

# THE BULLETIN

1495 FORD STREET · REDLANDS · CALIFORNIA · 92373 · (909) 307-0400

**DECEMBER 2025** 

KISLEV-TEVET- 5786

**VOLUME LV - NUMBER 3** 

### SHABBAT CELEBRATIONS

SECURITY PROVIDED AT FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICES - SERVICES ALSO AVAILABLE ON ZOOM



Friday - December 5, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Led by Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Sisterhood, honoring Julie Strain, a true woman of valor

Saturday - December 6, 2025

Parashat Vayishlach - פרשת וישלח - Genesis 32:4-36:43

Haftarah - Obadiah 1:1-21



Friday - December 12, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Led by Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Sisterhood

Saturday - December 13, 2025

Torah Study - 9:15 a.m.

**Shabbat Morning Service - 10:00 a.m** 

Led by Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel

Parashat Vayeshev - פרשת וַישֶב - Genesis 37:1-40:23

Haftarah - Amos 2:6-3:8



Friday - December 19, 2025 - Shabbat Hanukkah

5:30 p.m - Sisterhood Hanukkah Latke Dinner (Reservations required, see page 8)

6:30 p.m. - Abbreviated Shabbat Service in Shimoff Family Social Hall

Led by Rabbi Cantor Jennifer Bern-Vogel

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Sisterhood and School for Jewish Living

Saturday - December 20, 2025

Torah Study - 9:15 a.m.

**Shabbat Morning Service - 10:00 a.m** 

Led by Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel

Parashat Miketz - פרשת מקץ - Genesis 41:1-44:17

Haftarah - Zechariah 2:14-4:7



Friday - December 26, 2025 - 6:30 pm

Led by Paul and Chel Zipperstein

Oneg Shabbat hosted by Chel and Paul Zipperstein celebrating Paul and Jeff's birthdays

Saturday - December 27, 2025

Parashat Vayigash - פרשת ויגש - Genesis 44:18-47:27

Haftarah - Ezekiel 37:15-28





### Rabbi Cantor's Comments



### **December Celebration of Lights & Jewish Music**

Music is an integral part of Jewish worship, providing a framework for our lives. It sparks our emotions, our memories, holding our hearts in times gone by as we relive our childhood, teenage years, romantic moments, and solace in times of grief. It moves our souls when words often leave us wanting.

The majestic and soulful music of the High Holy Days evokes solemnity and introspection. Festival music of Passover, Sukkot, and Shavuot is recognizable for its characteristic modes.

Last month, before Thanksgiving, wherever we went, we heard the holiday music of December, which for several years now has also included familiar Hanukkah music - who cares if it's just songs about Dreidels and Latkes?!. We find increased joy in bringing extra light to this season as people of all ages gather to light their *Hanukkiah* - the Hanukkah menorah - singing traditional and some silly, contemporary songs. We will have numerous opportunities to sing and celebrate together this December.

We'd love you to join us at **Temple Beth Israel in Pomona [December 14** @ **4:00 p.m.]**, where our choir will join other choirs, me, and other Cantors to share all our well-known Hanukkah music and fun, notwithstanding "Hanukkah in Santa Monica"!

You won't want to miss our congregational **Shabbat Hanukkah dinner and service on December 19th** with music, *dreidels*, *latkes*, and *sufganiot* [jelly doughnuts!]

And just in case you missed a night of candlelighting, join us for the SEVENTH NIGHT at Ed Hales Park for: <u>Light up the Night</u> at 5:00 p.m., Saturday, December 20th! Bring your Hanukkah menorah and candles - how bright can we light up the night?!

Chag Hanukkah Sameach -

Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel aka Rav Jen

#### Continuing Episodes of our Choir Members...

I'm Antoinette Everts, a Dutch New Zealander. I was born in the Netherlands, just after the war. (Our family sheltered a Jewish girl who survived). At two, I went with my family to Indonesia for three years, and then back to the overcrowded Netherlands.

When I was nine, I emigrated with my family to New Zealand, where I studied languages and became a teacher.

At 27, I made a world tour and taught English in Germany for three years. Back in NZ, I became a Mum and taught English as a Second Language to adults.

In 2010, I moved to the USA, arriving on the evening before my first granddaughter was born. And now I help my daughter and son-in-law look after my four grandchildren.

We belong to the Trinity Episcopal Church, but through Lois Musmann and Musica Viva, I became involved with CEE, and was invited to support the CEE Choir. What a joy and honor to be part of your High Holy Days! Shalom.

[And we're thrilled to have you, Antoinette!]

