th</sup> Night of <i>Chanukah</i> with Rabbi Jon; Temple Booth set up by 5:00 p.m. and <i>Chanukah</i> Candle Lighting no later than 5:30 p.m. Invite your community friends to attend.
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Celebration of 6 <sup>th</sup> Night of <i>Chanukah</i> and <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Rabbi Jon; <i>Rosh Chodesh Tevet</i> ; Blessings for December Birthdays and Anniversaries; Sisterhood <i>Chanukah</i> Dinner; Saturday Morning Service followed by <i>Torah</i> Study on December 20 <sup>th</sup>
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Mitzvah Project at Some Other Place
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Shabbat</b> Service with Rabbi Jon; <b>Torah</b> Study on December 27 <sup>th</sup>

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Additional Temple Emanuel plans will be in Weekly Happenings! MORE LATER...

TEMPLE EMANUE

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#### PRESIDENTIAL REMINDER

If you have not already done so, please respond to the Accountant's note to you regarding your Monthly/Quarterly/Annual Statement; and please also consider making *Tzedakah* Donations in any amount to help with Budgetary Expenses; i.e. Temple Emanuel *Memorial and Tribute Fund* (also known as General Fund) or to *Cemetery Fund* or to any of the other funds of Temple Emanuel. THANK YOU!

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#### L'CHAYIM...TO LIFE!

Please participate in the Life of Temple Emanuel! Here's what's needed by every member of Temple Emanuel:

We must as a small Congregational Family have a more positive direction for ourselves and for Temple Emanuel...to where we can each be more empathetic, more patient, and even kinder...more appreciative, more loving, and more involved or reinvolved...whichever applies to you!!!!! This means too much to all of us to have it be any other way!

Martin Buber wrote: "Help me perfect my ways of loving and caring. Inspire me to make myself whole so that I may honor Your name and create a world of justice and peace." (<u>Mishkan T'filah</u> p 3) Please read this first with I/me as a personal prayer; then read this with we/us as a prayer for our community. What a beautifully concise way of expressing the theme of my term. The good news is we have so very much for which to express gratitude! It is now 5786 with our doing all that we can do for our Congregational Family and our Temple! And, let's keep praying for Israel, for the health of the freed hostages and their families, for the families of the deceased hostages, and for those who were affected by the July flood! May we always offer what might be considered "the very best medicine...concern, warmth, friendship, and love." (borrowed from <u>The Girl from Berlin</u> by Ronald H. Balson)

#### **HEALTH TO EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU!**

Cynthia Wolf, President of Temple Emanuel Board of Trustees 2024 & 2025

English Major, Class of 1968, Newcomb College of Tulane University...and thus my many shared words throughout my term.

My goal has been to provide details that show the continuation of the dreams of the founders of Congregation Emanuel and the dreams of those who dedicated themselves to the Main Sanctuary Project by what our Congregational Family today does to dedicate themselves! It's all about Legacy and L'dor v'dor...from generation to generation!

Each person provides in his/her term what is uniquely that person's gift(s). I have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy sharing my gifts with our Congregational Family; but even more important, I have enjoyed the many ways that our Congregational Family, including our Friends, has also shared their gifts in support of Temple Emanuel! To ALL, *Mitzvot* well done...but we have all this month and December and part of January to continue saying *HINEINI*... Here I am! And, I feel very confident that it will not stop there!

Mitzvot well done!

THANK YOU!

**November 2025 Bulletin** 

MAZEL TOV to Sage Wiess and Joe Nordgren on each of your immersions into the Mikvah in September and October respectively.



In celebration of Joe's conversion, Rabbi Nelson gave him a special blessing during Shabat Services.

Special thanks to Rabbi
Nelson, Cynthia Wolf,
Wendie Nordgren,
James Ferguson,
Maggie Harris,
Sherry Horwitz and
Laura & Gene Thomas
for being there to
celebrate these beautiful
moments with
Sage and Joe.



# JOURNAL of REFLECTIONS DATING from OCTOBER 7, 2023 by CYNTHIA WOLF

NOTE: Please know that this is not is in date order; but once you begin to read, you will understand the flow.

October 9, 2025 - We are looking forward to the return of the Hostages...the return of the remaining 48 of them to their families.

