



Brotherhood's Annual Chanukah Latke Dinner is Here!

Sunday, December 14, @ 5:00 P.M.

Social Hall at Temple Emanu-El

EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY IS WELCOME!

Start the season early with good food, friends, and family.

Potato Latkes, Brisket with Vegetables, Salad, and more!

\$20 per person *** \$50 for three or more**

Please RSVP for planning by Monday, December 8.

Paying at the door for either family or individual is \$5 more.

Mail payment to Temple Emanu-El, P.O. Box 288, Waterford,
CT 06385 or call 860-443-3005 to make reservations.

Annual Temple Travel Raffle will be drawn at 6 P.M.



Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

Three topics this month:

A special Bat Mitzvah moment...

Chapter 55 of the Book of Isaiah begins this way:

Oh, everyone who thirsts go to the water,
and who has no silver, buy food and eat.
Go and buy food without silver
and at no cost, wine and milk.
Why should you weigh out silver for what is not
bread
and your substance for what does not sate?
Listen well to Me and eat goodly things,
and you shall enjoy lavish fare.
Bend your ear and come to Me,
listen and be revived,
and I will make with you a perpetual pact,
the faithful kindness shown to David.

(Alter, Robert. 2018. Hebrew Bible : A
Translation with Commentary.)

In this passage, the prophet voices both God's invitation to return, and God's deep and abiding commitment to those who do return. This prophet's voice is raised in response to the Babylonian exile, the break in the chain of Davidic dynasty. Yet, Isaiah is less indicating a future return of the Davidic dynasty than a democratization of the "faithful kindness shown to David." No matter how short or long our exile, an hour or decades, our return to God brings us fully back into the covenant. Everyone who wishes to be part of the covenant can sit at the table, drink and eat to satisfy their spiritual thirst and hunger.

I find this passage to be particularly moving. All the more so when it was read in our Sanctuary on the morning of **Rebecca Tsai's Bat Mitzvah** several weeks ago. On that morning, after Rebecca beautifully chanted her Torah portion from Parashat Noach, she chanted these verses from Isaiah. Joining Rebecca on the Bima were her grandfather, Reverend David Tsai, and her father, Mark Tsai. After Rebecca chanted these verses from Isaiah in Hebrew, Rev. Tsai, recited the words from our prophet in his native language, Taiwanese. Following his father, Mark Tsai recited them in our native language, English. I know this moment was very meaningful for the Golden-Tsai family. It was also meaningful to me because it was an example of the vibrant community we are building at Temple Emanu-El; a community where our treasured interfaith families fully and authentically engage in our Jewish traditions. We live the words in the next chapter of Isaiah, "For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people." (Is. 56:7)

An amazing Shabbaton...

In November, we welcomed soul-writers, Julie Silver and Sue Horowitz, to Temple Emanu-El for a Shabbaton. They led us in worship for Friday evening's Kabbalat Shabbat, joined with Hazzan Sherry and me, leading Shabbat morning worship, and hosted a fabulous folk concert on Saturday evening. Rabbi Polly and I first considered bringing Sue and Julie to Temple Emanu-El about a year ago, when we attended Shabbat Shira at OSRUI in Wisconsin. Ideas only become reality with a lot of *chesed* (loving-kindness) from many. Please see Sam Winograd's *Religious Practices Happenings* Bulletin article for recognition of all those involved.

A reminder that the Shabbat morning service during the Shabbaton is just the beginning. The first Shabbat morning of each month through June, we will have a Shabbat morning service. Those of you who attended the Shabbaton, experienced the model for our Shabbat morning services going forward. Rabbi Polly will join with Sherry and me from time to time. Services will feature creative liturgy, contemporary music, Torah reading, creative Haftarah, followed by a communal Shabbat luncheon. The music we select will be from American and Israeli artists such as Nava Tehila, Or Zohar, and Sue and Julie. If you are a musician and want to join our spiritual practice, we'd love to have you. The goal of our creative liturgy and music is to tap deep into the meaning of our religious and spiritual traditions.

A Pre-Shabbat Tzedakah Opportunity...

