



Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood
29 Dayton Road (Mail registration to: P.O. Box 288)
Waterford, CT 06385
(860) 443-3005

FULL DAY MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

Tuesday, June 10, 2024 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Registration/Breakfast 8:30 – 9:00; Tournament begins at 9:00

- Continental Breakfast & “Home-made” Buffet Lunch including our delicious kugel
- 6 Rounds of Mahjongg
- Cash prizes for top scores
- Bonus prizes for special hands



Your Choice:

Tournament Play: 15 min game max, rotate tables for the full tournament experience
OR

Relaxed Tables: An option if you can't be with us the whole day, not ready for time-limited games, or don't want to rotate tables. Come with a group of friends or we'll find some for you!

Cost: \$50 per person – includes everything above!

To register: Mail tear-off below with \$50 check to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood.

Deadline: Friday, June 6th or when reach capacity. Register early to ensure a spot! **No refunds.**

50/50 CASH RAFFLE: PRE-PAY FOR RAFFLE TICKETS: \$5 EACH, 3 FOR \$10.

If you include payment now, your tickets will be waiting for you.

For more information contact Iris Freeman at ifreegang@aol.com or 860-460-3081

Name: _____ Email: Required _____

Address: _____ TOURNAMENT RULES EMAILED PRIOR TO 6/2
Phone: _____

Check any that apply:

_____ I can bring a mah jongg set and be East (you don't rotate)

_____ Seat me at Novice/Relaxed table only (no time limits)

_____ I am including payment for _____ 50/50 Cash Raffle tickets

Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

We are in the period of the Jewish calendar between Passover and Shavuot called *S'firat Ha-Omer*, the counting of the Omer. The first sheaf of the barley harvest, the Omer offering, was brought to the priest on the day after the Passover festival. The Torah instructs that we should count seven complete weeks from that day, and then on the fiftieth day, Shavuot is to be observed.

As I have noted in previous bulletin articles, Shavuot is associated with the wheat harvest because wheat is planted and matures at a rate that brings its harvest approximately seven weeks after the barley harvest. Rabbi Mark Washofsky in *Jewish Living: A Guide to Contemporary Reform Practice* provides the spiritual link. “[The mitzvah of counting the Omer] can be seen as a means of linking Pesach, the season of our liberation, to its ultimate fulfillment in Shavuot, the season of giving the Torah.

There is no ‘freedom,’ in other words, without Torah, without a system of meaning to be found in Jewish life and existence.” The Torah itself does not associate Shavuot, literally meaning ‘weeks’ as in the counting of the seven weeks, with the giving of the Torah, but instead with a purely agricultural meaning. Alternative names are *Katzir*, meaning ‘harvest,’ and *bikkurim*, meaning ‘first fruits.’ The rabbis connect Pesach and Shavuot, noting, ‘The Torah was given to Israel on the sixth day of the third month’ (Babylonian Talmud, *Shabbat* 86b). This day is Shavuot. Thus, they connected the redemption from slavery to the obligations of freedom.

At our Seder table, we all read the exact words every year, “Make clear to your child on that day: ‘This is because of what Adonai did for **me** when I

myself went forth from Egypt.’” We are to imagine that we were there over 3000 years ago. This imagining aims to build empathy for those oppressed in the present day. But remembrance and empathy are not enough. The Passover rituals also seek to renew in our hearts and minds the purpose of our freedom, which is to accept the obligations of Torah.

Shavuot is the celebration of that acceptance. Between Passover and Shavuot, we count the days by reciting a specific prayer, noting each day by name in the prayer, as if focusing on each footstep from redemption to acceptance. Just as we have a Seder at the beginning of the spiritual journey, we have a *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* at the end.

The *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* is a night of Jewish learning and engaging with Torah. As Jews have experienced both heights of prosperity and depths of despair throughout the millennia, our generational footsteps are firmly planted in these traditions, keeping us together as a people, focused on God’s mission for us to be seekers of justice, emissaries of peace and love, a light to the nations, and caretakers of this world. As the world is currently in great upheaval, it is all the more important that we ground ourselves in our Jewish values and express them in our actions.