For two years <u>we have kept hope alive</u> in our hearts and in our prayers, and we have kept the Hostages in the forefront at Temple as one of the projects of Temple Emanuel Social Justice Committee:

- The large Bring Them Home poster showing all 251 hostages taken on October 7, 2023 has been in the Swerdlow-Roosth Social Hall of Rosinger Center for 2 years;
- The poster on the Bimah of the Main Sanctuary showing the Israeli flag and the Candle of Hope/Candle of Remembrance...as we had Hope for the Hostages, but 1,195 people brutally perished at the hands of Hamas on October 7, 2023, and some of the Hostages died in captivity, including the precious young red-headed Bibas brothers and their mother and too many others; and we have felt the pain of losing them! The poster has been on the Bimah since just following the October 2024 Rabbi Samuel Rosinger Humanitarian Award Dinner which occurred shortly after October 7, 2024;
- The *Bimah* chair draped with *tallit* and a large blue ribbon has been at the front of the *Bimah* for 2 years;
- The extra 2 candles kindled each Shabbat and Holy Days and Festivals have been because the Hostages could not light candles on their own; we offered these sparks of Hope faithfully for 2 years;
- And, until ALL Hostages are returned to their families, the above will remain in place as part of just what we do at Temple Emanuel!
- It is very possible that what our Congregational Family and Friends of Temple Emanuel have waited for will happen soon...and that I will add to this before the November Bulletin is published....but under a different date!
- October 7, 2025 And so that it is included in what I write now: I remember what happened on October 6 and 7, 2023. I am quoting only part of what I have already shared with Temple Board of Trustees and Temple Emanuel Social Justice Committee:

 On Friday, October 6, 2023, I was the Shabbat Prayer Leader on Simchat Torah. I went to sleep feeling incredibly happy, as the entire evening came together beyond expectation. There was dancing of the Torahs by so many Congregants in all different directions. It was beautifully memorable!!!!!

- But when I woke up the next morning that joyous feeling was blown away when my Soviet "son" Oleg Barsky sent me a text about what had happened in Israel. It was even more powerful because of who broke the news to me.
- Then I could not get enough of the news; and I had so many concerns about my 18-year-old grandson who was spending his gap year in Israel. When other students left, he refused to leave the program that he had committed to and remained in Israel spending time in Jerusalem and in Tel Aviv...living history which is his favorite subject.
- For about 2 weeks, Israel was the darling of the media. Locally it lasted longer. From the first week, <u>The Examiner</u> had ads of support for Israel that were supported by our community friends. That went on for about a year...and I expressed gratitude for that support at the 2024 Humanitarian Award Dinner...as many of our friends sponsored those ads...
- 10/7/2023: Violent rapes and deaths and the taking of hostages and torture and more deaths...that we witnessed on the film Screams Before Silence as a project of Sisterhood.
- "Bring them home NOW" has been the chant for 2 years. Will it finally happen? And if so, what concessions will be made? And will Israel be safe and secure?
- Also, this is the other chant: Am Yisrael Chai meaning The people of Israel live!!!!!

I shared <u>October 7 The World Must Not Forget pictures</u> with as many people in my contact list as I could prior to and on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Here are some of responses that I received from Jewish and non-Jewish friends:

- "Praying hard!! Remembering the horrible day!! Two years ago."
- "We are not forgetting. It's outrageous. We pray daily for the release of the hostages."
- "Lifting up prayers and hope!"
- "We will not forget!"
- "Keeping you and Israel in my prayers."
- "Never ever! Hopefully the deal they are working on will work!!!"
- "Sad day indeed."

• "I pray that the remaining hostages will soon be released and families will be reunited."

- "Yes. Let's get them out by the 15<sup>th</sup>. No dilly-dallying."
- "Good morning my friend! Thank you for the reminder about the horrible attacks on Israel that took the lives of so many. 'What happens to a nations when violence no longer shocks us?' is a quote that is up at USSCCB.org. There has been so much violence and loss that some days it is hard to keep up. So reminders are always needed."
- "Oct 7 was horrible and many I know have been praying about all of the issues in Israel. I am thankful for President Trump's interest in promoting peace where it has been so desperately needed...I shall pray with you and yours.
- "Love abounds when war ends. The end is due...now. I pray for all hostages as well...that they return into the arms of their families and friends to begin the process of healing."

October 13, 2025 - The final 20 living hostages have been returned; and there is a mixture of happiness and sadness, as there are still 24 of the 28 who died in captivity who have yet to be returned. Their return will allow their families and their "families" to have closure. We are all invested in this Sacred process! In the meantime, Jewish people around the world will dance with *Torahs* on *Simchat Torah* with such joy! It was on *Simchat Torah* in 2023 that Hamas attacked Israel; it is *Simchat Torah* again in the High Holy Day Cycle! We have not been alone in keeping hope alive nor are we alone in how we feel today.