It is a common Jewish tradition that **before** lighting the Sabbath candles, one would put tzedakah in a *puske* (tzedakah box). Each Kabbalat Shabbat, I publish a service pamphlet that usually contains songs not included in our Siddur, *Mishkan T'filah*, the Torah reading, and other helpful information. Going forward, the pamphlet will also include an announcement for a pre-Shabbat tzedakah opportunity accompanied by a QR code. This new tzedakah opportunity is meant to remind us of our obligation to give tzedakah and make it easy. By scanning the QR code before we light the Shabbat candles in the Sanctuary, you will be taken to a donation page. The donation will go to the Temple Mitzvah Fund. If you do not regularly attend Kabbalat Shabbat services, you can participate by going to our website donation page to contribute to the Mitzvah Fund – just put 'pre-Shabbat Tzedakah' in the note section. We will pool the donations and donate them. Each month, the Religious Practices and Social Action chairpersons and I will decide on a worthy local or Israeli organization to receive the collected funds.

B'shalom, **Rabbi Marc**

From the President's Desk

As we enter the month of December, I'm reminded once again of what makes Temple Emanu-El so special: we are a community that holds many stories, many traditions, and many paths—yet we come together as one family.

In just a short time, we will gather to light the candles of Hanukkah, bringing warmth and light into the darkest days of the year. Each candle we kindle reminds us of resilience, hope, and the belief that even a small amount of light can push back a great deal of darkness. My wish for all of us this Hanukkah is that we not only celebrate the miracles of the past, but also recognize the everyday miracles of the present: our friendships, our families, our children, our clergy and staff, and the caring community we continue to build together.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the many mixed and interfaith families in our congregation who are preparing not only for Hanukkah, but also for Christmas. For some, this season includes both menorahs and Christmas trees, latkes and holiday cookies, dreidels and stockings. If this is your family's experience, please know that Temple Emanu-El sees you, honors your journey, and embraces the richness that your traditions bring to our community.

Our Temple is strengthened by the many ways people connect to Jewish life—through prayer, learning, social action, cultural celebrations, and through the shared values of kindness, generosity, and responsibility for one another. December offers us a powerful opportunity to lean into those values, regardless of which holidays we observe at home.

I hope you will join us for one of our favorite annual gatherings: the **Brotherhood Latke Dinner on Sunday, December 14th at 5:00 PM**. This evening is always filled with good food, laughter, and that unmistakable smell of latkes that says, "Hanukkah is truly here!" **During the dinner, at 6:00 PM, we will hold the Temple Raffle drawing.** Whether you bought a ticket, helped sell them, volunteered in the kitchen, or simply attend, your participation supports our Temple in meaningful ways.

Events like the Latke Dinner and raffle are about more than fundraising—they are about being together. They are about the conversations around the tables, the children running around, the grandparents sharing stories, and the quiet moments when we look around the room and realize: this is our community, this is our extended family.

As the secular year draws to a close and we look ahead to **2026**, I want to thank each of you. Thank you for your membership, your time, your ideas, your financial support, your patience, and your kindness. Thank you to our volunteers and committee members who show up early, stay late, and say, "How can I help?" Thank you to our clergy and staff who guide, teach, and support us—not just during the holidays, but all year long.

My hope for the coming year is that Temple Emanu-El continues to be a place of welcome and warmth for all who walk through our doors—a place where we celebrate our traditions with joy, where questions are encouraged, where relationships are deepened, and where no one feels alone.

To those celebrating Hanukkah: **Chag Urim Sameach – may it be a Festival of Lights filled with joy and peace.**

To those who will also be celebrating Christmas with family and loved ones: **may your celebrations be filled with love, understanding, and togetherness.**

And to all of us, as we approach the new calendar year: **may 2026 bring health, blessings, and opportunities to grow together as a community.**

Thank you for all you do to make Temple Emanu-El the vibrant, caring, and inclusive synagogue that it is. I look forward to celebrating this season—and the year ahead—with you.