We will have a *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, a night of learning and observing Shavuot, on **Sunday, June 1, at 6 PM at Temple Emanu-El**. Our theme is ‘*Tasty Takes on the Ten*.’ Rabbis Alter, Kideckel, Rabinowitz, Schwartz, and I will offer some Jewish teachings about the revelation of the Ten Commandments from surprising angles. To keep the agricultural theme, we’ll also have a cheesecake contest. We encourage bakers to bring their best cheesecake, whether traditional, creative, or

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Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand continued from page 2

vegan. Those who like to eat cheesecake are especially welcome. Sherry Barnes and Roz Etra will bring a festive mood to the evening with music. Of course, we will also include a short *Ma'ariv* service and recite Kaddish. Don't sit at home watching the news. Instead, learn with us, immerse yourself in our values and traditions, and maybe make a new friend too. This is how we get through difficult times.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Marc

President's Message - Armi Rowe

Moms are incredible people. Mine loved to feed people and shared her joy through her confect-ions. I love cooking her recipes and baking with her rolling pin. But most of all, my mom was a very faithful person. You know that saying that we be-come like our moms as we get older? I have found it to be so true. Whether our moms are still physi-cally in our lives or they are angel moms, I believe they always remind us of the values, confidence, and strength which they role modeled for us. Moms have served as our teachers, motivating therapists, nurses, inspirational coaches, and strongest advocates throughout our lives.

I wish all of our Temple family moms a very enjoy-able Mother's Day! I am very grateful to our Tem-ple moms who are busy enough caring for their families yet they find the time to volunteer their time for the betterment of our community.

Thanks for our Temple moms who serve as profes-sional and lay leaders, direct and teach in our reli-gious school, chair or serve in our committees, and lend us a hand in and around our building. We appreciate your loving kindness.

Although as I write this message our first annual Terri Goldsmith Golf Tournament has not yet tak-en place, I am aware of the amount of work it has taken a huge number of people to plan and imple-

ment this event. Thank you to First Vice President and Golf Tournament Chairperson John Murphy for his vision and leadership and to his diligent committee members and all of the sponsors and donors for their generous support. Please refer to our website for a full list of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers. We are so grateful for their time and effort!

The month of May also marks the winding down of religious school classes as the school year con-cludes on Sunday, May 19. School Director Lisa Marcus and Assistant to the Director Amy Orce have once again run the school this past year with meticulous organization, creativity, and tireless dedication. There have been many signs of hope and enthusiasm among our students and their ac-tive year-round participation. Thank you so much to all of our teachers who planned and presented engaging lessons for the kids and the faculty as-sistants who supported them.

Our Board of Trustees is busy finalizing the con-tent of this year's annual report, which doubles as our June Bulletin issue. It will once again be a visu-ally striking report that summarizes all of the work we've done to deliver on our goals for the year. You will receive it 20 days before the annual

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President's Message — Armi Rowe, continued from page 3

meeting which is scheduled on Sunday, June 8 at 10:00 a.m... mark your calendars and please plan to join us.

Lehitra'ot,

Armi

Board Meeting Highlights

1. Due to a very busy events season, the Board agreed to postpone the progressive dinner until the summer or fall. Thanks to those who have already offered to host. We are looking for more hosts.
2. A committee was formed to plan some additional Temple summer activities to maintain engagement leading up to the High Holidays.
3. A Rabbinic Review Committee has been formed. They will present their process plan at the June Board meeting so it will be in place as goals are set for the next year.

Notes from Hazzan Sherry Barnes

The days are getting a bit warmer and the flowers and trees are blooming! It's also wonderful to have light longer in the day. Just a couple of things to think about before summer is upon us.

If you are interested in leading a Summer Shabbat Service, reading Torah, or giving a D'var Torah, a short sermon based on Torah, please contact me at 860-443-3005, and I will be happy to sign you up.

If you are interested in joining the choir for the High Holy Days, let me know this month or in June.