Here is some of the responses shared with me by Jewish and non-Jewish friends:

- "FREE at last!!"
- "We rejoice with Israel over the hostages return."
- "Day of Celebration! Hallelujah and Amen! Blessed reunion! Prayers for the families who are grieving dear ones who did not survive."
- "Yes, at last!"
- "The fruit of answered prayer!"
- "I am totally overwhelmed, and my heart is very full of joy...I am so happy for the families, and I am so happy for the country...It is a wonderfully good day."
- "Still praying for a peaceful world, but this is certainly the closest we've come since the beginning of time with so many of the Middle Eastern countries."

• "I've watched so many reunion videos and cried with them. Happy and Sad. So happy the live hostages are home...but they have missed so much and been through so much...and there is so much healing ahead for them. And also sad for the families who have lost their loved ones. There's a lot of rejoicing today...But sadness too."

- "All 20 living hostages are home! Still awaiting the majority of the dead (24/28)."
- "What unimaginable joy and thanksgiving for the freed living Israeli hostages. My heart overflows with joy, at the same time the heaviness of ache, sorrow awaiting the return of the deceased. I remain with you in prayer!"
- "I'm so happy for the hostages and their families today, and pray for their physical and mental recoveries. Of course, always in my heart and mourning, the deceased hostages who are coming home and not coming home, and those lost on 10/7, as well as the fallen IDF soldiers. May their memories always remain as a blessing."

October 15, 2025 - Congregational Family and Friends, you have been bombarded with emails and text messages and the media, so you might be thinking, "Why is Cynthia writing this now? I already know all of this."

And here is my response to you:

It is important that the November 2025 Bulletin of Temple Emanuel as part of Legacy to be a reminder of what we have done at Temple Emanuel for more than two years...and what we will continue to do until the last bodies of the deceased hostages are returned to Israel.

It is also important that the November 2025 Bulletin of Temple Emanuel be a reminder that since October 7, 2023, Israel and Temple Emanuel have not been alone, for we have had the outreach of our personal friends and of our SETX friends and neighbors of all faiths who have been praying for Israel... for the Hostages and their families...and for us.

And, we know that all prayers, our own included, are now laser-focused on that happening and for the health and wellness of those who have personally experienced so much horror!

#### We are appreciative that we have not been alone in keeping Hope Alive!

Our prayer now is that we find a way to educate successfully against antisemitism, for there has been a *crescendo* of antisemitic outbursts since October 7, 2023.

How do we undo the hate that has been taught over the generations?

We are an ADL *Kulanu* Congregation, so we are part of the process. Therefore, our work is not done; it has only begun!

October 16, 2025 - 9/28 hostages who died in captivity have been returned to Israel!

October 17, 2025 - 4 more hostages have been located!

October 18, 2025 - May every day provide news that more hostages have been located, so that families can reach closure.

October 23, 2025 – As of yesterday, 15 of the 28 hostages have been returned to Israel. It will continue to be our prayer that the remaining 13 hostages who died in captivity be located and returned to their families soon.

And, how appropriate that Hostage Square in Israel continues to be a gathering place for *Havdalah* each week!

I end *Journal of Reflections* with this quote by Ferdinand Isserman about Prayer and Action which is really about <u>Partnership</u> and <u>partnership</u>, as so much of both have been in progress since October 7, 2023:

"Pray as if everything depended on G-d;
Act as if everything depended on you." (Mishkan T'filah page 47)





## TEMPLE EMANUEL SISTERHOOD Swerdlow-Roosth Social Hall 1120 Broadway St.

**Beaumont, Texas 77701** 

## MAHJ DAY OF FUN

November 11, 2025

Doors open at 9:00 am & Games start at 9:45 am \$55 includes a light breakfast, lunch, snacks and 5 rounds of 3 games each! \$10 of each registration fee will be donated to a local Veteran's Organization.

**Drawings for Door Prizes all day!!** 

Prizes awarded to top 3 winners at the end of the day!

In honor of Veteran's Day please wear red, white and blue!

Questions? Contact Laura Thomas, (409) 719-6914 or laura.nana.51@gmail.com or Credit Card payment call Sarah in Temple Office, (409) 832-6131 Mail reservations and payments by Wednesday, November 5, 2025 Make Checks payable to: Temple Emanuel Sisterhood and mail to Laura Thomas, 2354 2nd Street, Port Neches, Texas 77651

Name:		1 1	 	
Address:		-		
Phone:	Email:			

# Congregation Temple Emanuel Sisterhood Schmooze November 2025

Temple Emanuel Sisterhood was busy during the month of October coordinating many Temple wide events hosted by Sisterhood. Again, this year Sherry Horwitz with the entrusted help of Laura Thomas hosted Break-fast following the conclusion of Yom Kippur Services in the Swerdlow Roosth Social Hall. If you see either of these two individuals, please thank them. Without their dedication Break-fast would not happen.