With gratitude,

John Murphy

President, Temple Emanu-El

Notes from Hazzan Sherry Barnes

I have received many good comments from our Shabbaton with Julie Silver and Sue Horowitz. I would like to thank everyone who made it happen. Rabbi Marc for pitching the idea, Religious Practices Chair Sam Winoograd, and the Board of Trustees, for being on board with the idea. Thank you to those of you that sponsored the event, helped set up and clean up, shopped for food for

the luncheon and for the wine and cheese evening, and those that attended the Shabbat Services and the concert. I really enjoyed spending Shabbat with Julie Silver and Sue Horowitz. I hope those of you who joined us for Shabbat services with Julie and Sue, also found them as uplifting as I did. Their Friday night service was moving,

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Notes from Hazzan Sherry Barnes continued from page 3

spiritually uplifting, and allowed me to really enjoy watching and listening to you sing! I was so touched, not only by Sue and Julie's singing, but your singing as well. You are such a special congregation. I looked around at the many faces that I have known since I joined Temple Emanu-El, and many that I have come to know as you've joined this congregation. It was really wonderful. I was thrilled that for Saturday morning, Julie wanted to sing her "Sim Shalom", with Sue harmonizing, and Sue sang a beautiful piece that she had written, "Sarah's Song". I loved both their choices. I also loved singing Oseh Shalom with them at the end of the service. For me, this will definitely be the highlight of 2025. Again, many many thanks for making this program possible.

"Could it be? Yes, it could. Somethin's coming, somethin' good, if I can wait! Somethin's coming, I don't know what it is, but it is.. gonna be great!"

It's coming, and Armi and I know it is gonna be great! So, mark your calendars, because on **February 7**, we will hold our 11th Annual Cabaret! So now is the time to start thinking about what you would like to sing, or maybe dance. Do you have a poem that you have either written or is special to you, that you would like to share on the

stage. Maybe you play an instrument and have an instrumental piece that you would like to play. Maybe you found out how funny you really are and want to share your schtick. Whatever it may be, start thinking about it now, and keep a look out for more information! Please be mindful of the 5 minute limit.

Rosh Chodesh will be on Thursday, December 18, at 1:00, here at Temple Emanu-El.

Thank you to Jeff Elkin for Chanting Torah in November.

Choir will be singing on Friday, January 30, for Shabbat Shirah.

Latkes sizzling in a heated pan, brisket cooking on the stove.

Chanukah candles, in the window a glow, and playing dreidel games at night...

May your homes be filled with the light of love, of peace, and blessings.

Wishing you a sweet holiday season.

B'shir,

Sherry

Religious Practices Committee Happenings

Artist-in-Residence/Shabbaton Overview

The weekend of 14 November featured meaningful religious and social events featuring the talents of Julie Silver and Sue Horowitz, that united the community. Both women are noted Jewish folk musicians.

Kabbalat Shabbat and Oneg

Julie and Sue led Friday's Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by an enjoyable oneg where attendees socialized over refreshments.

Shabbat Morning Service and Kiddush Luncheon

On Saturday morning, Rabbi Marc and Hazan Sherry conducted a creative Shabbat service with musical support from Sue Horowitz and Julie. A kiddush luncheon followed.

Saturday Evening Social and Concert

Saturday evening included a wine and cheese social, Havdalah led by Rabbi Marc, Hazan Sherry, Julie Silver, and Sue Horowitz, and a two-hour folk concert by Julie and Sue.

Supporters

We sincerely thank all donors and volunteers for their essential contributions to the success of this weekend, without whom the event couldn't have happened.

Donors: Florence and Michael Betten, Stan and Karen Bloustine, Ian and Suzanne Crawford, Carol Curland, Jeffery Elkin and Jean Lasser, Barry and Cecile Feldman, Bruce and Lori Goldstein, Patricia Hendel, Hali and Gerry Keeler, Andy and Adrienne Parad, Tamara Parker, Richard and Sherry Pascal, Mark and Alexandra Rosenthal, Temple Emanuel Sisterhood, Harvey and Ellen Schiller, Claire Warren, Sam Winograd and Roberta Reisner-Winograd, and two anonymous donors.