Our 1st Annual Terri Goldsmith Golf Tournament is on May 5, and will support Temple Emanu-El and the Smilow Cancer Hospital. I hope you have signed up to play golf, be a volunteer, or maybe sponsor a hole. If you don't golf, you are welcome to go to the [Terri Goldsmith Memorial Golf Tournament](#) website and sign up for dinner that evening. Terri Goldsmith was a very special person who loved helping others. Sometimes you knew she had helped, but many things she did were done quietly. Terri taught her students how important it

was to do mitzvot. For many years her students would adopt a family to help at Thanksgiving. They would put together a basket of food to make sure this family had a special holiday. Her students also helped a local animal shelter by donating blankets, food, and toys. Terri was a mensch. Just sharing these memories with you puts a smile on my face and reminds me of how special she was and how much I loved her laugh. I'm looking forward to honoring her memory on May 5, by participating in this mitzvah, getting to share stories with others who knew her, and sharing who she was with those who may not.

Thank you to Jeff Elkin for chanting Torah at the Share Shabbat Service.

B'shir,

Hazzan Sherry



Temple Emanu-El Religious School (TERS) - Lisa Marcus, Administrator

It is a busy time of year at TERS. I cannot believe the year is coming to a close! I am in the process of planning out next year, and I have some summer get-togethers on the calendar. I hope some of you can meet up with me over vacation!! Watch the bulletin board and the Bulletin for more information. Also look at Remind and your email, too.

Speaking of get-togethers, we just celebrated our Staff Appreciation Day and many families went out to Walk to End Homelessness this past week. We are proud of all the mitzvah's our TERS families have participated in this past year! Thank you for all the ways you give back to your community. You should feel proud!

We close the year out with a **HUGE STAR-STUDDED FAMILY FUN DAY on May 18** with lots of friends and parents and field games, and even a

BOOK FAIR! You can get a Sneak Peek of the Book Fair on Wednesday Evening, May 14 during and after religious school. We will close the Book Fair out on Wednesday, May 21. Check the school bulletin board for more details.

Many thanks to all of you who donated your time and money to the Religious School throughout the year. We couldn't function at this high a level without you. A very special thanks to those of you who are stepping up to help make our Family Fun Day a Star-Studded Success! Want to see our kids in action? Volunteer to help us out that day by reaching out to me personally at religious-school@tewaterford.org. We would love to have you!

Shalom,
Lisa

Sisterhood -- Barbara Senges, President

Ladies,

In last month's article, we were still anticipating the **Sheryl Faye- Ruth Bader Ginsburg Event**. It far exceeded expectations. It was attended by over sixty members of the Jewish Community and the performance was both extremely entertaining and inspiring. There were rave reviews from all

who attended! We hope to have Sheryl back in 2025-2026 to perform her show on "Eleanor Roosevelt".

Thank you to **Janet Weiss** for hosting our April Book Club and **Suzanne Crawford** for leading the discussion. Thanks once again to **Hazzan Sherry** for leading the Rosh Chodesh Group. We all enjoyed sharing pictures of our mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers and welcoming in the month of Iyar.

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to help-out at the **Terri Goldsmith Memorial Golf Tournament on May 5**. This event honors the memory of our good friend Terri and will contribute much needed funds to both Temple Emanu-El



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Sisterhood -- Barbara Senges, President continued from page 58

and the Smilow Cancer Hospital. Sisterhood donated \$2,500 to the cause.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE

Many of you have already RSVP'd for **Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood End-of-Year Paid-up Membership dinner**, but there is still plenty of time to **RSVP and send in your checks**. Membership Co-chairs, **Nancy Trostler** and **Linda Barnett** have planned a delicious barbecue dinner on **Thursday, May 22 at 6:00 pm** in the Social Hall at Temple Emanu-El. Mail a check for \$20 made out to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood to the Temple Office and RSVP to Nancy Trostler at ntrostler@snet.net by Monday, May 12. We hope to see all of you on May 22! **See the flyer on page 7.**

CHECK OUT THE FLYER in this month's Bulletin.

May 2025

- **Thursday, May 22 at 6:00PM – End of Year Paid-Up Membership Dinner**
- **Thursday, May 29 at 1:00PM – Rosh Chodesh in the Sanctuary**
- **Date To Be Determined – Movie Club** hopes to

see “Bad Shabbos” at the United Theatre in Westerly. This comedy is about an engaged interfaith couple who are about to have their parents meet for the first time at a Shabbat dinner when an accidental death gets in their way.