Sisterhood also assisted with the building and decorating of the Sukkah on Sunday October 6, 2025. I would personally like to thank the following Sisterhood members for their continued support of our various projects Temple projects: Sherry Horwitz, Arlette Collins Hoffer, Laura Thomas, Beverly Hickman, Robin Goebel, Lori Alter and Wendie Nordgren. I would also like to extend a hearty Todah Robah to the following individuals Gene Thomas, Bruce Hoffer, Joe Nordgren, Mike Getz and the Hazelton family. These individuals either helped with building our Sukkah or dismantling at the conclusion of Sukkot.

The Fall Mahj Day of Fun is scheduled for , Tuesday November 11, 2025, Veterans Day. The theme will be red, white, and blue in honor of the individuals who have served our country. Registration is \$54 and a donation will be made to a community-based veterans' organization. For additional information about the Day of Play you can contact Sarah in the Temple office at 409-832-6131 or templeoffice@emanuelbeaumont.org.

Our next Board meeting will be Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at noon in the work room, Administration Building. Meetings are open to all who want to attend; however, you must be a member of the Board to vote at these meeting.

Finally, if you have any question on concerns pertaining to your Sisterhood, please feel free to contact any member of the Sisterhood Board.

Wishing everyone a "Shanah Tovah Umetukah" a Good and Sweet New Year!

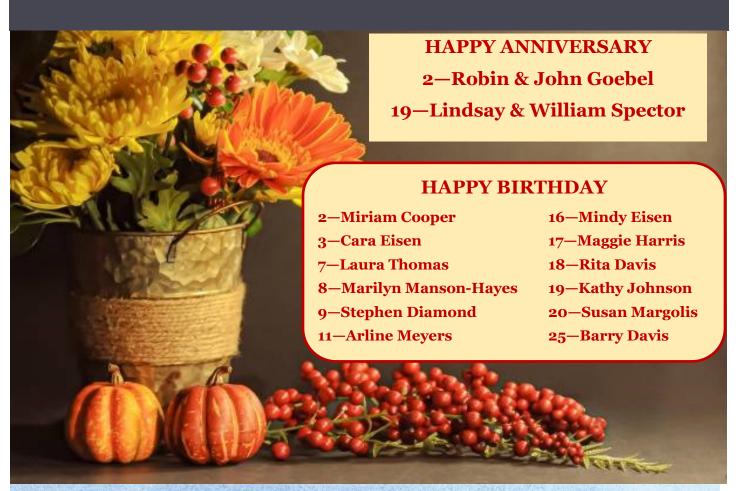
Kol tuv,

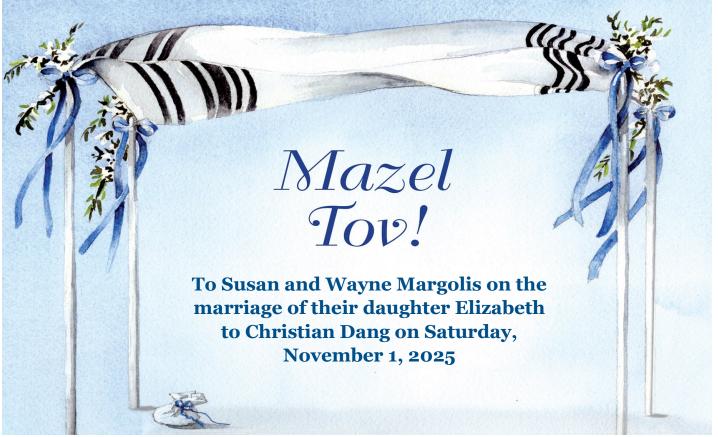
## Cheryl Barenberg

Temple Emanuel Sisterhood President WRJ, NA Treasurer WRJ SW District Past President

Temple Emanuel Brotherhood hosted History and Havdalah with Rabbi Jon Nelson, Beaumont Heritage Society and Taluka Trades on Saturday, November 1 at 7pm at 2398 Laurel in Beaumont.







