



2025-2026
JEWISH
JOURNEYS

**A CATALOG OF SERVICES,
PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

CONGREGATION EMANU-EL OF WESTCHESTER

WELCOME

Dear Emanu-El Community,

As much as things have changed, we are still facing so many of the same challenges we confronted a year ago. With the rapid pace of events around the world, in Israel, and right here at home, it is easy - and often necessary - to stay focused on the headlines. Those stories stir up real concern for our loved ones in Israel, for the health of our democracy, for the state of our planet, and for the stability of the global community. While each of us has a role to play in shaping the future - especially through voting and civic engagement - there is so much that remains beyond our immediate control. In times like these, how do we hold on to hope?

Judaism gives us a sturdy foundation. Across the generations, our people have turned to tradition to stay grounded, to find joy, and to nurture resilience. Our rituals and teachings are more than customs - they are vessels of meaning, a cherished inheritance that marks our days and celebrates the milestones of our lives. At Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester, we continue this sacred work, just as our ancestors did, helping each of us anchor ourselves in what truly matters.

Within these pages, you will find opportunities to learn, to pray, to act, and to connect. You will see worship services, classes, social action initiatives, and joyful community gatherings. Some offerings will challenge your mind, some will inspire your soul, some will open your heart - and some are simply meant to make you smile.

Our main gathering space is called a sanctuary. This year, may Emanu-El be a sanctuary for us all - a place of peace, of belonging, and a source of blessing in our lives.

L'Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Howard J. Goldsmith', written in a cursive style.

Rabbi Howard J. Goldsmith

WELCOME

Staff Directory

Howard J. Goldsmith Rabbi	ext. 1013 hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org
Meredith Stone Cantor	ext. 1019 mstone@c-e-w.org
Zachary Canali Rabbinic Intern	zachary.canali@huc.edu
Jackie Kurland Director of Education	ext. 1015 jkurland@c-e-w.org
Jane Dubro Director of Programming & Engagement	ext. 1021 jdubro@c-e-w.org
Abbie Levitt Temple Administrator	ext. 1018 alevitt@c-e-w.org
Denise Eisler Senior Accountant	ext. 1014 deisler@c-e-w.org
Arnold Pitre Facilities Director	ext. 1026 apitre@c-e-w.org
Victoria Simmonds Religious School Administrator	ext. 1012 vsimmonds@c-e-w.org
Dan O'Connor Administrative Assistant	ext. 1011 doconnor@c-e-w.org
Rocio Veletanga Custodian	

Emeriti Directory

Marcie Aiuvalasit Religious Educator Emerita	marciena33@gmail.com
Daniel S. Wolk, z'l Rabbi Emeritus	

Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

Marcy Modica, President
Larry Cohen, Immediate Past President
Gabriella Wiley, Treasurer
Amanda Gitkind, Vice President
Ryan Goldstein, Vice President
Caroline Ifrah, Secretary

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Stephanie Biderman
Hedy Cardozo
Rachel Grandwetter
Jill Kunkes
Alison Lazarus
Yuval Meron
Nicole Poteat
Rebecca Roseman
Rich Rosenbaum
Lanier Saperstein
Brian Sinder
Lenny Vaisman
Lindsay Weinberg
Michael Zinn

A Community Dedicated to Celebrating Modern Jewish Life

This is a truly special congregation where people from all backgrounds find connection and inspiration through our services, Religious School, and wide range of programs. Our clergy and staff work with dedication and creativity to offer a rich array of learning opportunities, meaningful prayer experiences, and engaging activities - all designed to help each person express their Jewish identity in authentic and personal ways. Rather than seeking uniformity, we build community by celebrating the individuality of each member; every person adds a unique light and blessing to our collective story. With over 400 services, classes, programs, social action initiatives, youth gatherings, speakers, and more, there is truly something for everyone. Yet more important than any single event is the warm, welcoming spirit that defines Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester - a sense of belonging that makes this community feel like home.

As a congregation committed to meeting you where you are on your Jewish Journey, we are determined to make it easy for you to identify the points of connection that most appeal to you; this way you can bring holiness, community, and wisdom to your own life while adding strength to our congregation.

Keeping You Informed: Watch our weekly Emanumail and bi-monthly bulletins for new programs that we add throughout the year!

Program Guidance: Need someone to help find programs that you will find meaningful? Our Director of Programming and Engagement, Jane Dubro, would love to help! Please reach out to her at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1021.

Get Involved: We welcome your involvement in the congregation. Beyond all our wonderful programs, we have a number of committees that would welcome your participation, input, and support. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Abbie Levitt at alevitt@congregationemanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x1018.

From Strength to Strength - Donate to the Annual Fund



You can support all of this wonderful programming with a gift to the Annual Fund by scanning the QR code on the left or by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/annualCEW>.

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Reflect & Elevate: Worship & Services

Through prayer we seek to lift our spirits and connect with something greater than ourselves. Through readings and song, reflections and sermons, quiet and joyful noise, we bring the holy into our lives.

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Step-Up & Give-Back: Social Action & Social Justice

The greatest joy and fulfillment comes from helping others. The abundance that we enjoy, abundance our ancestors could not have imagined, allows us to donate our time and resources in ways that make a real difference for our neighbors. These acts of tikkun olam (repairing the world) allow us to express our Judaism in fulfilling, important ways.

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Programming: Learning & Coming Together

Programming is a lynchpin of the community that we foster. And, though we are a congregation of 400 families, we program as if we were a congregation of 1,200 or more! That programming takes myriad forms to appeal to every congregant: Jewish study keeps our minds sharp and our souls searching. Jewish ethics rejects relativism and challenges us to take a moral stand. Jewish culture feeds our spirits and connects us with the past... and future. And sometimes, we just gather for fun! See what you can discover:

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REFLECT & ELEVATE: WORSHIP & SERVICES

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Note: Some programs require an RSVP or charge fee. Please check our website and Emanumail for RSVP information, updates, and changes to our program scheduling.