June 2025

- **Tuesday, June 3 at 6:30PM – Book Club** at the home of Lois Panikoff. We will be reading “Hotel Cuba” by Aaron Hamburger.
- **Wednesday, June 4 at 11:30AM – Lunch at the Gelston House** (for those who RSVP'd) followed by **Ragtime at the Goodspeed** at 2:00PM (for those who have already purchased tickets)
- **Tuesday, June 10 – MAHJONGG TOURNAMENT**
- **Thursday, June 26 at 1:00PM – Rosh Chodesh in the Sanctuary**
- **Date to be Determined – Movie Club**

Happy Spring! Looking forward to seeing you at all our May and June events!

Barbara

SPRING MAHJONGG TOURNAMENT: TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

Don't miss out on all the Mahjongg merriment!!

Our full-day tournament returns on Tuesday, June 10. We will be ready for food, fun, and frolicking starting with continental breakfast, followed by lots of game-playing, home-made lunch, afternoon desserts, and prize money for special hands and to the top winners.

We offer two options: Tournament Play (our most popular, 4 games/hr) and Relaxed Play. If you are newer to the game and not quite ready

for tournament play, or prefer not to commit to a full day, join us at our Relaxed Tables. It's just as much fun, maybe more, and no Excedrin needed.

See the flyer on page 1 with all the details. Send Registration form and checks to the Temple to secure your spot.

Don't hesitate to contact me for any additional information. I love to talk mahj!

Iris Freeman

ifreegang@aol.com or Text/Phone 860-460-3081

New Mahjongg Classes begin- Thursday, May 8, 2025

I will be offering a Six Week Learn to Play Mahjongg class on Thursday afternoons, beginning May 8, from 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

The class will run for a minimum of 6 weeks although I often offer a few extra sessions at the end. Since skills build over the first three weeks, I ask that people make a commitment to come consistently. The following weeks we practice applying the new skills.

Cost of the course: \$50 donation plus \$15 for a National Mah Jongg card.

Space is limited, so please RSVP to me. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Iris Freeman

ifreegang@aol.com or text/phone 860-460-3081

Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop

Hello from the Judaica Shop,

Feel free to make an appointment to meet me at the gift shop anytime. We have fun things for kids, and grownups too. Some new items are mahjong necklaces and keychains for your favorite mahjong player. Contact me at annecohn@qmail.com for an appointment to shop.

Also, if you'd like to order anything from Modern Tribe contact me first. I will send you the link so our synagogue can get a "kick back."

Happy Spring,

Anne



IT'S SPRING!

**That means it's time for the
Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood
End-of-Year Paid-up Membership Dinner**

All Sisterhood members* are invited to join us!
Thursday, May 22nd • 6 pm
Temple Emanu-El in Waterford

Reconnect with Sisterhood friends over a delicious barbecue dinner.
Please let us know if you need a Vegan/plant-based option.

\$20 per person

Mail a check payable to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood
and send by May 12th to:
Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood
Attn: Nancy Trostler
PO Box 288
Waterford, CT 06385

**RSVP to Nancy at ntrostler@snet.net
no later than Monday, May 12th.**

*Contact Nancy if you are not sure if you're a member.
Membership is \$36 per year.

Autumn Meredith Hicks becomes a Bat Mitzvah



Autumn Meredith Hicks will be called to the Torah to become a **Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 3, 2025**. A resident of Stonington, Autumn is a 7th grader at Stonington Middle School, where she excels as a student.

Outside of school and spending time with her family and friends, there is no shortage of activities Autumn likes to participate in. She plays basket-

ball and runs track on her school teams, plays soccer and softball on our town teams, and she even tried lacrosse for the first time this year. Autumn also enjoys swimming on the Mystic Hammerhead swim team, and participates in her school theater program.

Autumn's parents, Clayton and Elyse, and her sister Morgan, are beyond proud of all she has accomplished and the kind, spirited person she is becoming. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with family and friends.



May Shabbat Dinner

Friday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.