## TEMPLE EMANUEL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

#### Floral Fund

In loving memory of **Leo Ensel**By Maggie Harris

In loving memory of **Jennie Teitelbaum**By Cara and Dan Eisen

In loving memory of **Ruth Sandman Brookner**By The Brookner Family

#### **High Holiday Music Fund**

Donation made by Wesley Pennington

#### **High Holiday Fund**

Donation made by David Fastman

#### **General Fund**

Donation made by Wesley Pennington

#### **Memorial and Tribute Fund**

In loving memory of **Paul Horwitz**By Kenneth Horwitz

#### Social Justice Mazon

In loving memory of **James Harris**By Maggie Harris

In loving memory of **David & Tom Neel**By Dan Neel

#### **Cemetery Fund**

In loving memory of **David Spector**, **Miriam Rogers & Minnie Spector** By Mike Spector

In loving memory of **Paul Horwitz**By Arline Meyers

In loving memory of **Paul Horwitz**By Nancy Meyers

## Social Justice Some Other Place

In loving memory of **James Harris**By Cynthia and Michael Wolf

In loving memory of **James Harris**By Maggie Harris

#### **Social Justice**

Donation made by Richard Drapeau

## Social Justice Southeast Texas Food Bank

Donation made by Susan and Wayne Margolis

In loving memory of **James Harris**By Maggie Harris

In loving memory of **Doris & Jack Neel**By Dan Neel

#### **Safety and Security**

Donation made by Cynthia and Michael Wolf

#### To be read 12/5

Benjamin Bernard Brauer Anna May Goldberg Richard D. Jackson Theodore Danziger Harry Galewsky, Jr. Mike Gerstner Stanley Kariel Yochanan Bruckner Rabbi Aaron Levy **Hyman Asher Perlstein** Horace J. Reddoch **Emil Szafir** Isadore K. Frenkel Lawrence D. Gale Vera Donde Hodes Isadore Shanefield **Marianne Hodes Todd Renee Horwitz Bennett Samuel Irving Goldfine** Yetta Eisen Meyer Mellinger Lauren Rogers Freedman Jake Horwitz Dr. Nate J. Rogers Ruth Rubin

#### **To be read 12/12**

Lena Lefkowitz Rebecca Miller **Esther Toby Diamond** Joseph Y. Horwitz **Blanche Feinberg Levine** Louis Mayer Salka Plettman Anna Sampson Julia H. Bohrer Adele Schwarz Godon Jake Levin Joseph G. Perl Ben J. Rogers Leon Cohen **Ida Schwartz** S.H. Sontag Madeleine Liebmann Wolf Kalman Kaplan Bernard "Ben" Kassoff Bernard Y. Rogers **Eva Swerdlow Charles Olliver Fogal** Harry Goldstein Sophie Esther Koshkin Joe Liebling Wanda Robertson Harry M. Rosen Jay Doblin Herman "Harry" Louis Goldstein

#### **To be read 12/19**

Rose Richker Friedman Gerald Sampson Jane Anne Williams Hilda Gordon Karl David Schwartz Meyer Kaplan Steve Breen **Sidney Golob** Louis W. Kariel Joseph Miller Anna Dugan Rabbi Lothar Goldstein Bruce Greenberg Jerome F. Bemel **Samuel Levine Helene Levy** Charles Weinbaum, Sr.

#### **To be read 12/26**

Woodrow L. Melasky **Mamie Gordon Perlstein** Gertrude Petrova Goldie Saltzman Sam Swerdlow Ann Lita Kramer A.H. Waldman Tillie Krauss Danzinger Regina Bluestein Kaufman Dr. Bernard D. Koshkin Sam Liebman Mose Sampson **Judith Simons** Larry Travitsky Gusta Brookner Abraham Goldberg **Anna Belle Spector** Lillie Jacobus Weinbaum **Max Petrower** Max Silverberg John Anthony Berger **Sophie Bernstein David Feinberg Hyman Lipson** Phil Parker Benjamin Rosen Jav J. Davis **Rachel Newman** Clyde Sheilds, Sr.

### **DECEMBER 2025**

If you would like to receive a
Yahrzeit date reminder card
from the Temple
Office following the death of a
loved one, simply
contact the office at your earliest convenience.