REFLECT & ELEVATE: WORSHIP & SERVICES

Friday Night Worship Services

“The Sabbath is not for the sake of the weekdays; the weekdays are for the sake of the Sabbath. It is not an interlude but the climax of living.” - Abraham Joshua Heschel

Approaching our worship from a variety of perspectives allows us to plumb the depths of our tradition for wisdom, comfort, joy, and meaning.

Shabbat Key: 🎵 Band 😊 Especially Family Friendly

September 5

6:00pm BBQ Shabbat Dinner

7:00pm Shabbat Service 🎵😊

September 12

7:00pm Gallery Opening: Audrey Unger Reich

7:30pm Shabbat Service

September 19

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

September 26

7:30pm Shabbat Shuva Service

October 3

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

October 10

6:00pm Outdoor Sukkot Service 😊
 & October 7th Memorial

October 17

6:00pm Shabbat Dinner

6:45pm Simchat Torah Shabbat Service 🎵😊

October 24

7:30pm Shabbat Service

October 31

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service: Demons and
 Angels and Golems, Oh My!

November 7

7:30pm Shabbat Service

November 14

6:00pm Shabbat Dinner

6:45pm Consecration Shabbat Service 🎵😊

November 21

7:00pm Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath

November 28

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service

December 5

7:00pm Gallery Opening: Roger Pare

7:30pm Sacred Stories Shabbat 🎵

December 12

6:00pm Shabbat Dinner

6:45pm Chanukah Shabbat 🎵😊

December 19

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

December 26

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service

January 2

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

January 9

7:30pm Hineini & Social Justice Shabbat Service 🎵

January 16

7:30pm Shabbat Service

January 23

7:30pm Shabbat Service

REFLECT & ELEVATE: WORSHIP & SERVICES

January 30

7:30pm Repro Shabbat Service

February 6

5:15pm Shabbat Dinner

6:00pm Pajama Family Shabbat 🎵😊

February 13

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

February 20

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service

February 27

7:30pm Purim Shabbat Service 🎵😊

March 6

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

March 13

7:00pm Gallery Opening: Cantor Stone
 & Mirit Rutishauser

7:30pm Sacred Stories Shabbat 🎵

March 20

7:30pm Shabbat Service

March 27

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

April 3

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service

April 10

7:30pm Shabbat Service

April 17

7:30pm Friedman Lecture on Peace
 & Understanding

April 24

6:00pm Yom HaAtzmaut & Teen Shabbat 🎵😊
 Honoring Our Graduating Seniors

May 1

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

May 8

5:30pm Pizza Truck Dinner & Social Action Projects
6:30pm Mitzvah Shabbat 🎵😊

May 15

7:30pm Musical Treasures Shabbat

May 22

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service

May 29

7:30pm Confirmation & Shavuot Shabbat Service 🎵

June 5

6:00pm Early Shabbat Service

June 12

6:00pm Congregant Art Show
6:30pm Annual Meeting
7:00pm Sacred Stories Shabbat 🎵

June 19 - August 29

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Services

Tot Shabbat Services

Welcome Shabbat with these joyful services for our little ones, filled with music, stories, and blessings. Family and friends are always part of the experience! Be sure to also check out our Young Families Celebrations on page 4.

Friday, September 5, 5:30pm

Friday, March 20, 5:00pm

Friday, December 12, 5:30pm

Holiday Worship & Celebrations

“Lovingly, God, You have given us the gift of festivals for joy and holy days for happiness...”
- from the Festival Kiddush

Saturday, September 13

7:15pm Selichot Program & Service
at Westchester Reform Temple

Monday, September 22

7:30pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Tuesday, September 23

10:00am Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
12:00pm Rosh Hashanah Reception
1:45pm Rosh Hashanah Youth Service
3:00pm Rosh Hashanah Young Families
Service & Celebration

Wednesday, September 24

10:15am Rosh Hashanah Nature Walk
(at Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye)
11:00am Tashlich
(at Edith G. Read Sanctuary in Rye)

Friday, September 26

7:30pm Shabbat Shuva Service

Wednesday, October 1

7:30pm Kol Nidre Service (one service only)

Thursday, October 2

10:00am Yom Kippur Morning Service
1:15pm Yom Kippur Youth Service
2:15pm Yom Kippur Young Families Service
3:00pm Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
3:30pm Yom Kippur Healing Service
of Music & Meditations
4:00pm Yom Kippur Yizkor Service
5:00pm Yom Kippur Concluding Service
5:45pm Break Fast

Sunday, October 5

1:00pm Women's Study Group Sukkot Luncheon

Friday, October 10

6:00pm Sukkot Service & October 7th Memorial

Tuesday, October 14

7:30am Sukkot & Shemini Atzeret Yizkor Service

Friday, December 12

6:00pm Shabbat Dinner
6:45pm Chanukah Shabbat Service

Tuesday, December 16

6:00pm Women's Study Group Chanukah Dinner

Friday, February 27

7:30pm Purim Shabbat

Sunday, March 1

11:30am Purim Carnival

Thursday, April 2

9:00am Passover Morning Service

Tuesday, April 7

6:00pm Women's Study Group Passover Dinner

Wednesday, April 8

7:30am Passover Yizkor Service

Friday, May 22

7:30am Shavuot Yizkor Service

Friday, May 29

7:30pm Confirmation & Shavuot Shabbat Service

Young Families Holiday Celebrations

We love helping young families kick off their Jewish journeys! Bring the kids - and the nieces, nephews, and grandkids too - to celebrate the joy of Jewish life all year long. Our Young Families events are packed with food, music, dancing, crafts, stories, community, and lots of fun! These events are free and open to the community and are appropriate for ages 6 months through 2nd grade. Many celebrations are preceded by our drop-off kindergarten and pre-K program (see pg. 17). To learn more, contact Director of Education, Jackie Kurland at jkurland@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1015. Check out our Friday Tot Shabbats on page 2.