A brief but meaningful service in the sanctuary

6:30 p.m. Shabbat Dinner in the Social Hall

RSVP by Monday, May 12

* Please feel free to bring a dessert to share

RSVP for Shabbat Dinner by calling (860) 443-3005 or email office@tewaterford.org and send pre-payment to: Temple Emanu-El, P.O. Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone: _____

Adults: _____ # Children: _____

Vegan Option: _____ Total Enclosed: _____

ADULTS: \$20 each
CHILDREN: \$12 each

2025 Ilson Award Recipient — Susan Fornara

Please join us on Friday, May 23 as we honor Susan Fornara as our 2025 Howard Ilson Award recipient!

As you know, the Howard Ilson Award is presented each year to someone who has provided a lengthy and distinguished array of contributions to Temple Emanu-El. This was the first year for a newly re-formed committee, and it was our pleasure to enthusiastically select Sue, and she accepted her recognition with her usual grace and humility. Sue, Chris, Ryan, and Trevor have been members of the congregation since 2006. She has never been one to seek the limelight, but her efforts have certainly helped the Temple's visibility throughout the area. When you see our logo around town and at local events, that's Sue's work. Sue has always given her time to the Temple without hesitation, actively participating in the

Sisterhood and in events such as Cabaret Night. We have so much that we want to thank her for, so please come to the service on May 24 to hear more.

This was my first year as the Ilson Committee chair, and I want to thank Scott Wolfe and Roberta Reisner-Winograd for helping me through the process. We had a great committee this year, with Barry Feldman, Karen Rosenberg, and Armi Rowe returning. In addition to myself, we also had new members (and past honorees) Jo-el Fernandez, Geoff Hausmann, and Janine Sitko joining the team. Thank you to all of you for your participation!

Susan, the committee, and I are looking forward to seeing everybody on May 23, 6:30 PM!

Sean Bendick

Mazal Tov!

Mazal Tov!

Mazal Tov!

Condolences to...



Alexandra and Mark, Anastasia and Peninah Rosenthal

on the passing of Alexandra's mother,

Gwen Dowd

on March 16

Rosh Chodesh Group meets on
Thursday, May 29 at 1:00 PM
at the Temple

Please join us!

Baking Club

Wednesday, May 7, 5:15 PM

If you are interested in joining

Baking Club,

please contact Erica McCaffrey
emccaffrey15@gmail.com

Writers Circle

The Writers Circle will be meeting
on **Thursday, May 8 at 4:30 PM.**

Emanu-El Library

If you are interested in joining,
contact Armi Rowe at
president@tewaterford.org

Crafters' Club

Sunday, May 3 at 10:00am

If you have any questions,
please contact Rebecca,
rebecca.j.morea@gmail.com

Calling all fiber artists! A crafters' club will be starting at Temple Emanu-El, so come and craft with fellow artists. Lessons in knitting, crochet, and sewing will be available as well. Please bring your own materials and tools.

Drop - In Mahjong

The next Drop - In
Mahjong Circle is

Wed., May 7 & May 21
from 1:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Contact
Robbin Alpert — rbalpert@att.net
with any questions

May Service & Event Schedule

May 2	Fri.	6:30 PM	Share Shabbat
May 3	Sat.	10:00 AM	Shabbat Morning Service/Autumn Hicks Bat Mitzvha
			Everyone is welcome to attend services
May 4	Sun.	9:30 AM	Religious School
		10:00 AM	Crafter's Club contact Rebecca Morea
May 5	Mon.	11:00 AM	Terri Goldsmith Memorial Golf Tournament
		12:00 PM	Federation Senior Lunch
May 7	Wed.	1-4:00 PM	Drop-In Mah Jongg
		4:30 PM	Religious School
		5:15 PM	Baking Club – contact Erica McCaffrey
May 8	Thur.	4:30 PM	Writer's Circle – contact Armi Rowe
May 9	Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
May 12	Mon.	12:00 PM	Federation Senior Lunch
May 14	Wed.	4:30 PM	Religious School
May 16	Fri.	6:00 PM	Shabbat Service
		6:30 PM	Shabbat Dinner
May 18	Sun.	9:30 AM	Religious School (last day)
May 19	Mon.	12:00 PM	Senior Lunch
May 21	Wed.	1- 4:00 PM	Drop-In Mah Jongg
May 22,	Thur.	6:00 PM	Sisterhood End of Year Dinner
May 23	Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
			Howard Ilson Award Presentation to Sue Fornara
May 29	Thur.	1:00 PM	Rosh Chodesh led by Hazzan Sherry
May 30	Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service



