

WINTER 2025



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TEMPLE EMANUEL'S PURIM SPIEL THEME IS

MOANA

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Read Cantor Kalix's
article for more
information about
how to get involved!





T'Filah

WORSHIP & TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE

Friday Afternoon Torah Study at 1:00pm

While the word "catechism" is frequently associated with Catholicism, in the late 1700s and early 1800s Jewish scholars borrowed this format for manuals of instruction about Judaism. Together we will explore some of these documents in translation, uncovering what was important to our ancestors and thinking about what has changed in our modern conceptions of our religion. Join Rabbi Meyer for this 45-minute discussion on [Zoom by clicking here](#).

Shabbat Evening Services - Fridays at 7:00pm

Join us for our Shabbat evening services in the Beit HaT'filah. You can also continue to connect with us via [Temple's website](#), [Facebook](#), or [YouTube](#). An electronic copy of Mishkan T'filah, the congregation's prayer book, can be accessed [here](#). Immediately following the service, enjoy a nosh at the oneg and schmooze with fellow congregants!

Shabbat Mornings at 8:00am

8:00am Our Shabbat morning videos will be released on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#). One will include a traditional Aliyah from our Sefer Torah in Hebrew and translation, and the second a brief exposition of how the themes and lessons of the *parasha* (portion) relate to our modern lives.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study - Saturdays at 9:00am

Join Rabbi Meyer or Cantor Jacobson in person at Temple or on [Zoom](#) to discuss the weekly *parasha*.

Havdalah - Saturdays at 8:00pm

Join us virtually on Temple's [Facebook page](#).

Lay-Led Morning Minyan - Sundays at 9:30am

In person in the Beit HaT'filah or click [here](#) to join virtually on Zoom.

Special Shabbatot Fridays at 7:00 PM

January 17

Second Grade Class Service

January 24

Third Grade Class Service

February 7

Scout Shabbat

February 21

Sixth Grade Class Service

February 28

Fourth Grade Class Service

March 7

Seventh Grade Class Service

March 14

Shabbat Purim

March 28

Fifth Grade Class Shabbat

B'nei Mitzvah Services Saturdays at 10:30 AM

February 15

Ezra Schwartz

March 15

Autumn Kennedy

March 22

Alexis Bihary

March 29

Leo Joseph

TEMPLE FAMILY MENSCHENINGS

as of December 25, 2024

SHALOM!

A warm welcome goes to new (and returning) members of our Temple family:

- **Nilsa Duran & Joshua Sheskin & their daughters, Quinn & Fern Sheskin**
- **Robyn Engel & John Secreto & their daughter, Mina Devorah Engel**
- **Sherri & Todd Jaffee**
- **Samuel Hoffman & Nicole Brynes & their children, Elijah William Hoffman and Ruth Linden Hoffman**
- **Jamie & Robert Mazzie**
- **Roz & Donald Small**
- **Kim Klein & Gregory Small & their daughters, Emma & Samantha Small**
- **Laura & Andrew Lewis & their children, Gabrielle & Thaddeus Lewis**
- **Fran & Ron Landay**
- **Charles Zvirman**
- **Justin Rubenstein & his children, Caleb and Gracella Rubenstein**
- **Jack Stone**

Births

Mazel Tov!

- **Samuel Aaron Johnson Rosenberger**, son of Laura Rosenberger & Richard Johnson, grandson of Barbara & Bryan Rosenberger (September 21)
- **Luke Williams**, son of Missy & Eric Williams, brother of Reed Williams, grandson of Tobi & Jonathan Williams (October 27)
- **Otto William Daniels**, son of Katy and Peter Daniels, brother of Ada Daniels, grandson of Laura and Jon Daniels (November 28)

We Mourn the Loss of:

- **Mary Louis Humphrey Pullia**, mother of Sara (Arnie) Klein, grandmother of Sam, Joel & Marissa Klein, (October 29)
- **Fran Cohen**, mother of David & (Meredith) Cohen, (November 5)
- **Michael Kates**, brother of Marcia (Gerald) Rubenstein, uncle of Lynn (Larry) Lebowitz, (December 9)
- **Toby Mills**, mother of John Mills and Leonard Mills, (December 24)

B'nei Mitzvah

- **Ezra Schwartz**, son of Rabbi Jessica Locketz and Larry Schwartz will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, February 15.
- **Autumn Kennedy**, daughter of Dana and Matthew Kennedy will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 15.
- **Alexis Bihary**, daughter of Melissa and Michael Bihary will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 22.
- **Leo Joseph**, son of Kimberly and Andrew Joseph will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 29.

Marriages

Madelyn Rudoy, daughter of Holly and Bruce Rudoy, granddaughter of Judith and the late Israel Rudoy, and niece of Debbie and Paul Rudoy, married Dylan Ensslin November 2, 2024. Mazel tov to the Rudoy family!



A MESSAGE FROM RABBI AARON MEYER

“It is a tree of life to those that hold fast to it and all of its supporters are happy” we read in Proverbs 3:18 and we sing during our Shabbat morning service as we return to Torah to the aron hakodesh. Torah, our source of inherited wisdom and transmitted values, is often referred to using the imagery of trees, as are our hopes for the future: knowledge in the Garden of Eden is represented by a tree ([Genesis 2:9](#)); on Shabbat we sing our hopes that the righteous will flourish like the cedars in Lebanon ([Psalm 92:13](#)); our relationship with God and perhaps our lovers is represented by trees in the [Song of Songs \(2:3\)](#); and more.