Volunteers: Special thanks to Barbara Senges for organizing the weekend, Norma Hollandersky for running the kitchen for the Kiddush Luncheon, Merrill Mazzella for baking two fantastic Challahs, Armi Rowe and Erica McCaffrey for baking for the Oneg, and to Amy Orce, Lisa Marcus,

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Religious Practices Committee Happenings *continued from page 4*

Anita Cohen, Jen Zettler, Anne Cohn, Debra Wool, Jo Michaelson, Sheri Pascal, Eileen Shapiro, Mitchel Brown, Tamara Parker, and John Murphy assisting throughout all events.

Upcoming December Events

Monthly Shabbat Morning Services Resume

We are pleased to announce that beginning in December, our monthly Shabbat Morning Services will resume. Services will be held on the first Saturday morning of each month, starting at 10:00 AM. Following each service, all attendees are invited to join us for a Kiddush Luncheon,

providing an opportunity to enjoy food and community together.

Chanukah Shabbat Service and Family Dinner

Join us on December 19 at 6:00 PM for a special Chanukah Shabbat Service, to which all families are warmly invited. After the service, we will gather for our monthly family dinner. We encourage everyone to bring their menorahs and candles so we can collectively add our light to the lights of our community as we recite the blessings together at the Shabbat dinner. Extra menorahs will be available for those who need them.

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

"The world is based on three things: on the Torah, on the service of God, and on acts of loving-kindness."
(Pirkei Avot 1:1)

As I look around at 'my' school here at TERS, I see the world reflected above. A world where, in Kitah Dalet, the students study introductory Torah thanks only to Shmuel, Mrs. Senges, and Mrs. Green. In Kitah Vav and Zayin, the students study Torah more deeply because of the close guidance of Rabbi Marc, Hazzan Sherry, Mrs. Zettler, and Mr. Miller. Regarding the service of God, I see Miss Meredith going above and beyond each week creating unique lesson plans to motivate her students to be empowered to be in service of God. With respect to acts of kindness, you cannot enter the classrooms of Miss Amanda, Mrs. Greenmoor, or Mrs. Zelken without learning firsthand what it means to be kind.

I like to think that by having a hand in selecting and keeping these fine folks on staff here, this is somehow a reflection of me. Maybe it is to a lesser extent. To a greater extent, it is a reflection of what it means to be Jewish. What it means to offer a fundamental

Reform Jewish education to our students as we stretch ourselves in our best efforts to inspire them to develop their lifelong connection to our Jewish community.

I would like to applaud each and every member of our teaching staff, including my right hand woman, Amy Orce, without whom I could not do this job. You work tirelessly. You create these amazing lesson plans. You do jobs no one else would even know exist. You give up your Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. You do it for the students out of kindness.

Kindness is a form of love. I want to thank you for loving your job, loving your students, and loving your life! Thank you for choosing kindness and choosing each day to be a Jew. Whether you are a Jew by choice like me or you

were born into this faith, you wake up every morning and have a choice to practice your faith. You not only practice your faith, but you also choose to share it with others. For that, I am grateful!

Shalom,

Lisa



Sisterhood -- Barbara Senges, President

Ladies,

October and November saw many successful events for Sisterhood. Our Kick-Off Dinner saw the largest attendance ever and was enjoyed by all who attended. At the dinner, we introduced and presented roses to nine new members. During the month of November, we welcomed three more new members – **Jennifer Rock Barbara Morea, and Ellyn Marinho**. We now have 103 women in Sisterhood. **Remember that it is never too late to become a member of our Sisterhood!**

In November, we began the month with the showing of the **PBS Documentary, “Change, Not Charity: The Americans with Disability Act”** followed by a Question/Answer period with filmmaker/producer **Hilary Klotz-Steinman**, and a presentation by **The Miracle League of Southeastern Connecticut**. We also presented a check for \$500 to the Miracle League which will assist in their fund-raising campaign to add a playground to their facility. Sisterhood also had several **Movie Club** outings, an afternoon **Book Club** and our first **Rosh Chodesh** with 15 women in attendance. If you have never attended a Rosh Chodesh, try out the **December Rosh Chodesh on Thursday, the 18th**.