May Birthdays

Brianna Agnew-Weber
Florence Betten
Karen S. Bloustine
Eric Blum
Dianne Wilkomer Brody
Rebecca Brody
Ian Crawford
Rhonda Daniels
Harris Daniels
Haley Flax
Jonathan Folstein

Trevor Fornara
Paula Garnica
Richard Gipstein
Lori Goldstein
Sanford Greenhouse
Alan Gruber
Patricia Gruber
Peter Gruber
David Hausmann
Mike Haynes
Robert Hoffman
Lance Holwitt
Vivienne Karl
Adam Kaufman
Isaac David Kaufman
Gladys Kimmel

Moss Kornblith
Joshua Krasney
Anne Kronisch
Eric Levine
Camrynn Marcus
Justin Mazza
Sierra McCaffrey
Emily Quinn Miller
Mikayla O'Brien
Edward Perl
Alexandra Rosenthal
Casey Ryan
David Sayet
Cheryl Susan Schwartz
Joseph Segal
Ben Shiling

Shannon Small
Perry Anne Smizer
Brendan Suroviak
Jessica Tripicco
Mark Tsai
Vivian Weinberger
Barry Weiner
Garry F. Weiss
Janet D. Weiss
Nathan Weiss
Gabrielle
Emily
Zettler



May Anniv.

Stanley A. and Karen S.
Bloustine
Scott and Rhonda Daniels
Bruce and Lisa Darling
Leonard and Helen
Goldstein
Rick and Tammy Kaye
Martin and Joanna
Lazarus
Richard and Sheri Pascal
Mike and Marcia Reinhard
Elwin Garth and Cheryl
Susan Schwartz
Jamyon and Shannon
Small
Howard and Lorraine
Veisz
Nathan and Shelley Weiss

May Yahrzeits

Mildred Orenstein
Dr. Jeanne C. Prokesch
Wendy Senges Ryder
Eleanor Samuels Schnur
Irving Shafner
James Shleffar
Bernard Shulman
Yetta Solomon
George Trehub
Alice Werner

May 30
Rose Cantor
David Donnarummo
Samson Engel
Ron Flax
Irene Fox
Michael Green
Jacob Hartman
David Kornstein
Joseph Krinick
Gertrude Krinick
George Orenstein
Samuel Perlowitz
Ida Resnick
Bernard Rosefeldt
Lizabeth Love Ryan
Alfred Sunshine

May Yahrzeits

May 2

Ruth Alpert
Donald Bendick
Craig Blumsack
Marion Chaet
Eileen Cohen
Helen Dzurainin
Anthony Freeman
Louis Friedman
Martin Greenbaum
Arnold Kaplan
Joseph Kazin
Reginold Krasney

Abraham Allie Lamchick
Betty K. Lavender
Philip Luner
David Schulman
Stanley Sheikowitz
Isaac Wessel
Martin Yavener
Pnina Ziv

May 9

Marcia Bentley
Sidney Chivian
Aaron Goldblatt
Paul Hans
Kurt Hopfer
Lillian Katz
Barbara Kelco
Lothar Knobel
Jerry Lavender
William Miller
Mary Louise Murphy
Bernard L. Ryack
Anna Schlesinger
Phillip Schlesinger
Leah Sher
Samuel Steckler
Esther Sutel
Rose Winter

May 16

Milton Finkelstien
Beatrice Fishbone
Stuart Fishbone
Judy Flax
Benjamin Fox
Belle Galvin
Glaflira Gonzalez
Beverly Keeler
Anne Ressler
David Rifkin
Raphael Shafner
Ernest Jacob Shoor
Sam Sitko
Carl Stoner
Marion Vail
Nathaniel Wharton
Mark Wildstein
Barbara Zelken

May 23

David Blustein
Mary Ann Connell
Toby Deckler
Lena Epstein
Helen Friedman
Michael Goodman
Edith Butler Krammer
Mason Marcus