Rosh Hashanah Service & Celebration

Tuesday, September 23, 3:00pm

Yom Kippur Service

Thursday, October 2, 2:15pm

Sukkot Program

Sunday, October 5, 10:45am

Shabbat Celebration

Sunday, November 2, 10:45am

Chanukah Celebration

Sunday, December 7, 10:45am

Tu BiShvat

Sunday, January 25, 10:45am

Passover Celebration

Sunday, April 19, 10:45am

Yizkor Memorial Service

Four times each year, our community gathers to honor and remember those we have loved and lost. Through our memories, their lives continue to inspire us and bring blessings to all of us. Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret, Passover, and Shavuot Yizkor services last half an hour.

Yom Kippur Yizkor Service

Thursday, October 2, 4:00pm

Sukkot & Shemini Atzeret Yizkor Service

Tuesday, October 14, 7:30am

Passover Yizkor Service

Wednesday, April 8, 7:30am

Shavuot Yizkor Service

Friday, May 22, 7:30am

STEP-UP & GIVE-BACK: SOCIAL ACTION & SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Emanu-El Caring Community

Supporting one another during difficult times is at the heart of who we are. The Emanu-El Caring Community is a volunteer-led group dedicated to making sure our congregants feel cared for after the loss of a loved one. We're looking for volunteers to help put together and deliver bereavement baskets as needed - a simple but meaningful way to bring comfort and connection.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with the Caring Community, contact Michelle Schwartz at prettypaper1@gmail.com.

Social Action Committee

We love putting our Jewish values into action through tikkun olam! Our social action committee gets everyone involved with hands-on projects and donation drives that support our local community and Israel. We listen to what our partner organizations need, both here and abroad, and create ways for people of all ages to jump in and make a real impact. At Emanu-El, giving back is easy and meaningful - with collections, site visits, and volunteer opportunities, there's always a way to help make the world a little better. Interested in getting involved? Contact Social Action Co-Chairs Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com and Lauren Shalem at lauren.beitman@gmail.com.

Social Justice Committee

When treating symptoms isn't enough, we step up to tackle the root causes of society's challenges. Our Social Justice Committee is dedicated to creating real change by advocating for important issues at the local, state, and federal levels, often partnering with the Religious Action Center (RAC) of Reform Judaism. There are many ways for congregants to get involved, whether big or small. By working closely with politicians and staffers, we carry forward the legacy of the prophets of Israel, striving for a more just and compassionate world - all while honoring diverse viewpoints and encouraging healthy debate. No matter your political leanings, we believe everyone can help make our world more whole and more holy. Interested in getting involved? Contact Social Justice Co-Chairs Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com and Marcie Aiuvalasit at marciena33@gmail.com.

In addition to those listed on this page, we have a number of committees that would welcome your participation, input, and support. If you are interested in learning more, see page 23 or contact Abbie Levitt at alevitt@c-e-w.org.

STEP-UP & GIVE-BACK: SOCIAL ACTION & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Action Committee Drives

We are committed to tikkun olam, repairing our world. Help make our community a better place and participate in the important drives scheduled throughout the year. For more information, contact co-chairs Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com and Lauren Shalem at lauren.beitman@gmail.com.

September	Midnight Run Clothing & Toiletry Collection
October	High Holy Day Food Drive for Feeding Westchester & Coats For Hope Collection
November	Have A Heart Gift Drive for Westchester Jewish Community Services
December	Afya Supply Collection
February	Art Supply Drive for Pleasantville Cottage School
March	Pasta Collection for Feeding Westchester
April/May	New & Gently Used Book Collection for 914Cares

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with our non-profit partners, please contact Jane Dubro at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1021.

Afya Foundation: The Afya Foundation collects unused medical supplies and equipment and distributes items to under-resourced health systems all over the globe to improve access to healthcare and the quality of care delivered.

Feeding Westchester: Feeding Westchester serves over 300 local hunger-relief programs throughout Westchester, including food pantries, soup kitchens, child and adult day-care centers, and community shelters.

Kosher Food Pantry: Hope Community Services is looking for volunteers to help pack, hand out, or deliver Kosher food. These volunteer opportunities are one-time only so there is no long-term commitment.

914Cares: 914Cares provides resources to local organizations and encourages generosity through programs that provide clothing, items for families with newborns, personal care items, and literacy support.

Teach Adult ESL at the Carver Center in Port Chester: Volunteers are needed to help tutor adult English language learners - no experience required, just a big heart and a desire to make a difference! For more information, contact Jaime Morris at jaime-morris@hotmail.com and Amy Schulhof at alschulhof@hotmail.com.

Westchester Jewish Community Services: WJCS provides mental health treatment, social and vocational programming for disabled adults, child and parent development programs, LGBTQ+ youth, family, and educational services, senior care, and spiritual and cultural programming for the wider Jewish community.

PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

Beit Midrash

Each week, the Torah connects deeply with Jewish life as we know it today – in our homes, in our communities, and in the rituals we practice. This year in Beit Midrash, we will explore how the weekly portion links to familiar Jewish customs, holiday observances, or lifecycle rituals. From Kiddush and Shabbat candles to the wedding veil and the Passover seder, each session will bring out the ancient roots of practices that are still vibrant today. We'll draw from a variety of texts and sources – biblical, rabbinic, historical, and contemporary – to uncover meaning and relevance for modern Jewish living. Come every session or just drop in – all are welcome! Contact Rabbi Goldsmith for more information at hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1013.