It’s small wonder that we have seen the “birthday of the trees” as cause for celebration...and innovation. At its origins, recognizing the age of trees appears to have been more about taxation than celebration as it dictated the rituals for bringing first fruits to the Temple ([Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1:1](#)). The kabbalists in northern Israel, led by Isaac Luria, added mystical and symbolic significance to this date as they began to eat dates (and pomegranates and figs and carobs and 15 types of tree fruits from the land of Israel), thereby transforming an antiquated observance into a modern ritual. The early Zionists continued to draw attention to this renewed holy day, borne of their desire to reconnect the Jewish people to the land, embrace agriculture, and add forests through the Jewish National Fund/[Keren Kayemet Lelsrael](#). And we, today, continue to add new meanings.

Rabbi Arthur Green, professor emeritus at Brandeis and founder of Hebrew College, writes in *Torah of the Earth: Exploring 4,000 Years of Ecology in Jewish Thought*, “As we seek to articulate a Judaism appropriate to a new era of Jewish history, we cannot fail to note that this period begins in the same decades when the human race realizes it has achieved the gruesome possibility of destroying the planet on which we all live.” Dr. Green and the Jewish environmental movement see in Tu B’shevat a kind of Jewish Earth Day: a chance to honor our relationship with the natural world while thinking more carefully about our obligations to till and tend it for future generations.

While we can see in this holiday an evolution of Jewish practice, we also see a continued embrace of Jewish values as old as our tradition itself. “When the Holy One, blessed be God, created Adam the first man, God took him and showed him all the trees in the Garden of Eden. God said to him: ‘See My creations, how beautiful and exemplary they are. Everything I created, I created for you. Make certain that you do not ruin and destroy My world, for there will be no one to mend it after you,’” we read in [Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13](#). We have an obligation to safeguard this world, which we celebrate on Tu B’shevat and actualize every day of the year when we make values-aligned choices.

You have likely seen that the Temple community is making such a choice as we install a new roof and solar panels on our physical facility. This project addresses a critical need for Temple – replacing our aging, actively-leaking roof – while living our Jewish values in a way that will:

- Generate 249,356 kWh of electricity – the equivalent of 25 average family homes – in its first year of operation;
- Offset 87% of Temple’s annual energy consumption;
- Save Temple \$1.4 million dollars over the 30-year warrantied lifetime of the panels.

You can learn more about the project on [Temple’s website](#), including viewing a 3D model of how the panels will look from the sky (they should not be visible from the road). This project is a significant financial lift for our community and we continue to solicit philanthropic contributions from those whose heart so moves them. [Click here to learn more and to support this effort.](#)

While we have made the conscious choice not to begin this work in February on Tu B’shevat but in summer of 2025, we hope this realization of our Jewish environmental values will be ready for the High Holy Days. We will continue to update you with the status of the project and what you might expect as we begin the installation process. Thank you to the many people who have already contributed to this effort and to those who might be considering a gift now!



A MESSAGE FROM CANTOR KALIX JACOBSON

I inevitably get this question as Purim comes around: why do we tell the Purim story every year? It's quite a sad and often disturbing tale, and yet it is one we retell with jubilation on an annual cycle. This year's Purim spiel intends to shine light on this very question, through the unique lens of a different girl who went on a dangerous adventure to save her people.

This year's spiel is based on the movies *Moana 1* and *2*, and was co-written by myself, Kim Rullo, and Jess Silbermann. Featuring fantastical parody songs from *Moana 1* and *2*, this Purim spiel is fun for all ages. All are welcome to join in the spiel—no prior experience in singing or acting required!

If you would like to take part in the Purim Spiel, please click this link and fill out the form:
<https://tinyurl.com/PurimSignups2025>.

If you or a member of your family would like to audition for a lead part, they will need to record a 30 second video of them singing a song from *Moana 1* or *2* and submit it by Thursday, January 9th at this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/MoanaPurim2025>

Purim rehearsals will all take place on Sunday afternoons from 1:30–3pm. We will be holding rehearsals on:
January 12th and 26th;
February 2nd 9th, and 23rd;
and March 2nd and 9th.

The Spiel will be put on during our Shabbat evening service on March 14th.

I hope we can come together and learn just how far we'll go as a community to retell this tale of narrow victory in scary times.

Wishing you a happy Gregorian New Year. See you at rehearsal!
–Cantor Kalix Jacobson



A MESSAGE FROM TEMPLE EMANUEL'S BOARD PRESIDENT, BETH SCHWARTZ

I am writing this message during this holiday season of reflection and thanksgiving. As I reflect on this past year and look ahead to the next I am filled with gratitude for our Temple Emanuel community - for our clergy, our staff, our congregational community and our lay leadership. 2024 saw the culmination of our leadership's multi-year strategic planning process to determine the best path forward for Temple Emanuel. Together our members, staff, and clergy determined that it was time for Temple Emanuel to significantly change our membership, finance, and governance structures to maintain relevance in the years to come.