We are eternally thankful for the support of those below

Cantor's Fund

Norma Hollandersky

-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Endowment Fund

Martin and Joanna Lazarus

-- in loving memory of Mary Temple on her
yahrzeit

Essential Services Fund

Ian and Susan Crawford

-- in loving memory of Erwin Crawford on his
yahrzeit

Jane and Chic Weinberg

-- in loving memory of Freda Weinberg on her
yahrzeit

Kil Family

-- in loving memory of Mira Kil on her yahrzeit

Leonard and Helen Goldstein

-- in loving memory of Louise Goldstein on her
yahrzeit

Lois and Steve Panikoff

-- in memory of Joyce Zion

-- in memory of Morris Kaplan

-- in memory of Rebecca Goodman

Philip and Natalie Stein

-- in loving memory of Louis Schlissel on his
yahrzeit

The Kil Family

-- in loving memory of Melvin Zablotsky on his
yahrzeit

Mitzvah Fund

Charlotte Freeman & Family

-- in loving memory of Larry Freeman on his
yahrzeit

Hali and Gerry Keeler

---in loving memory of Frank Kelco on his yahrzeit

---in loving memory of Barbara Kelco on her
yahrzeit

---in memory of Elaine Moss, mother of Lynn
Miner

Martin Zeldis

---in loving memory of Sylvia Zeldis on her yahrzeit

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship

Norma Hollandersky

---thank you Armi Rowe for all you do

Stan and Karen Bloustine

---in loving memory of Joseph Bloustine on his
yahrzeit

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Martin Trehub

Judith Glickstein

---in memory of Gwen Dowd

Michelle Blinderman-Davis

---in loving memory of Gertrude Pat Blinderman
on her yahrzeit

Norma Hollandersky

---congratulations on your granddaughter

Stan and Karen Bloustine

---in loving memory of Gerald Baker on his
yahrzeit

Ruth Joan Brody Religious School Fund

Leslie Spees

---in loving memory of Howard Segool on his
yahrzeit

Todah Rabah!

Please make checks payable to Temple Emanu-El and remit to PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385



About Us

Temple Emanu-El is a Reform congregation serving Southeastern Connecticut and Western Rhode Island. Our members live in Waterford, Norwich, New London, and Groton, Connecticut; Westerly, Rhode Island; and all the neighboring towns in the region.

Temple Emanu-El offers Jewish identity for everyone: meaningful worship services, education for children and adults, and activities designed to include all members. No one is denied membership for financial reasons; you may contact our Treasurer or President for details or to discuss your personal situation.

Our members' Jewish backgrounds range from highly traditional to classical Reform, and we welcome the membership of interfaith couples and families. A diversity of occupations, age ranges, and family structures, including singles, single heads of households, and same sex partners, characterizes our distinctive membership. There is a place for everyone at Temple Emanu-El.

Our History

Temple Emanu-El, the first Reform Temple in the New London area, began with the efforts of five families in 1960. The congregation has now grown to around 250 families and has made its mark, both in the Jewish Community and the Southeastern Connecticut community.

We owe our gratitude to the All Souls Unitarian Church in New London, who so graciously offered to

share their sanctuary and social hall with us for the first eight years. In 1968, we were proud to be able to buy our first real home, the Bishop Seabury Church on Fort Street in Groton.

Soon after, having relied through the years on student rabbis, we were able to obtain our first ordained rabbi, Rabbi Peter Knobel, to lead us and help us grow. After almost ten more years, as we were bursting at the seams, good fortune led us to our present property. That was 1979, the year we bade goodbye to Rabbi Knobel, and again were blessed with the good fortune to obtain Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg as our new leader.

After 35 years, we bid a very fond farewell to Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg as he moved onto retirement. We thank him for his years of leadership. Temple Emanu-El worked with Interim Rabbi Scott Saulson during the year of transition as we searched for a permanent rabbi.

We joyfully welcomed Rabbi Marc Ekstrand in July of 2016 as our new permanent rabbi.

Now, we have only to look around us to see the results of this glorious history... our handsome Temple building, complete with a long dreamed of Sunday School, our beautiful sanctuary, and a spacious social hall. Most importantly, Temple Emanu-El is still an engaged, inclusive, egalitarian Reform congregation supporting the diversity of the Eastern Connecticut Jewish Community and the Greater New London region.





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Deadline for June 2025 Bulletin is Friday, May 16

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

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