Below you will find the Event Calendar for December. **The Tour of the Florence Griswold House and Museum on Tuesday, December 16th still has 10 seats available.** (Out of 25) If you would like to join us, **please send your check for \$20 to the Temple Office no later than Friday, December 12th.**

Please note that there is no Book Club in the Month of December. In January, we will be on Zoom and we will be reading **“The Little Liar” by Mitch Album**. If you are interested in being added to the Sisterhood Book Club mailing list contact Suzanne Crawford at suzm.crawford@outlook.com.

DECEMBER 2025

- **Thursday, December 4 – Movie Club (“Wicked: For Good” at Mystic Luxury Cinema)**
- **Saturday, December 6 at 2:30PM at Temple – Set-up for Chanukah Fair.**
- **Sunday, December 7 at 9:30 at Temple – Chanukah Fair. Contact Anne Cohn at annecohn@gmail.com if you are available to help out on Saturday and/or Sunday.**

- **Tuesday, December 16 at 11:00AM – Tour of Florence Griswold House and Museum, Holiday Tree Art, Lunch out at Hangry Goose between 1:00 and 1:30 optional. This event will be limited to the first 25 women who send in their check for \$20 made out to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood**
- **Thursday, December 18 – Rosh Chodesh at 1:00PM at the synagogue**

JANUARY 2026

- **Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00PM – Book Club on Zoom (“The Little Liar” by Mitch Album, Eileen Shapiro) “A young boy’s honesty is used against him during WWII, leading to a lifetime of deception and a search for redemption.”**
- **Tuesday, January 15 at 1:00PM at the Temple – Rosh Chodesh**
- **Thursday, January 22 at 7:00PM — TRIVIA NIGHT ON ZOOM**
- **Dates to be Determined – Movie Club**

Please make sure to visit the Sisterhood’s **Chanukah Fair on Sunday, December 7 from 9:30 to 12:30**. This is a great opportunity to do some Chanukah shopping and at the same time support one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Money raised helps us to continue to support the Temple and the Community at Large.

Happy Chanukah!

Barbara



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CHANUKAH FAIR



Our annual Chanukah Fair is **Sunday, December 7 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm**. We can meet your Chanukah needs and are ready with a variety of candles, menorahs and gifts galore for all ages. Then there are the edible treats, chocolate coins, and this year the very popular Chanukah cookies that sold out last year! We also have wonderful creative new items for the kids.



There are gifts for everyone, so support our synagogue and shop with us. We are happy to take cash or check, and remember there is not tax on your purchase.

See you Sunday morning on December 7. We will also be open Sunday mornings in December, or by appointment. **Contact me at annecohn@gmail.com.**

Happy Chanukah!

Anne



WE ARE FULL SPEED AHEAD ON ORDERING 2026 MAH JONGG CARDS

Sisterhood's 2nd Largest fund raiser of the year!



The cost for new cards will be the same (**Standard Size \$14; Large Size \$15**). If you are collecting for a group of people, please provide their home addresses and the cards will be mailed directly to the recipients any-

It is particularly helpful to include each person's email address if at all possible, in the event I need to notify them of any updates. Email addresses are not given out to any other groups or used for any non-mahjong purposes.

Please send orders to the office with recipient's name, address, email and check made out to *Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood*. My deadline for pre-orders is the end of January. After that, we don't get any credit unless I go out on a limb and order extra cards. If you are thinking about learning to play MahJongg this year, order a card now.

Your support is so appreciated! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Iris Freeman

ifreegang@aol.com or 860-460-3081

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, June 23, 2026!!!

For our **NEXT MAHJONG TOURNAMENT**



All 720 Raffle Tickets have been Sold

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR RAFFLE PRIZE SPONSORS:

1. **Anonymous**- 5 – \$500 visa gift cards
2. **Sayet and Seder** – Apple iPad
3. **Gary and Iris Freeman** - \$500 Visa Gift Card
4. **Bill and Ellen Seeman** - \$300 Gift Card - **Target**
5. **Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward** - \$200 Gift Card **Walmart**
6. **John Murphy and Barbara Senges** - \$150 gift card **Lowes**
7. **Armi and Jonathan Rowe** - \$100 **Amazon** gift



Todah Rabah!!