Saturday, September 6, 9:00am

Sunday, September 27, 9:00am

Sunday, October 19, 10:30am

Saturday, November 15, 9:00am

Sunday, November 23, 10:30am

Sunday, December 14, 10:30am

Sunday, January 4, 10:30am

Sunday, January 25, 10:30am

Saturday, February 7, 9:00am

Saturday, February 28, 9:00am

Saturday, March 21, 9:00am

Saturday, April 11, 9:00am

Sunday, April 12, 10:30am

Saturday, April 25, 9:00am

Saturday, May 16, 9:00am

Reflections Workshop with Cantor Stone

Everyday moments, a favorite poem, or a powerful piece of Torah - all of these can spark the personal writing we explore in this ongoing workshop. When shared in a Shabbat service, our words deepen the meaning of our prayers and add richness to our worship. By writing and sharing together, we build stronger connections with each other and with our tradition.

Monday, November 10, 12:00pm

Monday, February 9, 12:00pm

Monday, May 11, 12:00pm

Women's Study Group

Community, connection, celebration! Inspired by Miriam's spirit, the women of our congregation gather in joy to mark holidays and festivals with learning, good food, and the warmth of shared community. A highlight each year is our annual winter retreat - a full Shabbat spent together that helps us step back, strengthen friendships, and dive deeper into our Jewish journey.

Women's Study Group Sukkot Luncheon

Sunday, October 5, 1:00pm

Annual Retreat

Friday, January 23 - Saturday, January 24

Chanukah Dinner

Tuesday, December 16, 6:00pm

Passover Dinner

Tuesday, April 7, 6:00pm

PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

Single Malt Torah

Men of the congregation come together to enjoy fine scotch and meaningful Torah learning (whether you drink or not!) with Rabbi Goldsmith. Topics range from big questions facing Jewish life today, to issues in Israel, to deep dives into our sacred texts. No matter the subject, it's all about good conversation and good company with fellow men from the community.

Monday, September 8, 8:00pm
Thursday, November 20, 8:00pm
Thursday, January 8, 8:00pm

Thursday, March 12, 8:00pm
Thursday, April 16, 8:00pm
Thursday, May 14, 8:00pm

Single Malt Torah: Book Club Edition

They say that Torah, most broadly understood, includes not only the ancient text in the scrolls in the ark, but every piece of text that struggles with ultimate meaning. So, we are expanding Single Malt Torah to include a few contemporary book discussions. Whether you've read the entire book or just the dust jacket, please join us! Contact Rabbi Goldsmith for more information at hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1013.

How to Fight Anti-Semitism by Bari Weiss

Thursday, October 23, 8:00pm

A concise, passionate examination of rising antisemitism in America and beyond. Weiss blends personal narrative with analysis and offers a powerful call for Jewish pride and solidarity in the face of growing hate.

My Promised Land by Ari Shavit

Thursday, February 12, 8:00pm

A sweeping, deeply personal history of Israel that weaves together memoir, interviews, and historical narrative. Shavit explores the ideals, contradictions, and moral dilemmas at the heart of Israel's story, offering a rich and nuanced portrait of the nation and its people.

Here All Along by Sarah Hurwitz

Sunday, March 22, 9:30am

A warm, accessible, and engaging introduction to Jewish spirituality, ethics, and tradition. Drawing on her own journey of rediscovering Judaism as an adult, Hurwitz invites readers to explore Jewish meaning and practice in a thoughtful and relatable way.

PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

Book Club and Books & Bites

We are the people of the book because we love the written word, stories, and all that we can learn. Dates will be released throughout the year. For more information contact Marcie Aiuvalaist at marciena33@gmail.com.

A Community Read Series with Rabbi Goldsmith

Discussion and debate lie at the heart of the Jewish intellectual and religious project. Those debates are not open-ended, they traditionally rely on a text: analyzing a text, dissecting a text, commentary on a text - we love all things text. And so, to ground some of the most salient discussions and debates of this moment, this year we will engage in discussions on books that examine antisemitism, Israel, and Jewish practice. You may join whether you have read the whole book cover-to-cover, listened to an audio version, or just read the dust jacket! In person and Zoom options will be available for each session. Contact Rabbi Goldsmith for more information at [hgoldsmit@c-e-w.org](mailto:hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org) or 914-967-4382 x1013.

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PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

Next Step

This group of men meet to discuss personal issues that they face in retirement. The bonds of friendship and a deep sense of trust have allowed them to continue for many years. Sessions are led by congregant Paul Spindel and are open to the community.

Sunday, September 14, 11:00am

Sunday, October 19, 11:00am

Sunday, November 9, 11:00am

Sunday, December 14, 11:00am

Sunday, January 11, 11:00am

Sunday, February 8, 11:00am

Sunday, March 8, 11:00am

Sunday, April 12, 11:00am

Sunday, May 3, 11:00am

Jewish Holiday Cooking Series with Master Chef & Author Cara Tannenbaum

Join Cara for a hands-on cooking series featuring delicious recipes inspired by Jewish and global cuisine. Learn new skills, share stories, and enjoy tasty meals in a warm, friendly environment.

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned cook, Cara's classes offer something for everyone. Come hungry

Thursday, September 18, 7:00pm

Thursday, November 20, 7:00pm

Thursday, February 12, 7:00pm

Thursday, March 26, 7:00pm

Weekly Canasta

Did you know that in the early 1950s Canasta was the most popular card game in the United States, even surpassing Bridge? Come play on Tuesday afternoons from 1:45 - 3:45pm. Players must sign-up each week with Jane Dubro at 914-967-4382 x1021 or jdubro@c-e-w.org.

Learn to Play Canasta!

Always wanted to learn how to play Canasta but didn't know where to start? Emanu-El is offering a four-week series taught by master player and congregant Jill Baker.