While we now have the structures in place to see Temple Emanuel into the future, it is the people who make Temple Emanuel the special and welcoming place that it is. We, the members form our community and we, along with all those who join in, will continue to be the heart of our community. Without all of us there is no Temple Emanuel. And yes, we are still all members, we still belong to the Temple Emanuel community. The change in our financial structure away from membership dues cannot and will not change the sense of belonging, the community of members that we are. We will feel the continued sense of membership as we continue to engage in our community.

Temple Emanuel is attracting new people - young families, empty nesters, people newly exploring Judaism, those who have a strong connection to our religion and are looking for a new community with which to engage. Temple Emanuel is welcoming because of the friendly people, our dynamic calendar of programs including long-standing experiences intermixed with new opportunities created by our staff and congregants, and our clergy who frame our thousands year old religious traditions and teaching with scaffolding keeping it relevant for us. If you have a programming idea or want to assist in bringing our programs to life, be in touch with Sarah Mangan smangan@templeemanuelpgh.org.

And Temple Emanuel is possible because we sustain it with our financial contributions. AND Temple Emanuel will only be possible in the future if we continue to so sustain in the amount that is meaningful for each of our households. Yes, we have shifted our financial model from a dues-based structure to individualized giving, and we are counting on our Temple Emanuel community to continue to sustain the congregation. While we have other sources of revenue, the vast majority of our support comes from our congregants. Anyone wanting to further discuss their contributions can reach out to Rebecca Closson. 412-279-7600 X 207; rclosson@templeemanuelpgh.org.

I am looking forward to 2025 at Temple Emanuel. I am looking forward to seeing all of you, experiencing all of our programs, and learning from our clergy. Please be in touch with questions, comments, or to be in contact with any of our board members: bes987@gmail.com.

Celebrating Tu B'shevat and Living Our Jewish Values Kate Louik, ECDC Director

Later this winter, Tu B'shevat will be celebrated throughout our classrooms at ECDC. While it may not garner the attention of a high holiday or even Chanukah, Tu B'shevat is one of my favorite days on the Jewish calendar to explore with children. Tu B'shevat, the Jewish "New Year for Trees," is a wonderful opportunity for preschoolers to connect with nature and Jewish traditions. In a Jewish preschool setting, this holiday is often celebrated by engaging children in hands-on activities that celebrate the beauty and importance of trees and the environment.

I invite you to celebrate Tu B'shevat in your own home this winter! You might work with your child to plant seeds in small pots indoors, symbolizing new growth and the nurturing of the environment. Reflect on how trees provide food, shelter, and oxygen, and think together about how you might work collaboratively to care for their new plants, teaching them responsibility and care for living things.

Another fun (and delicious!) way to celebrate is with a "fruit seder," during which children taste a variety of fruits, particularly those associated with Israel. Common fruits include figs, dates, olives, and pomegranates, each with its own significance in Jewish tradition.

During Tu B'shevat, I reflect on the story of Choni from the Talmud. From ReformJudaism.com:

"[Choni] was walking along a road when he saw a man planting a carob tree. Choni asked, "How long will it take for this tree to bear fruit?" "Seventy years," the man replied. Choni then asked, "Are you so healthy that you expect to live that length of time and eat its fruit?" The man answered, "I found a fruitful world because my ancestors planted it for me. Likewise, I am planting for my children."

How can we work together in this new year to make the world a better place for our children and our children's children? I look forward to doing this work of tikkun olam alongside our Temple Emanuel community.

Tu B'shevat Resources:

- [Tu B'Shevat for Kids](#)
- [Tu BiShvat for Families](#)



TORAH CENTER | UPDATE

From Steph McFerron - Torah Center Director

Community, or kehillah, continuously shows up at the center of everything we do in Torah Center. Our faculty are dedicated to fostering strong, meaningful connections among our students and families, as we come together to learn, grow, and celebrate.

One of the highlights of this year has been the invaluable presence of our shinshinit Almog. As a gap-year ambassador from Israel, Almog plays a vital role in creating connections between our students and Israel. Through Almog's involvement, our students have gained a deeper understanding of Israeli culture and have had fun engaging in unique, hands-on experiences that have enhanced their learning and sense of unity.

Family programming has also played an essential role in creating kehillah. Events such as Parent Night Out, Chanukah Cookie Decorating, and Havdalah and Hang are just a few examples of opportunities provided for parents and children.

Our dedicated teachers and teens are committed not only to educating our students but also to growing as a community themselves. This fall, our teachers and madrichim participated in Yom Limud, a day of learning, where they gathered with other Pittsburgh Jewish educators to share ideas, develop new teaching strategies, and socialize with one another.

Finally, our grade-level family services continue to be a highlight. These Shabbat services allow families to come together and participate, creating a sense of belonging for old and young alike. Not involved in our Torah Center program? Keep an eye on the weekly Temple Happenings and join us for one of our grade level services to see their learning in action. I would love to see you there!

I continue to be so grateful to all who are a part of this beautiful community! Wishing you and yours a wonderful New Year!



JANUARY PROGRAMMING AT TEMPLE EMANUEL



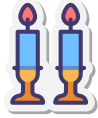
Crafting Kulanu Group

January 7th & January 27th at 6:00 PM

Bring a craft you are working on and snacks to enjoy together in *kehillah*. [RSVP here.](#)

KIDDish Club

Friday, January 10th at 5:30 PM



Join us for our monthly Shabbat service for families with children 0-6 years old! Email [Sarah Mangan](#) to learn more and RSVP.