Condolences to . . .



the **Barbara Luftglass Morea and Greg Morea**
and Family
on the passing of Barbara's uncle
David Cohen



December Birthdays

Moncia Bafetti
Byrne Blumer
Willow Blumer
Lynn Brown
Anita Cohen
Kevin Constantine
Betty Cooper
Susan Diaz
Sandra Epstein
Henry Folstein
Simon Frischling
Felix Daniel
Greenmoor
Patricia Hans
Samantha Hans

Patricia Hendel
Greg Kupfer
Deborah R. Linder
Nicholas Mazella
Jeffrey Mazzella
Eric Naarden
Leslie Orenstein
Tamara Parker
Marnie Rock
Solly Ross
Nathaniel Ross
Sam Schaperow
Susan Seeman
Dr. Adam Seidner
Anna Cloe Sheikowitz

Rachel Sherman
Fiona (FiFi) Sherman
Noah Shiling
Michael Adam
Snyderman
Jared D. Weiss
Michael Weiss
Barbara Wolfe
Jessica Wolfe
Orion Zelken



December Yahrzeits

December Anniv.

Sabrina and Bruce
Foulke
Donna and Phil
Schneider
Gale Sloan and
Jim Ricci



December Yahrzeits

December 5

Edward Basch
Ada Bloustine
Mary Louise Boehner
Ruth Joan Brody
Marvin Broomfield
Goldie Gorban Davidson
Sol Deglin
Isadore Diamond
Nash Feldman
Allan Brian Glickstein
Dorothy Goldman
Marjorie Ryack
Ethel Schnable
Blanche Solomon
Harry Stein
Cynthia "Rusty" Sutel
Hannah Shafner
Teicher
Sheila Wasserman
Joyce Zion

December 12

Esther Clark
George Daniels

Marian Eisenstein
Miriam Freedman
Esther Greenberg
Jeanette Gruber
Daniel Iorillo
Dr. Charles Irwin
Jody Katz
Lynn Machette
Janet MacMichael
Max Resnick
Mollie Rifkin
Helen Rosenstein
Jean Rubinsky
Saul Robert Shapiro
Helen Shulman
John Soda
Rose Stein

December 19

Brenda Dorenfeld
Joyce Goldman
Gladys Goldstein
Abraham Leder
Tillie Leder
Caren Linden
Nathan Solomon
Marsha Sperling
David Stoner
Judy Weber
Harold Weiner

December 26

William Bentley
Arthur Feinstein
Milton Frank
Ida Covitz Freiberg
Israel Goodman
Beverly Kanfer
James Murphy
Franklin Prague
Daniel Ravis
Evelyn Rosenstein
Louis Siegel
Pauline Trostler



May their memory be a blessing.

יהי זכרם ברוך.

Baking Club

Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 5:30 PM

Contact Erica McCaffrey f

or location —

emccaffrey15@gmail.com

MITZVAH CORPS

There is a growing need among our membership for rides to medical appointments, grocery stores, etc.

Please contact Karen Bloustine at bloustinek@gmail.com if you can help provide transportation.

Thank you

Drop - In Mahjong

**Wed., Dec. 10
from 1:00 – 3:30 P.M.**

Contact

Robbin Alpert —

rbalpert@att.net

GIFT CARDS NEEDED

The Temple office continues to receive calls from people in need of help.

Donations of Gift Cards to ShopRite, Stop and Shop, and Walmart are appreciated.

Please drop them off in the box on the office door, whenever you have the opportunity.

Thank you!

Writers Circle

The Writers Circle will meet on
Thursday, Dec. 11 at 4:30 PM.

Contact Armi Rowe at

armirowe@gmail.com

**Rosh Chodesh Group meets on
Thursday, Dec. 18 at 1:00 PM
at the Temple**

Please join us!