Tuesday, October 21, 1:45 - 3:45pm

Tuesday, October 28, 1:45 - 3:45pm

Tuesday, November 4, 1:45 - 3:45pm

Tuesday, November 18, 1:45 - 3:45pm

Impressionism Painting Class with Artist Terry Kessler Schwarz

Explore your creativity in this engaging art class where you will be guided through various painting techniques influenced by the Impressionists. Using acrylic paints and canvases you will be able to create your own work in the Impressionist style. Whatever your artistic experience may be, come join us for a fun and relaxing session.

Thursday, November 6, 2:00pm

Thursday Film Series

This year's film series presents a rich tapestry of stories that reflect the depth, resilience, and creativity of Jewish life across generations and genres. This year's selections explore themes of identity, memory, inclusion, aging, and legacy-through powerful dramas, heartfelt comedies, and thought-provoking documentaries. From a teacher's courageous journey with Tourette syndrome to late-in-life love, from a quest for postwar justice to the lens of iconic Jewish artists, these films invite reflection, spark conversation, and celebrate the enduring spirit of our community.

Our (Almost Completely True) Love Story

Thursday, October 16, 7:00pm

A heartfelt comedy of love, loss, and second chances. Actors Mariette Hartley and Jerry Sroka play aging performers who stumble into unexpected romance. Semi-autobiographical and full of Jewish warmth, the film blends humor with poignancy, exploring aging, companionship, and emotional courage. A tender story about the power of connection, even in life's later chapters. Directed by Don Scardino; 93 minutes.

Vishniac

Thursday, December 11, 7:00pm

A powerful documentary about Roman Vishniac, whose photographs immortalized pre-war Jewish communities from Berlin to the Eastern European shtetls - many of which would soon vanish. Through his lens, we glimpse a world on the brink, and a legacy that preserves Jewish life and culture through image and memory. Directed by Laura Bialis; 90 minutes.

Front of the Class

Thursday, February 5, 7:00pm

A deeply human story of resilience, identity, and purpose. Based on the memoir by Brad Cohen, this moving film traces his journey growing up Jewish with Tourette syndrome, in a world that often misunderstood him. Raised in a supportive Jewish home, Brad draws strength from his family, particularly his mother's unwavering love. His path from rejection to becoming a beloved teacher reflects core Jewish values - netzach (perseverance), limud (education), and kehilla (community). This film is a modern expression of tikkun olam, showing how compassion and belief can transform lives. Directed by Peter Werner; 95 minutes.

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PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

(Thursday Film Series cont.)

Art Spiegelman: Disaster is My Muse

Thursday, March 19, 7:00pm

A compelling look into the life and creative process of Art Spiegelman, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *MAUS*. The film explores his groundbreaking impact on graphic literature, his Jewish identity, and the enduring relevance of Holocaust memory through art. Directed by Molly Bernstein; 98 minutes.

Mr. Kaplan

Thursday, April 23, 7:00pm

This darkly comic Uruguayan drama follows 76-year-old Jacob Kaplan, a Jewish retiree who becomes convinced a local café owner is a fugitive Nazi. Enlisting the help of an ex-cop, Jacob embarks on a quixotic mission that’s part justice, part personal redemption. Both humorous and moving, the film explores Jewish identity, aging, and the lasting echoes of history. Directed by Álvaro Brechner; 98 minutes

The Year My Parents Went On Vacation

Thursday, May 14, 7:00pm

Set against Brazil’s military dictatorship and the nation’s fervor for the 1970 World Cup, this heartfelt coming-of-age drama follows 12-year-old Mauro, whose parents vanish under political threat. Left in the care of a vibrant Jewish community in São Paulo’s Bom Retiro district, Mauro navigates identity, belonging, and resilience amid upheaval and hope. Blending themes of political exile, cultural intersection, and youthful longing, the film offers a poignant exploration of Jewish life in Latin America during turbulent times. Directed by Cao Hamburger; 110 minutes.

Damson Family Gallery Openings

Art brings beauty and life to the walls of our synagogue, enriching our shared spiritual space. Each new exhibit begins with a gallery opening, welcoming congregants and the wider community to celebrate together.

Audrey Unger Reich

Friday, September 12, 7:00pm

Roger Pare

Friday, December 5, 7:00pm

Cantor Meredith Stone & Mirit Rutishauser

Friday, March 13, 7:00pm

Congregant Art Show

Friday, June 12, 6:00pm

PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

Trips & Tours with Jane Dubro

Prepare to dive into the rich tapestry of Jewish life, art, and history! These thoughtfully planned trips offer a fantastic opportunity to explore, discover, and share meaningful experiences with fellow congregants.

Additional exhibits and outings will be added throughout the year and announced in Emanumail and the bulletin. All trips are open to family and friends - we look forward to experiencing them together.

Jewish Museum Trip: Ben Shahn Collection on Non Conformity

Thursday, October 9, 11:30am

A look at the groundbreaking artist's lifelong drive to capture and challenge the big issues of his time - from the Great Depression through the Vietnam War - as well as his deep engagement with spirituality and Jewish texts. The show brings together 175 works from the 1930s to the 1960s, including paintings, mural studies, prints, photographs, commercial designs, and more. Together, they spotlight the lasting power of Shahn's art across different media, while offering fresh perspectives on his evolution from straightforward documentary work to more allegorical and poetic styles as he sought a visual language that could speak to everyone

Lower East Side & The Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue and Museum

Monday, November 17, 12:00pm

Step into the world of the Romaniote Jews - a unique Jewish community whose roots in Greece date back over 2,300 years to the time of Alexander the Great. Distinct from the Sephardim who arrived after 1492, the Romaniotes speak Greek, follow their own liturgy, and preserve traditions predating much of the Jewish diaspora. Kehila Kedosha Janina (The Holy Community of Janina) is the only Romaniote synagogue in the Western Hemisphere. Founded in 1906 by Greek-speaking Jews from Ioannina, the congregation opened its doors at 280 Broome Street in 1927, where it still stands as a New York City Landmark - one of the last functioning synagogues on the historic Lower East Side.