Temple Office telephone number is (409) 832-6131



Vayetzei		THANKSGIVING				L	$\bigcap$
						10 kislev	30
No Torah Study	6:00pm Shabbat Services (IN-person & ZOOM)						
29 9 kislev	28 8 kislev	27 7 kislev	S 6 kislev	S kislev	24 4 kislev	3 kislev	23
Toldot	ROSH CHODESH	SIGD					
(IN-person & ZOOM)	(IN-person & ZOOM)						
9:00am Torah Study W/Rabbi Jon Nelson	6:00pm Shabbat Services W/ Rabbi Jon Nelson		5:30pm BOT Meeting				
No 2 kislev	N 1 kislev	20 <sup>29 cheshvan</sup>	28 cheshvan	27 cheshvan	7 26 cheshvan	25 cheshvan	<u>ත</u>
Chaye Sarah				CANADIAN REMEMBERANCE DAY VETERANS DAY			
W/Rabbi Jon Nelson (IN-person & ZOOM)	W/ Rabbi Jon Nelson (IN-person & ZOOM)			C. Coair mail tay or an			
24 cheshvan	23 cheshvan	22 cheshvan	21 cheshvan	20 cheshvan	10 19 cheshvan	18 cheshvan	9
Vayera	)						
9:00am Services in Kol Israel Chapel with Torah Study immediately after W/Rabbi Jon Nelson (IN-person & ZOOM)	6:00pm Bnei Mitzvah and Shabbat Services W// Rabbi Jon Nelson (IN-person & ZOOM)						
8 17 cheshvan	7 16 cheshvan	o 15 cheshvan	U 14 cheshvan	4 13 cheshvan	₩ 12 cheshvan	11 cheshvan	N
Lech Lecha					28 29 30 31		26 27
WRabbi Jon Nelson (IN-person & ZOOM)					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	ซี ฟี ซ 20 ฌื ๑
10 cheshvan					DECEMBER S M T W T F S		σ <b>Σ</b>
SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY	S
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November cheshvan kislev



#### **NOVEMBER 2025**

#### To be read 11/7

David Faro
Ludwig Baer
Nathan Goldstein
Harry Eisen
Molly Vaxler
Mabel Goodman Crager
Evan Roscoe Hawes
David Shapiro
Samuel Sosno
Bella Mayer Bluestein
Kathleen Carabelle
Jimmy Goodman Williams
Meyer Krasnow
Sadye Williams Schlapik

#### To be read 11/14

Betty Bogan
Clara Davis
Alexander Feigelson
Meyar Goodman
Leah Greenberg
Rose Krasnow
Miriam Bogan Rogers
Kalman Walker
Lena K. Loewenstein
Abraham Franklin
Benjamin Bender
Morris Davis
Harris Zeve
Ralph Israel Brookner
Celia Jankelson

#### To be read 11/21

Richard Harold Klein Hilda R. Michaels Mae Abelman **Leon Kassoff** William A. Oshman Jennie Davis **Ruth Frank** William Klugman Fred Simon William Blieden **Lottie Rozner** Evelvn N. Schackman Dr. Herbert Goldstein R.C. Harris Clara Miller **Rose Green Moskowitz** Lizabell Williams Baer Sadie S. Green John Stuart Katz **Marvin Peltz Grace Saxon Minnie Spector** 

#### To be read 11/28

Louis Brookner Eli Engle Rose Greenberg Marvin H. Rosinger Richard Bennett Nathan Hyman **Hymen Spector Betty Greenberg** Jacob Sharfstein Justina Goldstein Tillie W. Kaufman Herta Mendelson Selma Zuber Rosenthal **Morris Schnitzer** Seame Feinberg Katz **David Lefkovits** Eva B. Segal Mollie Weintraub Dr. Richard Haves **Braine Sharfstein** 

## **Floral Fund**

Please consider honoring the memory of your loved ones by sponsoring the Pulpit flowers for our Friday evening Shabbat Service.

Temple Emanuel observes the Yahrzeits of approximately 1,100 people during the course of the year.

The suggested minimum contribution to the Floral Fund is \$25.00.



# TEMPLE EMANUEL SOCIAL JUSTICE MITZVAH OPPORTUNITIES NOVEMBER 2025 AND BEYOND

The theme that President Cynthia Wolf has shared for her term encourages our Congregational Family and Friends of Temple Emanuel to be more empathetic, more patient, and even kinder... more appreciative, more loving, and more involved or reinvolved. Therefore, TESJ incorporates those values into our Social Justice projects as we continue to make a tikkun olam difference in the lives of those we know and those that we do not know...in Beaumont and Beyond.

OVER \$13,000.00 has been distributed thus far in 2025. The total amounts of *Tzedakah* donated to the Social Justice Fund of Temple Emanuel will be in the Annual Report of Temple Emanuel Social Justice Committee.