Kids of Steel

Sunday, January 12th after Torah Center

Kids of Steel is a training program that helps motivate kids and their families to get moving. The program is available at more than 200 schools in western Pennsylvania! Our Temple Emanuel Kids of Steel team is training for the Pittsburgh Kids Marathon on May 3rd, 2025. Want to join in? Email [Steph McFerron](#) for more information!

Team Sandwich:

Tuesday, January 21st at 1:00 PM

Join us to address food insecurity in the Pittsburgh region by making and donating sandwiches every third Tuesday of the month. Drop-off is at 1:00 pm.

Email [Susie Hommel](#) to sign up and learn more!

MOTE+ Brews Night

Thursday, January 16th at 7:30 PM

Join MOTE+ at [OTB Bicycle Cafe](#) at Hastings. RSVP to [Sarah](#).

Shabbat of Service

Saturday, January 18th at 1:00 PM

Join us in an act of *Tikkun Olam* as we do a post-holiday pantry clean at SHIM. Email [Cantor Kalix](#) for more information!

Play Mahj!

Sunday, January 19th at 11:00 AM

Join in for table games of Mahjong at the Galleria. RSVP to [Sarah](#).

WTE+ Book Club

Thursday, January 23rd at 7:00 PM

Join WTE+ to discuss *A Thousand Tiny Stitches* by Stephanie Claypool and chat with the author! [RSVP here.](#)

Abrahamic Table

A Journey of Coexistence, Mutual Respect, and Understanding

Join us for a series of engaging conversations that bring together the wisdom and shared values of the Abrahamic faiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. These events are designed to foster dialogue, promote empathy, and explore the importance of coexistence in a diverse world.

Event Schedule for All Dates:

6:30 - 7:00 PM: Light Refreshments

7:00 - 7:30 PM: Keynote Speeches

7:30 - 8:00 PM: Q&A Session

[Click here for RSVP](#)

Or Scan The QR Code



Coexistence & Mutual Respect in a Diverse Society: Lessons from Abrahamic Faiths
November 18th, 2024
Turkish Cultural Center
Pittsburgh (TCCP)

The Role of Religious People in Modeling a Better Future
January 13th, 2025
Temple Emanuel of South Hills

The Importance of Empathy & Relationship to Understand the 'Other' in Abrahamic Traditions
February 10th, 2025
St. Paul's Episcopal Church



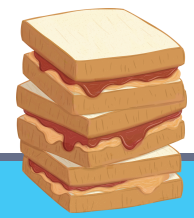
SPiEL REHEARSALS START IN JANUARY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26



FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING AT TEMPLE EMANUEL



KIDDish Club

Friday, February 7th at 5:30 PM

Join us for our monthly Shabbat service for families with children 0-6 years old! Email [Sarah Mangan](mailto:Sarah.Mangan@templeemanuelpgh.org) to learn more and RSVP.

Shabbat of Service

Saturday, February 8th at 1:00 PM

Join us in an act of *Tikkun Olam* as we volunteer with Global Links. Email [Cantor Kalix](mailto:Cantor.Kalix@templeemanuelpgh.org) for more information!

Annual Super Bowl Party

Sunday, February 9th at 5:30 PM



Save the date to join MOTE+ for their annual family-friendly Super Bowl Party! More details coming soon!

JAMIE'S DREAM TEAM AND TEMPLE EMANUEL OF SOUTH HILLS PRESENTS
DANCING FOR DREAMS
DANCE -A- THON

Dancing For Dreams Dance-A-Thon

Saturday, February 22nd

Temple Emanuel's 7th Grade Torah Center class is hard at work embodying our Jewish values. We're partnering with a remarkable organization, Jamie's Dream Team, that provides assistance to qualifying individuals who are handicapped, disabled, terminally ill, severely injured, or suffering from a serious medical condition, disease, or trauma.

Our class is divided into teams and each team has a child waiting for their dream to be granted. You can help! Join us for the Dance-A-Thon to help raise money or make a contribution as an event sponsor!

To learn more or become a sponsor, please email Steph McFerron at smcferron@templeemanuelpgh.org.

BRONZE Business/Name on Swag Bag Handout \$54	SILVER Business/Name on Swag Bag Handout Business/Name on Signage Raffle Tickets \$90	GOLD Business/Name on T-shirt Business/Name on Swag Bag Handout Business/Name on Signage Raffle Tickets \$180	PLATINUM Business/Name on T-Shirt Name on Event Signage Name in Swag Bag Handout Raffle Tickets 50/50 Tickets \$360	DIAMOND Business/Name on T-shirt Business/Name on Event Signage Business/Name on Swag Bag Handout Business/Name on Advertisements Raffle Tickets 50/50 Tickets (2) Event Tickets \$540
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Team Sandwich:

Tuesday, February 18th at 1:00 PM

Join us to address food insecurity in the Pittsburgh region by making and donating sandwiches every third Tuesday of the month. Drop-off is at 1:00 pm.

Email [Susie Hommel](mailto:Susie.Hommel@templeemanuelpgh.org) to sign up and learn more!