New York Historical Society: Arriving in America - Portraits of Immigrants

Thursday, December 4, 11:30am

This exhibition draws on the Patricia D. Klingenstein Library's photography collections to explore the immigrant experience in New York. The exhibit it shows how immigrants shaped the city and built communities, from the aftermath of the 1904 General Slocum disaster to everyday life across the 20th century. The images capture children in classrooms and playgrounds, workers in factories, families at home, and communities celebrating at festivals and parades. They reflect journeys from Bosnia, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Italy, the Philippines, Russia, Ukraine, Vietnam, and beyond. Images of churches, temples, and synagogues highlight the city's many faiths, while street vendors and storefronts reveal how food transformed New York's neighborhoods. Note: Patricia D. Klingenstein was a dear congregant of Congregation Emanu-El for many decades.

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PROGRAMMING: LEARNING & COMING TOGETHER

(Trips & Tours with Jane Dubro cont.)

Temple Emanu-El Exhibit & Lunch: *Emanu-El at 180*

Thursday, January 15, 11:00am

Join us for a special visit to Temple Emanu-El in New York City to celebrate the opening of a landmark exhibition at the Bernard Museum, marking the congregation's 180th anniversary. This unique exhibition is truly two exhibitions in one. The first gallery traces the rich history of Temple Emanu-El through archival treasures and artifacts from its museum collection. The second gallery, inspired by *Our Crowd: The Great Jewish Families of New York*, highlights influential 19th-century Jewish families - such as the Schiffs, Warburgs, Lehmans, and Strauses - who helped shape both the congregation and American Jewish life. Don't miss this chance to explore a fascinating legacy of faith, leadership, and community at one of America's most historic synagogues.

Bagel Cooking Class at NYC Bagels

Thursday, February 5, 11:00am

Discover the art of authentic bagel making in the heart of New York City! Join us for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn traditional techniques, knead the dough, and bake your own fresh bagels to take home. Whether you're a novice or a bagel enthusiast, this is a fun and delicious way to connect with Jewish culinary traditions.

Travel Abroad: A Jewish Journey Through Amsterdam

Wednesday, April 15 - Monday, April 20

Travel isn't just about the places you visit - it's about the connections you make along the way. Deepen your connection with our congregation, Jewish history and your own Jewish identity on this unforgettable journey! Embark on a meaningful journey through Amsterdam's rich and complex Jewish history. This carefully curated experience, designed by J² - a leading luxury travel brand specializing in Jewish educational and experiential journeys - will take us beyond typical tourist sites, immersing us in a story of resilience, remembrance, and renewal. Along the way, we'll enjoy plenty of Dutch pancakes, tulips, windmills, and cheese!

Amsterdam has had a profound impact on the Jewish people over the centuries. Once home to a thriving Sephardic and Ashkenazi community, it became a center of learning, culture, and trade. The city also bore witness to one of the darkest chapters in Jewish history during the Holocaust. On this trip, we will explore both aspects of this legacy - honoring the memory of those who perished and celebrating Dutch Jewry's contributions to Jewish life.

Contact Jane Dubro at 914-967-4382 x1021 or jdubro@c-e-w.org for details on these trips. You can also visit www.tinyurl.com/cewamster to see the Amsterdam trip itinerary and details.

FEATURED SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS

Positive Confessions with Artist Audrey Reich: Acknowledging What We've Done Right

Friday, September 26, 12:00pm

Through art, conversation, and reflection, Audrey will guide us in a creative exploration of Vidui - not as a confession of wrongs, but as a celebration of what we've done right. Together, we will engage in a Positive Vidui - an uplifting acknowledgment of love, kindness, courage, and growth. This unique experience invites us to reflect on the good we've brought into the world as we prepare our hearts and souls for the new year. As part of the program, we will also visit Audrey's artwork on display in the Damson Family Gallery, where her pieces offer a powerful visual and emotional connection to the themes we'll be discussing. A light lunch will be offered.

Inside Israel with Joel Chasnoff

Sunday, October 19, 10:30am

Come for an up-close look at what it's really like to live, work, and raise kids in Israel during these challenging times, from the perspective of one who lives there. No Israel-related questions will go unanswered. Joel is a former Lone Soldier, the author of *Israel 201*, which recently won the National Jewish Book Award, and is the host of the weekly Inside Israel podcast.

Rabbis Got Talent: Night of Jewish Learning at Beth-El in New Rochelle

Saturday, November 8, 7:00pm

This year's Night of Learning will highlight the diverse and interesting rabbis from our community with a theme of "Rabbi's Got Talent." The event will begin with all the rabbis leading a community Havdalah, followed by two sessions of classes taught by over 30 Rabbis. The evening will conclude with a dessert reception and Israeli dancing.

Annual Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath

Friday, November 21, 7:00pm

Each year, we celebrate the musical legacy of Emanu-El's first cantor, Earl Rogers, with a special program dedicated to Jewish music. Our guest artists share their own interpretations, weaving together Jewish life and song in unique ways.

Social Justice Shabbat

Friday, January 9, 7:30pm

Each year at this time, we honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and reaffirm our commitment to social justice. As Jews striving for a more just and compassionate society, we recognize the civil rights movement's work is unfinished and still calls us to act. Today's challenges - from voting rights and police-community relations to LGBTQ equality and disability rights - demand our attention. This meaningful service will feature powerful readings and music centered on justice.

FEATURED SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS

(Featured Speakers & Programs cont.)

***Women on the Front Lines* Author Talk & Challah Bake**

March date to be announced

Debbie Zimelman's full-color photography book explores the lives of women who serve in the Israeli army's combat units. The book is a culmination of five years of photographing and interviewing female soldiers from over 20 IDF units. Attendees will also take part in a challah baking fundraiser to support these brave women.