FOOD DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

The Gemma E. Moran United Way Food Center are in need of our help. Please place your food donations in the bins in the foyer or Atrium. The mitzvah will leave you with a good taste.

NON-FOOD ITEMS

1. Health and Beauty aids – shampoo/conditioner, body wash, toothbrushes and toothpaste, baby shampoo/bath items, bar soap, etc.
2. Cleaning/laundry– laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dishwashing detergent, general Cleaning supplies, sponges, scrubbies, etc.
3. Diapers – especially sizes: 3,4,5,6 and baby wipes

SHELF STABLE ITEMS

Canned and dry goods, that are not in glass containers, in the following categories: tuna, meats, stew, vegetables, fruits, pasta, rice, instant potatoes, dried beans, and peanut butter. Baby food is also always needed.

December Service & Event Schedule

Dec. 1 Mon.		Deadline to R.S.V.P. for Share Shabbat Dinner, no late responses will be accepted
	12:00 PM	Second Act Lunch, R.S.V.P. to Dona
	6:00 PM	Jewish Community High School
Dec. 2 Tues.	6:00 PM	Security Table Top Exercise- Emergency Response led by Secure Community Network, Michael Shanbrom open to Temple Emanu-El Membership
Dec. 3 Wed.	4:30 PM	Religious School
Dec. 4 Thur.	TBD	Sisterhood Sponsored Movie Club – Mystic Luxury Cinema “Wicked for Good” –open to all congregants and friends
Dec. 5 Fri.	6:00 PM	Share Shabbat Service
	6:30 PM	Share Shabbat Dinner, catered by Filomena’s, R.S.V.P. by Dec. 1 to the office no late responses will be accepted.
Dec. 6 Sat.	10:00 AM	Temple Emanu-El Shabbat Morning Service followed by Kiddush Lunch
Dec. 7 Sun.	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Chanukah Gift Fair
	9:30 AM	Religious School
Dec. 8 Mon.		R.S.V.P. Deadline for Discount on Latke Dinner
	12:00 PM	Second Act Lunch, R.S.V.P. to Dona
	6:00 PM	Jewish Community High School
Dec. 9 Tues.	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Dec. 10 Wed.	1-3:30 PM	Drop-In Mah Jongg
	4:30 PM	Religious School
Dec. 12 Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Dec. 14 Sun.	9:30 AM	Religious School
	5:00 PM	Brotherhood Latke Dinner, R.S.V.P. by Dec. 8 for discount
	6:00 PM	Raffle Drawing, Thank You to All the Prize Sponsors All 720 tickets have been sold.
Dec. 15 Mon.		R.S.V.P. Deadline for Shabbat Dinner
Dec. 16 Tues.	11:00 AM	Tour Florence Griswold Museum with Sisterhood must reserve ticket, R.S.V.P. to Barbara Senges
Dec. 17 Wed.	4:30 PM	Religious School
Dec. 18 Thur.	1:00 PM	Rosh Chodesh
	5:30 PM	Chanukah Party and Concert with Noam Buskila, RSVP to ChabadECT.com/concert
Dec. 19 Fri.	6:00 PM	Chanukah Shabbat Service, R.S.V.P. by Dec. 15
	6:30 PM	Shabbat Dinner, Bring your own menorah to light
Dec. 26 Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Jan. 2 Fri.	6:30 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Jan. 4 Fri.	9:30 AM	Religious School