SPiEL REHEARSALS iN FEBRUARY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23



WTE+ Tu B'shevat Seder

Thursday, February 13th at 7:30 PM

Join WTE+ and Rabbi Emily Meyer for a Tu B'shevat seder with friends! More details coming soon!



Play Mahj!

Sunday, February 16th at 2:00 PM

Join in for table games of Mahjong at Temple. RSVP to [Sarah](mailto:Sarah.Mangan@templeemanuelpgh.org).

Did you know that Temple Emanuel also has a choir, a Grandparents Group, and GSA Groups? Want to get involved? Email [Sarah Mangan](mailto:Sarah.Mangan@templeemanuelpgh.org) at smangan@templeemanuelpgh.org for more information!

MARCH PROGRAMMING AT TEMPLE EMANUEL



Shabbat of Service

Saturday, March 8th at 10:00 AM

Join us in an act of *Tikkun Olam* as we volunteer to help the Caring Community with Mishloach Manot bags for Purim. Email [Cantor Kalix](#) for more information!

Moana Movie Showing & Lunch

Saturday, March 8th at 12:00 PM



Save the date to join us for a family-friendly lunch and *Moana* showing ahead of our Temple Emanuel Purim Spiel.

Pop Culture Purim Party for 21+

Saturday, March 8th at 7:30 PM

Join us in celebrating Purim and pop culture for this year's 21+ Purim party and costume contest! Relive 2024's brat summer, hold space for the lyrics of "Defying Gravity," pay tribute to Moo Deng, or remember your own favorite pop culture moment through your costume or on the dance floor! More details coming soon!

Hamantaschen Baking Workshop

Sunday, March 9th at 2:00 PM



Join Temple Emanuel caterer Melinda Freed to learn how to make hamantaschen cookies for Purim! This intergenerational workshop is open to all ages of people who are ready to learn in the kitchen! [RSVP by Friday, March 7th to Sarah.](#)

Megillah Series: Purim

Monday, March 10th at 7:00 PM

Want to learn more about the Megillah, how it's read, and where it came from?

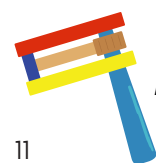
Join Cantor Kalix for the first in a series of multi-access classes on the 5 megillot! [Click here to learn more about this series.](#)



KIDDish Club

Friday, March 14th at 5:30 PM

Join us for our monthly Shabbat service for families with children 0-6 years old! Email [Sarah Mangan](#) to learn more and RSVP.



Bring a box of Mac N' Cheese to our service and Purim Spiel on Friday, March 14th and use it as your grogger through the spiel!

Donations will support SHIM.

Team Sandwich:

Tuesday, March 18th at 1:00 PM

Join us to address food insecurity in the Pittsburgh region by making and donating sandwiches every third Tuesday of the month. Drop-off is at 1:00 pm.

Email [Susie Hommel](#) to sign up and learn more!

M@ANA PURIM

Shabbat Service & Purim Spiel

Friday, March 14th at 7:00 PM

Purim meets *Moana* in this year's spiel full of song parodies and Temple Emanuel performers! Join us for a brief Shabbat evening service, followed by an original spiel by Cantor Kalix Jacobson, Kim Rullo, and Jess Silbermann, inspired by the songs of *Moana* and *Moana 2*.

South Hills Community Purim

Carnival at the JCC!

Sunday, March 16th

Join the South Hills Community for a family-friendly Purim Carnival for families hosted by the JCC, Temple Emanuel, Beth El, and PJ Library! More details coming soon!

Mahj for a Cause

Sunday, March 23rd at 2:00 PM

Join in for table games of Mahjong at Temple to support Sharsheret. RSVP to [Sarah](#).



SPIEL REHEARSALS

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

\$530,000



Thank you for helping Temple Emanuel "Raise the Roof" during Giving Tuesday!

Together, we raised more than \$530,000 toward our \$750,000 goal during our Giving Tuesday campaign, enabling us to replace Temple Emanuel's aging roof and install solar panels that will bring us closer to living our Jewish values of sustainability while creating a brighter financial future for our community.

While we didn't reach the full goal, the strength of your response demonstrates how deeply our congregation believes in Temple Emanuel as the hub of Reform Jewish life in the South Hills. Your generosity ensures we can continue to support the Jewish community during lifecycle events (baby namings, b'nei mitzvah, weddings, and funerals), educate more than 100 kids in our innovative Torah Center program, build community through social and volunteer programming, celebrate Shabbat and Holidays, and so much more.

As we move forward, Temple Emanuel will continue to accept philanthropic gifts to help further reduce the financial burden of this vital project. [Click here to learn more](#) and to [make a contribution](#). In the years to come, we anticipate launching a second campaign to "burn the mortgage" and fully pay off this project, ensuring that Temple Emanuel remains resilient and sustainable for generations to come.

This year's Giving Tuesday campaign exemplifies the commitment and love that define our congregation. Your support has not only funded critical improvements but also affirmed our shared vision of enriching lives and strengthening Jewish life in our community. Thank you for making an impact and helping us "Raise the Roof" on our shared future.

If you'd like to contribute further or have questions about the project, please reach out to [Rabbi Aaron Meyer](#) or [Rebecca Closson](#).

Thank You for Your Support!