THANK YOU for all the times that you have said *HINEINI* (HERE I AM) in supporting our projects some of which are listed below in alphabetical order, and THANK YOU for considering any of the following as part of our Love Thy Neighbor Initiative fpr additional *Tzedakah* gift in 2025:

<u>American Friends of Israel Navy SEALS</u> (AFINS) as support for IDF Special Forces

Beaumont Pets Alive which is a no-kill animal shelter with food/veterinarian

<u>Catholic Charities</u> for Brenda's Blessing Bags (formerly TESJ Project for Homeless)

<u>Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles</u> for wildfire victim relief <u>Jewish Federation of North America</u> for Israel Emergency Relief <u>Jewish National Fund</u> (JNF) for rebuilding in Israel

Kosher for Passover food for Jewish soldiers in AFRICOM

**MAZON** – Jewish Response to Hunger

<u>Nutrition & Services for Seniors</u> for food insufficient senior <u>Pasadena Jewish Temple & Center</u> for rebuilding assistance following wildfire

<u>Shalom Austin</u> which provides grants from donated funds to flood victims

**Some Other Place** for local soup kitchen

<u>Southeast Texas Food Bank</u> for the at risk of all ages in all counties of SETX

<u>Stable-Spirit</u> for equine assisted scholarship therapy for those in need

## FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN MAKING A TZEDAKAH DIFFERENCE,

THANK YOU from 2025 Temple Emanuel Social Justice Committee

Dear Congregational Family and Friends of Temple Emanuel,

TESJ Committee provides a *plethora* of TORAH IN ACTION opportunities to support Temple Emanuel's *Love Thy Neighbor* Initiative. PLEASE designate what you want your *tikkun olam mitzvah* dollars to support. Here's how to support what speaks to your heart:

- 1. Please write a check payable to Temple Emanuel with Memo Note for Social Justice/the name of the TESJ project or projects that you wish to support and how much for each.
- 2. OR, please send your check(s) to Temple Emanuel but payable to the specific non-profit(s). Your check(s) will be included with the letter(s) written to the non-profits.
- 3. OR, please call Sarah Pessink in Temple Office 409.832.6131 to charge your gift of *Tzedakah* to your credit card.
- 4. OR, please visit <u>www.emanuelbeaumont.org</u> and click on the DONATE button.
- 5. Temple Emanuel, P. O. Box 109, Beaumont, TX 77704

Please consider making a *Tzedakah* Gift to Temple Emanuel Social Justice Fund THANK YOU!



## Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights starts sundown December 14, 2025.

Send locally made cards! Our SETX not-for-profit workshop for the disabled has designed two beautiful cards for this joyous season!

## 10 blank inside cards & envelopes for \$12.00

Cards are printed when ordered. Cards are 5x7.

Temple CONTACT: Marilyn Manson-Hayes to order cards ASAP cell 615-972-2402 mmansonhayes@gmail.com
Pick-up at Shabbat or arrange delivery.

Ability Central Works has a shop at their 11<sup>th</sup> Street location with their handmade items for Sale. Shop 9-3 pm Monday thru Friday.

ORDER ON THE WEBPAGE: abilitycentralworks.org

## Order cards and support local disability INDUSTRY!











### **Ability Central WORKS**

Nonprofit Organization 2470 N 11th St, Beaumont, TX 77703

The mission of ACW is to enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities through productivity and purpose.

abilitycentralworks.org

# 10<sup>th</sup> Rabbi Samuel Rosinger Humanitarian Award Dinner has been postponed until Thursday, October 15, 2026

# REMINDER that in 2024, we established Temple Emanuel Beaumont Love Thy Neighbor Scholarship Lamar University Foundation

Additional money can be added to the Endowed Scholarship in either of the following ways:

- 1. Donation to Temple Emanuel designating your contribution to the Lamar Foundation for Temple Emanuel Beaumont Love Thy Neighbor Scholar ship
- 2. Donation directly to Lamar Foundation for Temple Emanuel Beaumont Love Thy Neighbor Scholarship: P.O. Box 11500 Beaumont, TX 77710

THANK YOU!
(October 2025 Bulletin)

## Temple Emanuel Mission Statement: A sacred Jewish journey to enrich lives Core Values:

- We believe the Jewish life-journey has the power to change lives.
- We are committed to lifelong learning.
- We are committed to meaningful, relevant, and engaging worship.
- IV. We are committed to being an inclusive community open to everyone who wishes to join us for worship and study.
- V. We are committed to our sacred responsibility of being a "light unto the nations" as the Jewish voice of Southeast Texas.
- VI. We are committed to being a part of the worldwide Jewish community.
- VII. We are committed to the survival and welfare of the State of Israel.