We are eternally thankful for the support of those below

Aaron and Pearl Parker Religious School Fund

Jayne and Ron Elkin

--in loving memory of Beatrice Caplowe on her yahrzeit

Building Fund

Linda and Michael Barnett

--in honor of Barbara Senges's special birthday

Marcia Reinhard

--in loving memory of Edith Weiner on her yahrzeit

Cantor's Fund

Harvey and Ellen Schiller

--in honor and appreciation of the Shabbaton activities

Norma Hollandersky

--in memory of Marc Goldsmith

Susan and Carl Rosen

--in honor of the engagement of our son David Rosen
to Rachel Friedman

Endowment Fund

John and Jamie Irwin Stavropoulos

--in loving memory of Sylvia Irwin on her yahrzeit

Martin and Joanna Lazarus

--in loving memory of Caroline Hillsberg on her yahrzeit

--in loving memory of Lottie Lazarus on her yahrzeit

Essential Services Fund

Charter Oak Federal Credit Union

Jay Levin

Andrew Goldman

--in loving memory of Donna Goldman on her yahrzeit

Bruce and Lori Goldstein

--in loving memory of Avraham Duvid ben Moshe Alfred
Goldstein on his yahrzeit

Carol Curland

--in honor of Irene Brickman Smith's birthday

Judy and Stephen Mann

--in memory of Marc Goldsmith

--in memory of Lester Shapiro

--in celebration of Sam Winograd's recovery

Martin Zeldis

--in memory of the Zeldis Family

Tracy Smith

--in memory of Lester and Claudia Shapiro

Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

Bart A. Sayet and Lori Lindfors

--in loving memory of Laura Seder on her yahrzeit

Lori and Mitch Corah

--in memory of Marc Goldsmith

Lori Corah and Pete Marcus

--in loving memory of Marilyn Marcus on her yahrzeit

Michael Cohen

--in memory of Marc Goldsmith

Lothar Knobel Library Fund

Bart A. Sayet and Lori Lindfors

--in loving memory of Alexander Rosen on his yahrzeit

Mitzvah Fund

Ian and Suzzane Crawford

Flossie and Michael Betten

--happy birthday Irene, and many more

Gail and Steve Weber

--in memory of our friend, Donna Goldman, on
her yahrzeit

Greg and Debbie Kupfer

--in loving memory of Jack Kupfer on his yahrzeit

Hali and Gerry Keeler

--in loving memory of J. Julius Schnable on his yahrzeit

Oneg Fund

Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Fund

Norma Hollandersky

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Barry and Stephanie Thorp

--in loving memory of Rachel Crystal on her yahrzeit

Judi Glickstein

--in memory of Lester Shapiro - a friend

--in honor of Rabbi Marc Ekstrand for spiritual and
uplifting High Holy Day services

--wishing Geoff Hausmann a full recovery

Mark, Ali, Ani, and Peninah Rosenthal

--in loving memory of Lynne Rosenthal on her yahrzeit

Norma Hollandersky

--in memory of Lester Shapiro

Susan and Carl Rosen

--in honor of the marriage of our son Aaron Rosen
to Diana Lara

Ruth Joan Brody Religious School Fund

Sherry Zelvin

--in memory of Marc Goldsmith

Torah Fund

Martin Trehub

--in loving memory of Marion Trehub on her yahrzeit



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



YOU'RE INVITED TO A

Share Shabbat Dinner

CATERED BY FILOMENA'S

December 5, 2025

>> *Must RSVP by November 23* <<

CHOICE OF:

SALMON W/ POTATOES & VEGETABLE
PASTA W/ CHICKEN & MARINARA SAUCE

Adults \$18; Kids \$12

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MENU

Shepherd's Pie

Vegan option:

Vegan Lentil Shepherd's Pie
Salad

KID'S MENU

Chicken Nuggets
Tater Tots

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

December Winter Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 19 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, December 15

* Please feel free to bring a dessert to share

RSVP for Shabbat Dinner by calling (860) 443-3005 or email
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Emanu-El, P.O. Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone: _____

Adults: _____ # Children: _____

Vegan Option: _____ Total Enclosed: _____

Save the Date **Cabaret Night**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

Call for music, theater, comedy, dance or skit acts.

Act submissions due December 31. Auditions begin Sunday, January 11 at 12:30 p.m.

Email: Shirie3860@aol.com or armirowe@gmail.com

Hanukkah Blessings

Candles are added to the *hanukkiyah* (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. On the Shabbat of Hanukkah, kindle the Hanukkah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.

Light the *shamash* (the helper candle) first, using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights. As you do, say or sing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּיָּמָן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

For first night only:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהִחְיָנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

Hanerot Halalu

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.



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.





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Deadline for January 2026 Bulletin is Friday, Friday, Dec. 12

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

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