Alt, Ava & Peter
Baran, Lori & Artie
Bihary, Melissa & Michael
Blank, Anne & Thomas
Blanke, Miriam & Timothy
Blattner, Lori & Steven
Bouer, Cindy & Jack
Brant, Gary
Breslin, Ellen
Caplan, Marjorie & Joel
Chotiner, Barbara & Gerald
Claypool, Stephanie & Andrew
Closson, Rebecca & Brian
Cobbett, Rita
Cook, Deborah & Kenneth
Cooper, Janet & Gerald
Cothran, Mary
Del, Jamie & Steven
Diamondstone, Joyce
Dreifuss, Diane & Frank
Drook, Ellen & Tim
Dvorin, Lisa
Dvorin, David
Edelson, Jessica & Robert
Finder, Laryn & Moses
Finke, Michael & Oyler, Elizabeth
Fitting, Andrea & Jeffrey
Frey, Sara & Robert
Friedman, Howard
Gold, Margaret & Louis
Goldberg, JoAnn
Goldberg, Carol & Theodore
Golomb, Sandra & Lee
Goodman, Lisa & Robert
Goodman, Erica & William
Gordon, Alex
Gorenstein, Margaret
Gray, Joseph
Greenberg, Barbara
Handen, Ben & Ploof, Dianna

Harlan, Iris & Christopher
Hausman, Robin & Steven
Hepps, Terri & David
Hoffman, Leslie & David
Hommel, Susan & Richard
Horowitz, Carol & Irv
Iskoe, Ilene & Joel
Jacobson, Kalix
Jaffee, Sherri & Todd
Jennings, Nancy & Baxter, Paul
Joseph, Nancy & Will
Julian, Susan & Marc
Lamacchia, Sherry
Leefer, Ilene & Edward
Lebowitz, Lynn & Larry
Levine, Molly & Shawn
Levinthal, Beth & Charles
Levinthal, Sarah & David
Lewis, Laura & Andrew
Locketz, Jessica & Schwartz, Larry
Louik, Howard & Hirschfield Louik,
Betty Jo
Louik, Katharine & Matthew
Luchinsky, Irene & Beitman, Allen
Mahler, Alice & Mark
Mangan, Sarah & Joshua
Mannheimer, Darlene
Markowitz, Michelle & Pace
McCallum, Elizabeth & Scott
Metzger, Sidney
Meyer, Emily & Aaron
Meyer, Joy
Meyers, Lee
Misurda, Samantha
Moidel, Joseph
Naft, Caroline & Erik
Nesvisky, Judith
Novice, Ruth
Pardo, Amy & Anthony
Pollon, Dorothy & Neal

Press, Judith & Allan
Radunzel, Peter & Diamond, Aviva
Richardson, Linda & Paul
Rosenberger, Barbara & Bryan
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Sandra
Rubenstein, Marcia & Gerald
Rubenstein, Justin
Rubin, Lynn & Harvey
Rudoy, Holly & Bruce
Rudoy, Deborah & Paul
Sappir, Eileen & Mark
Schmerling, Veronica & Jonathan
Schneider, Debra & Ronald
Schorr, Bunny & Alan
Schwartz, Beth & Matthew
Schwartz, Rebecca and Anna
Shrager, Linda
Shure, Lori & Bob
Silberman, Anna Lisa
Silbermann, Amy & Ari
Silbermann, Jessica & Joshua
Silverstein, Elisia & Charles
Simon, Nanette & Jeffrey
Sloan, Linda
Spock, Paula & Robert
Steinfeld, Lisa & Aaron
Statsinger, Judy
Stotter, Lois & Richard
Trachtenberg, Barbara
Warren, Jeffrey & Francolini, Gail
Weisberg, David & Hommel, Rikki
Weissman, Nancy
Weygandt, Clemens & Smith, Alexis
Wolf, Barbara & Milton
Wolkoff, Carol & Marc
Young, Laura & Jeffrey
Zoffer, Rachel & Steven
Zolot, Rita & Stuart

Thank you to the donors who help sustain Temple Emanuel through contributions to our various funds!

Donations to Temple Funds as of December 20, 2024

Cantor Jacobson Discretionary Fund

Donor	In Honor
Iris & Chris Harlan	Naming of Penelope Zahava Lee Harlan
Irene Luchinsky & Allen Beitman	Appreciation for the High Holy Day Services
Laryn & Moses Finder	In Appreciation of Cantor Kalix Jacobson
Penny & David Abrams	In Appreciation of Cantor Kalix Jacobson
Sarah & Alicia Kozel	In Appreciation of Cantor Kalix Jacobson

Cemetery Beautification Fund (continued)

Donor	In Memory
Marlene Naft	Ethel Weiss
Marlene Naft	Sally Naft
Penny & David Abrams	Ida Goldstein
Randy Albelda	Anne & Beto Albelda
Randy Albelda	Rebecca & Rudy Cohen Donation
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Roz & Ed Friedman	Robert Furst
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Shelley Rudoy	Donation
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Sondra Gefsky	Jeanne Glasspool
Stuart Glasspool	Donation
Stuart Scheinholtz	Donation
Stuart Schlansky	Donation
Veronica & Jon Schmerling	Donation
Veronica & Jon Schmerling	Daniel Schmerling
Veronica & Jon Schmerling	Lazlo Lowy
Wendy Freed	Donation