Community Yom HaShoah Service

Monday, April 13, 7:15pm

"Never forget." It is our sacred duty to remember. We hold close the lives lost, the extraordinary acts of bravery, and the quiet courage it took simply to survive another day. We honor the rich heritage of communities that were destroyed and commit to living our lives in ways that honor the memory of those who perished.

The Friedman Lecture on Peace & Understanding

Friday, April 17, 7:30pm

This lecture series welcomes scholars, activists, politicians, and artists to our congregation to help us explore the intersection of Judaism with the pursuit of peace and greater understanding in our world. Made possible by a bequest from former congregational president William Friedman in memory of his parents, this program allows us to engage deeply with the most pressing issues of our time.

Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner

Friday, May 8, 5:30pm Pizza & Mitzvah Projects, 6:30pm Service, 7:15pm Projects & Dessert

Enjoy a meaningful evening filled with engaging mitzvah projects, a delicious dinner, and the warmth of our intergenerational community - all capped off with a brief, spirited service. The projects will support a variety of impactful organizations. And yes, there will be a pizza truck!

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Whether a High Holy Day celebration, Bingo with your family, or the Annual Meeting, there are wonderful reasons to come together throughout the year.

Sukkot Open House at the Goldsmiths'

Sunday, October 5, 4:00pm

Each year, Rabbis Howard and Jennifer Goldsmith, along with their children Lev and Talia, open their backyard sukkah to the congregation in celebration of Sukkot - the festival our tradition calls *z'man simchateinu*, the season of our joy. We'll shake the lulav, enjoy sweet treats, and celebrate together in true festive spirit.

Sisterhood Boutique

Wednesday, October 29, 11:00am - 5:00pm

Discover unique gifts, jewelry, Judaica, accessories, and more at the Sisterhood Boutique! Join us for a day of shopping, community, and connection - just in time for fall holidays.

Bingo

Sunday, February 1, 11:45am

Bingo for all, and prizes for winners! Come play and support the Jared Dubro Legacy Fund which was established by the Dubro family to fund programs, initiatives, and experiences that bring the light of Jared's spirit into our world.

Current & Former Board Member Dinner

Friday, February 27, 6:15pm

Each year current and former board members join together to reconnect, get updates on board business, and celebrate the congregation. The dinner is followed by our joyful Purim Shabbat!

Purim Shabbat & Celebration

Friday, February 27, 7:30pm

No matter the theme, you can rest assured that Purim will be a raucous, joyous, ridiculous celebration of our laughter-filled holiday. Mark the date in your calendar so we can celebrate together!

Annual Spring Benefit

Saturday, May 2, 7:30pm

This is the perfect way to support the congregation's Annual Fund while having a fun evening - not to be missed! Watch Emanumail and the bulletin for more information.

Annual Meeting

Friday, June 12, 6:30pm

Welcome new board members, bid departing board members a fond farewell, and receive updates about the state of the congregation from Rabbi Goldsmith and our president, Marcy Modica. Come early at 6:00pm for our Annual Congregant Art Show opening.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

To learn more about Emanu-El's Young Families, Religious School, and Youth programming, contact Jackie Kurland at jkurland@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1015.

Tot Shabbat Services

Welcome Shabbat at these services for little ones filled with songs, stories, and blessings. All are welcome!

Friday, September 5, 5:30pm	Friday, March 20, 5:00pm
Friday, December 12, 5:30pm	

Young Families Services & Events

We are dedicated to helping young families start their Jewish journeys with warmth and joy. Bring your little ones - children, nieces, nephews, or grandchildren - to experience the magic of Jewish life through festive holiday celebrations all year long. Our Young Families events are filled with food, music, movement, crafts, stories, community, and plenty of fun! These programs are free, open to all, and perfect for children from 6 months through 2nd grade.

Rosh Hashanah Service & Celebration
Tuesday, September 23, 3:00pm

Tu BiShvat Celebration
Sunday, January 25, 10:45am

Yom Kippur Service
Thursday, October 2, 2:15pm

Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 1, 11:00am

Sukkot Celebration
Sunday, October 5, 10:45am

Passover Celebration
Sunday, April 19, 10:45am

Celebration of Shabbat
Sunday, November 2, 10:45am

Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner
Friday, May 8, 5:30pm

Chanukah Celebration
Sunday, December 7, 10:45am

The Bauman-Greene Pre-K & Kindergarten Program

Our pre-K and kindergarten program offers your little ones a joyful introduction to Religious School! Each session explores the special rituals and traditions of Jewish holidays through creative, hands-on activities. After class, families are invited to stay for Young Family Celebrations at the temple - a fun and festive time for everyone. The program is free, open to the community, and meets on Sundays from 9:30 - 10:45am. We are grateful to congregant Dr. Caroline Bauman for generously supporting this program.

Sukkot
Sunday, October 5, 9:30am

Tu BiShvat
Sunday, January 25, 9:30am

Shabbat
Sunday, November 2, 9:30am

Purim
Sunday, March 1, 9:30am

Chanukah
Sunday, December 7, 9:30am

Passover
Sunday, April 19, 9:30am

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

B'nei Mitzvah

B'nei mitzvah ceremonies mark the beginning of children's journeys to adulthood with prayer, Torah, and celebration. We honor the young people in our congregation who will become b'nei mitzvah this year.