### **2025** Temple Emanuel Board of Trustees

Cynthia Wolf - President; Sherry Horwitz - President-Elect; Cheryl Barenberg - Treasurer/Sisterhood President; Bene' Rutman - Secretary; Mike Getz - Brotherhood President; Rita Davis, Stephen Diamond, Robin Goebel, Nancy Meyers, Dan Neel, Norma Sampson, Janet Shackelford, Mike Spector, William Spector, Laura Thomas

#### COMMITTEES (\*chairperson):

#### **All Building Connections**

\*Sherry Horwitz, \*Laura Thomas, Cate Carabelle, Dawn & Joel Berger, Robin Goebel, Beverly Hickman, Susan & Wayne Margolis, Janet & Richard Shackelford, Rabbi Jon Nelson

#### **Brotherhood Officers**

Mike Getz, President TBD, Treasurer TBD, Secretary TBD, First Vice-President TBD, Second Vice-President Bruce Hoffer, Past-President

#### **Building & Grounds**

\*Mike Spector, Caleb Fontenot, Gene Thomas

#### **By-Laws/Policies**

\*Marleen Swerdlow, Alan Sampson

#### Cemetery

\*Alan Sampson, Arlette Hoffer, Bruce Hoffer, Nancy Meyers, Mike Spector, Gene Thomas

## Facility Site Usage \*Cheryl Barenberg

#### **Finance**

\*Cheryl Barenberg, Stephen Diamond, Sherry Horwitz, Dan Neel, Michael T. Wolf

**Humanitarian Award Committee** \*Cynthia Wolf, Cheryl Barenberg, Rita Davis, Robin Goebel, Marilyn Manson-Hayes, Sherry Horwitz, Kathy Johnson, Susan & Wayne Margolis, Nancy Meyers, Norma Sampson, Laura & Gene Thomas, Emily Wheeler

#### **Insurance Committee**

\*Michael T. Wolf, Gene Thomas, Dan Neel

#### **Investment Advisors**

\*Cheryl Barenberg, Sherry Horwitz, Dan Neel, Michael T. Wolf

## **Long Range Planning Committee** \*Cynthia Wolf, Cheryl Barenberg, Rita

Davis, Stephen Diamond, Mike Getz, Robin Goebel, Dan Neel, Sherry Horwitz, Nancy Meyers, Sarah Pessink, Bene' Rutman, Norma Sampson, Janet Shackelford, Mike Spector, William Spector, Laura Thomas

#### Membership

\*Robin Goebel, Rita Davis, Sherry Horwitz, Arlette & Bruce Hoffer

#### Music

\*TBD, Angela Pickering, & Rabbi Jon Nelson

Passover 2nd Night Seder \*Cheryl Barenberg, Sherry Horwitz, Wendie Nordgren

#### **Public Affairs**

\*Norma Sampson, Emily Wheeler

#### Ritual/Worship

\*Marleen Swerdlow, Rita Davis, Caleb Fontenot, Robin Goebel, Maggie Harris, Sherry Horwitz, Rabbi Jon Nelson

\*Stephen Diamond, Cheryl Barenberg, Sherry Horwitz, Sarah Pessink, Mike Spector, Michael T. Wolf

**Security Grant Proposal** \*Cheryl Barenberg, \*Sarah Pessink, Stephen Diamond, Sherry Horwitz, Mike Spector, Michael T. Wolf

#### **Sisterhood Officers and Committee**

Cheryl Barenberg, President Sherry Horwitz, Co-Vice President Laura Thomas, Co-Vice President Wendie Nordgren, Recording Secretary Lori Alter, Corresponding Secretary Robin Goebel, College Connection **Kathy Johnson**, Treasurer **TBD**, Parliamentarian

#### **Beverly Hickman & Lois Rutman,**

Members- at-Large **TBD**, Religious Living Religious Coordinator

Cynthia Wolf, Camp Liaison Laura Thomas, Memorial Book Janet Shackelford, District

Representative TBD, Birthday Luncheon

Marleen Swerdlow, O'neg Shabbat Hospitality

Sisterhood Board, Fall Mahjongg Tournament

Lois Rutman, Mammogram Sponsorship Dauphine Center

Sherry Horwitz, Tree of Life

TBD, Sukkot Dinner
Bene` Rutman, Chanukah Dinner
Sherry Horwitz, Cheryl Barenberg, Sisterhood-Brotherhood Shabbat Sherry Horwitz, Break-the-fast

**Social Justice**\*Cynthia Wolf, Rita Davis, Judy Granger,
Marilyn Manson-Hayes, Arlette & Bruce Hoffer, Pat Klein, Susan & Wayne
Margolis, Wendie & Joe Nordgren, Kate
Roberts, Regina Rogers, Norma Sampson,
William Spector, Laura Thomas, Margaret
Whipkey, Sage Wiess

#### Transition

\*Cynthia Wolf, Robin Goebel, Sherry Horwitz, William Spector