Brenda & Larry Miller Memorial Caring Community

Donor	In Honor
Laryn & Moses Finder	In appreciation of the Caring Community
Lori & Steve Blattner	Lee Golomb's Special Birthday
Lori Blattner	Bunny Schorr's birthday
Shelley & Bob Cohn	In appreciation of the Caring Community
Susan & Richard Hommel	Allan & Judy Pressman's granddaughter becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Susan & Richard Hommel	Birth of Barbara & Bryan Rosenberger's grandson

Donor	In Memory
Robert Miller	Brenda & Larry Miller
Shelley & Howie Miller	Brenda & Larry Miller
Susan & Richard Hommel	Howard Friedman's sister-in-law

Cemetery Beautification Fund

Donor	In Memory
Anne Watzman	Alfred Teplitz
Arlene Roos	Barry P. Roos
Betsy Epel	Donation
Carol Simon	Elwin & Vivian Simon
Howard Friedman	Donation
Jack Mannheimer	Donation
Jason Paransky	Donation
Jeff Levin	Sandra Levin
Jim Genstein	Donation
Joseph Moidel & Alexandra Tauson	Israel Rudoy
Laryn & Moses Finder	Donation
Laurey Simkin-Silverman	Shayna Simkin
Laurey Simkin-Silverman & Steve Silverman	Bess Heisman
Leah Rubenstein	Donation
Linda Silverman	Clarence Rosenberg
Lynn & Harvey Rubin	Susan Rubin
Marcy Grupp	Anita & Edward Grupp

Diskin Music Fund

Donor	In Honor
Irene Luchinsky & Allen Beitman	Rebecca Closson's High Holiday Musical Performance

General Fund

Donor	In Honor
Barbara & Bryan Rosenberger	Birth of Anna Silberman & John Guehl's grandson
Barbara Greenberg	Moses Finder's special birthday
Barbara Greenberg	Birth of Barbara & Bryan Rosenberger's grandson
Barbara Greenberg	Marriage of Maddie Rudoy
Beth & Matt Schwartz	In appreciation of the Temple Emanuel Staff
Carrie Akella Jenkins	In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Eleanor Bahm	In appreciation of Ruth Novice's friendship & support
Eleanor Bahm	Laryn & Moses Finder's Anniversary
Eleanor Bahm	Marriage of Maddie Rudoy
Felix Weygandt	In honor of Mrs. Ginsburg - Thank you for a great year!
Janet Schmidt	In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Joshua Lamb	In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Kate Rudd	In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Laryn & Moses Finder	In Appreciation
Laryn & Moses Finder	Lee Feldman's Recovery

General Fund (continued)

Donor	In Honor
Laryn & Moses Finder	Mazel Tov to Lori & Steve Blattner on their new home
Laryn & Moses Finder Leslie & David Hoffman	Lee Golomb's Special Birthday Birth of Barbara & Bryan Rosenberger's grandson
Leslie & David Hoffman	Owen Hepps becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Linus Weygandt	In honor of Jamie Halesy, Thank you for a great year!
Liz & Scott McCallum Marcy Bernson	In appreciation of Melinda Freed In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Nancy & Bill Berkowitz	Birth of Lucy Greenberg, granddaughter of Barbara Greenberg
Onie Weygandt	In honor of Mrs. Claypool - thank you for a great year!
Roni & Mark Magalotti	In appreciation of High Holy Day Guest Passes
Svenja & Markus Drouven	In appreciation of the Kiddush Club

Donor	In Memory
Amy Bahm	Lorraine Mundell
Anatilie Seewald	Mort Goldblatt
Andrea & Jeff Fitting	Paul Fitting
Andrea & Jeff Fitting	M. Joanna Fitting
Anna Lisa Silberman	Jacob Radman
Anne & Tom Blank	Lorraine M. Simon
Annette Resnick	Edward M. Resnick
Barbara Trachtenberg	Dorothy Wiener
Bernice Slifkin	Irving Slifkin
Bernice Slifkin	Betty Edelman
Betty Jo & Howard Louik	Melva Hirschfield
Cheri & Joel Schwartz	Steve Israel
Debbie & Ron Schneider	Peter Slania
Eleanor Bahm	Gary Bahm
Joanne & Marv Levin	Jack Levin
Joy Meyer	Sandra Litsky
Joy Meyer	Howard Rosenberg
Laryn & Moses Finder	Melvin Bleiberg
Laura & Brian Davidson	Phyllis Pisetsky Schloss
Laura & Brian Davidson	Benjamin Pisetsky
Leslie & David Hoffman	In memory of Michael Kates
Linda Sloan	Maryce Sloan
Linda Sloan	Bob Wolf
Lisa & Mort Wintner	Roslyn Stein Favish
Marcia K. Feinberg & Louis R. Klein	Maxine Soffer
Marcia K. Feinberg & Louis R. Klein	Harry Soffer
Marvin Levin	Lillian Levin
Mary Cothran	Charlotte McCaa
Nicole Brynes	Lore Brynes
Nicole Brynes	Kermit Brynes
Paula Hopkins	Fran Cohen
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Rita & Stuart Zolot	Bernard Zolot
Rita & Stuart Zolot	Marilyn Verk Goldstein
Rita Cobbett	Esther Shore
Roslyn Small	Tessie Plotkin
Ruth Novice	Gil Mintz
Ruth Novice	The Hutchinson Family's mother
Ruth Novice	The Daniels' Family's sister, Barbara