Hayden Cullagh Saturday, September 6	Kiera Kaufman Saturday, February 28	Amelia O'Neil Saturday, May 2
Benjamin Stergiou Saturday, October 18	Noah Sales Saturday, March 7	Meagan Kaplan Saturday, May 9
Mackenzie Newman Saturday, October 18	Aaron & Elliot Glezer Saturday, March 14	Ziva Wiley-Urh Saturday, May 9
Oliver Freedman Saturday, November 8	Caleb Blumstein Saturday, March 14	Judah Geller Saturday, May 16
Holden Leand Saturday, November 15	Eli Adelson Saturday, March 21	Drew Kantor Saturday, May 16
David Gitkind Saturday, January 10	Gavin Motola Saturday, April 11	Marlowe Wagner Saturday, May 30
Hazel Johnson Saturday, January 24	Lacy Kars Saturday, Aril 18	Chase Berg Saturday, May 30
Julius Diskin Saturday, January 31	Maxwell Weinberg Saturday, April 18	Presley Wegweiser Saturday, June 6
Coren Levine Saturday, February 7	Zoe Balik-Klein Saturday, April 25	Max Feldman Saturday, June 13

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

Special Religious & Hebrew School Events

The Religious School helps families engage deeply with the rich traditions and enduring values of Judaism. Through a values-driven curriculum and a strong Hebrew program, we give our learners the skills and confidence to explore and embrace their Jewish identity.

**First Session of B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp
(7th Grade)**

Tuesday, September 2, 4:00pm

**First Session of Academy
(8th & 9th Grades)**

Sunday, September 7, 11:00am

**First Session of Confirmation
(10th Grade)**

Sunday, September 7, 11:00am

First Week of Hebrew Tutoring

Monday, September 8 - Thursday, September 11

First Day of Religious School

Sunday, September 14, 9:30am

Consecration Honoring New Students

Friday, November 14, 6:00pm Dinner, 6:45pm Service

Chanukah Shabbat & Dinner

Friday, December 12
6:00pm Dinner, 6:45pm Service

6th Grade Retreat

Friday, March 6, 6:00pm
& Saturday, March 7, 8:30am

Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 1, 11:30am

Last Session of Academy

Sunday, April 26, 9:30am

Religious School Open House

Sunday, April 26, 9:30am

Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner

Friday, May 8, 5:30pm

Last Session of Confirmation

Thursday, May 14, 7:00pm

Last Session of Religious School & Carnival

Sunday, May 17, 9:30am

Last Week of Hebrew Tutoring

Tuesday, May 26 - Thursday, May 28

Confirmation Shabbat Service

Friday, May 29, 7:30pm

Last Session of Boot Camp

Tuesday, June 9, 4:00pm

No Religious School

October 12, November 30, December 21,
December 28, January 18, February 15,
February 22, March 29, April 5, May 10

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

The Farah Family Hineini Program

Through the Farah Family Hineini Program, our 7th grade students step into the community to bring Jewish values to life, helping make the world a better place, and continuing our shared Jewish story. This hands-on service-learning approach has transformed Sunday mornings for both students and their families, while making a meaningful impact on the wider community. A detailed schedule with activities and start times will be shared directly with families. We are grateful to the Farah family for their generous support of this program.

Academy: 8th and 9th Grade

This year, our 8th and 9th Grade Academy learn what it means to be a Jewish leader, both at our synagogue and in the greater Jewish community. Designed for teens to have a social and academic space where everyone can come together, Academy helps students deepen their Jewish knowledge and identity. Because Academy meets on Sunday mornings, our teens will be able to take their learning and apply their leadership skills directly to our Religious School with opportunities to create and run programs and activities for the younger students.

Sunday, September 7, 11:00am	Sunday, January 4, 9:30am
Sunday, September 21, 9:30am	Sunday, February 1, 9:30am
Sunday, September 28 9:30am	Sunday, March 8, 9:30am
Sunday, October 19, 9:30am	Sunday, March 22, 9:30am
Sunday, November 23, 9:30am	Sunday, April 19, 9:30am
Sunday, December 14, 9:30am	Sunday, April 26, 9:30am

Confirmation

Our 10th graders spend a year studying with Rabbi Goldsmith exploring many facets of Jewish identity, theology, and meaning. The teens finish the year knowing where they fit in the story of the Jewish people.

Sunday, September 7, 11:00am	Sunday, February 8, 10:45am
Sunday, September 21, 10:45am	Sunday, March 8, 10:45am
Sunday, October 19, 9:30am	Sunday, March 22, 10:45am
Sunday, November 2, 9:30am	Sunday, April 12, 9:30am
Sunday, November 16, 10:45am	Sunday, April 26, 9:30am
Sunday, December 7, 9:30am	Thursday, May 14, 7:00pm
Sunday, January 4, 9:30am	Confirmation Rehearsal : Tuesday, May 26, 7:00pm
Sunday, January 25, 9:30am	Confirmation Shabbat Service: Friday, May 29, 7:30pm

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

Madrichim Fellowship

The mission of the Madrichim Fellowship is to create a growing and evolving community in which Emanu-El teens have a strong sense of personal ownership, community connections, and Jewish identity. The fellowship is a rewarding and meaningful experience that allows our teens to make connections with children, support our Religious School teachers, and even gives them a chance to lead classroom activities of their own!

BBYO

Emanu-El has joined forces with KTI, JCCH, and Community Synagogue of Rye to launch a new BBYO chapter called Simcha. BBYO offers teens opportunities for leadership, friendship, developing Jewish identity, connection to something bigger than themselves, and much more. One of the great features of BBYO is that the programming is completely teen-driven! For more information, contact Amanda Fogel at amf122490@aol.com.

Committees: Moving Emanu-El Forward

“If I am for myself alone, what am I?” - *Hillel*

In ancient times, the Levites took care of the details, logistics, set-up, and finances of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. Today, our tireless committee members and committee chairs carry on that sacred work – there is true holiness in the details! We rely on the skills, wisdom, and time of congregants just like you to make our congregation a special place. This year, those who step up to these leadership positions will be invited to two special synagogue leadership meetings, one in the fall and one in the spring. At these sessions we will give a report on the state of the synagogue and get input on vital issues facing the congregation. So, please, get involved!

If interested, contact Abbie Levitt at alevitt@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1018.



Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester
2125 Westchester Avenue
Rye, NY 10580

914-967-4382 | www.c-e-w.org