General Fund (continued)

Donor	In Memory
Ruth Novice	Jerome A. Lowenstein
Sandra & Arnold Ruben	Miriam Schatz
Sharon & Eric Perelman	Mary Louise Humphrey Pullia
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Susan & Richard Hommel	Brother of James Israel
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The Brufsky Family	Iva Weiskopf
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Wendy R. Freed & Family	J. Peter Freed
Heidi & Richard Russman	Bernard Rodney
Marcy Bernson	Esther Bernson

Jeanne Glasspool Nursery School Fund

Donor	In Memory
The Glasspool Family	Jeanne P. Glasspool
Erica Jamir	Jeanne P. Glasspool

Holocaust Memorial Garden Fund

Donor	In Memory
Lynn & Harvey Rubin	Frieda Rubin
Lynn & Harvey Rubin	Irwin E. Zimmerman
Peggy & Louis Gold	John Colavincenzo
Peggy & Louis Gold	Gary Gold

Martha Klein Lottman Family Fund

Donor	In Memory
Barbara Trachtenberg	Fran Cohen

Nan Simon ECDC Fund

Donor	In Memory
Nanette & Jeff Simon	Herman Simon
Nanette & Jeff Simon	Richard Casdan
Nanette & Jeff Simon	Donna Germanero
Nanette & Jeff Simon	Lorraine Caruso
Nanette & Jeff Simon	Arthur Simon

Rabbi Mark Joel Mahler Rabbinic Chair Fund

Donor	In Honor
Claire & Mel Vatz	Alice & Mark Mahler's 50th Anniversary

Rabbi Meyer's Discretionary Fund

Donor	In Honor
Anonymous	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Amy & David Bahm	Birth of Samuel Aaron Johnson Rosenberger
Beth Samuel Jewish Center	In Appreciation of the High Holy Day Service
Brittany & Matthew Richards	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Elena & Vyacheslave Rovner	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Elisia & Chuck Silverstein	The wedding of our daughter, Danielle
Howard Friedman	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Irene Luchinsky & Allen Beitman	Appreciation for the High Holy Day Services
Katalin & Myles Zuckerman	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Laryn & Moses Finder	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Penny & David Abrams	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Rochelle Roteman Orrill & Family	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Sandy & Lee Golomb	Bunny Schorr's birthday
Sarah & Alicia Kozel	In Appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Meyer
Westminster Presbyterian Church	In Appreciation of Temple Emanuel

Donor	In Memory
Andrew Leff	Madeline Leff
Carol & Peter Kaplan	Gertrude Tarbis
Joy Meyer	My parents and my sisters
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Naomi & Howard Pittle	Sandra Arlene Pittle
Naomi & Howard Pittle	Rose Appel
Selma Furst	Sarah Furst

Louise "Sissie" Sperling Endowment Fund

Donor	In Honor
Lynn & Carl Bahm	Ellie Bahm's Birthday

Yahrzeit Remembrance Fund

Donor	In Memory
Andrea & Norm Sobel & Family	Raymond Gubernick
Andrea & Norm Sobel & Family	Florence Miriam Gubernick
Beverly Esterman	Benjamin Esterman
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Cheryl & Howard Baskin	Marian Brown
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Joel Caplan	Robert Caplan
Joel Caplan	Jeffrey Caplan
Judith Nesvisky	Allan Nesvisky

Yahrzeit Remembrance Fund (continued)

Donor	In Memory
Ken Kantrowitz	Pearl Bienstock Kantrowitz
Laryn & Moses Finder	Helen Fox
Laryn & Moses Finder	Sam Finder
Layla Ballon	Richard Ballon
Lori & Bob Shure	Marilyn Shure
Lynn & Mark Frumkin	Howard Frumkin
Marilyn & Charles Spierer	Oscar Spierer
Marilyn Spierer	Bernice Siegler
Mindy Spitzer	David Spitzer
Roberta Carr	Evelyne Schutzman
Shelley & Bob Cohn	Irene Lewis
Steve & Terry Erenrich	David Bernstein
Steve & Terry Erenrich	Wilfred Erenrich
Susan Lipsitz	Robert Lipsitz
Susan Lipsitz	Estelle Schechter
Susan Wall	Ada Blain
Wendy R. Freed & Family	Isadore Rotman

Yahrzeit Plaques

Donor	In Memory
Amy & Tony Pardo	Daniel R. Pardo
Andrea & Jeff Fitting	Paul E. Fitting
Andrea & Jeff Fitting	M. Joanna Fitting
Georgia Kent	Lenard W. Kent
Nancy Weissman	Michael B. Weissman
Nancy Weissman	Jacquelin G. Wechsler
Nancy Weissman	Irving "Buddy" Wechsler
Nancy Weissman	Joseph Field

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To make a charitable donation, visit our Donations page here.

Thank you!

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We are here for you!

Please stop by or reach out via phone or email.

Our office is open:
Monday - Thursday, 9AM-2PM
Friday, 9AM-Noon

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