Rabbi Cantor Jennifer Bern-Vogel

## **Presidential Perspectives**



Dear Congregation Emanu-El Family,

As we welcome Hanukkah and the holiday season, I extend my heartfelt greetings to each of you. Our temple is blessed with many interfaith families who, in

so many ways, form the bedrock of our congregational community — the foundation upon which our temple family thrives.

We invite you to join us for two special celebrations this season:

**Light Up the Night** – Saturday, December 20th at Ed Hales Park in downtown Redlands.

**Annual Latke Dinner** spnosored by Sisterhoood – Friday, December 19th at the temple.

We are also deeply grateful to **Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel** for arranging the acquisition and delivery of our Holocaust Torah, which will soon be on display at CEE — a sacred reminder of resilience, memory, and faith.

May these holidays remind us all of the true spirit of family, faith, and celebration. Wishing you a season filled with light, joy, and peace.

# With warm regards, Greg Weissman

Temple President

Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, December 18, 2025 7:00 pm All are welcome

Sisterhood Meeting Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

## Treasurer's Report



Once again, our turkey drive successful thaks to the many generous donations from our members. They were very much appreciated and needed at this time of year.

Hanukkah is approaching quickly! Please join us at two special Hanukkah events. "Light Up the Night" menorah lighting will be Saturday, December 20th at 5:00 p.m. on State Street in Redlands. Also, plan on being at Sisterhood's Latke Dinner on Friday, December 19th where our head latke fryer Stephen Lehmann will be making fresh hot latkes! A brief service will follow the dinner. Reservations are required for the dinner; are all welcome to attend the service following dinner.

The end of the year is fast approaching! Please remember that all donations and contributions made to the Temple for dues are tax deductible. So be sure to get donations and dues to the Temple by December 31, 2025!

I wish everyone a very Happy Hanukkah and a good December as we close out 2025 and look forward to a new year.

Julie Strain jbstrain1130@gmail.com



Oneg Shabbat Hosts Needed for January and February

Contact Kathy Trainor at kdtrainor@msn.com or 909-659-3518

## Sisterhood Speaks



Celebrating Light, Joy, and Togetherness

The candles are glowing, the dreidels are spinning, and soon the latkes will be frying as children eagerly collect chocolate and gelt. Hanukkah is upon us, and more than any

tradition or treat, what truly makes this month special is the joy it brings to our hearts and the warmth we share in our community.

**Upcoming Community Events** 

- Sisterhood Meeting: December 7th at 12:30 p.m.
- Lights, Laughter, and Latkes Shabbat Dinner: December 19th at 5:30 p.m.
- Light Up The Night: December 20 at 5:00 p.m. Ed Hales Park, Downtown Redlands

Everyone is invited to each event! We kindly ask that you make reservations for our Latke Dinner to ensure we have enough prizes, games, and food for all. Please join us in celebrating Hanukkah Shabbat together—details can be found in the invitation withinn this Bulletin.

#### Hanukkah Sale:

Support Sisterhood by visiting our Gift Shop to pick up Hanukkah decorations, candles, menorahs, and gifts for your loved ones. Our Hanukkah Sale will begin soon-watch for more information coming soon!

#### A Message of Hope and Light:

My hope for the future is that the enthusiasm and dedication of our board will continue to create a ripple effect of positivity, building our Sisterhood and making a difference in the lives of others. As we use the Shamash to light the first candle on the menorah-remember, Shamash in Hebrew means "helper"- may we each strive to be good helpers in our community and beyond.

As your menorah glows with light, may all eight days of Hanukkah be warm, bright, and filled with joy for you and your family.

Happy Hanukkah! Ilene Mino, Sisterhood President

#### With Appreciation the Sisterhood thanks:

Everyone who attended the Paid Up Lunch.

All the members who made



donations of time or money.

Lorraine & team for their ongoing support. Special thanks to Harriet Herman for her gracious gift.

Those who shopped in our gift shop.

Ilene Mino, Sisterhood President



# Mental Health Awareness in Action Blue Dove FoundationDecember 2025

Are we Jews more robust in coping with mental health problems? Less impacted? More resilient? Wouldn't that be nice, if we were, but no. We're like everyone else. But we do have a deep way of dealing with ourselves and living in the world. We have clear, articulated values, and we have something especially precious — a sense of ourselves as a people and as responsible for each other.

The Blue Dove Foundation uses our Jewishness as a wise way to cope with mental illness and with addictions. As they say, they "educate the community about mental health through a Jewish lens." They are based in Atlanta, Georgia and started as a non-profit organization in 2018.

Our own Congregation Emanu El's work to create acceptance and educate ourselves about mental illness goes back farther than that, but their work is all over the country, and they also work in an interfaith way. Also they have many, many online resources we could use in connection with our Jewish holidays – thought provoking and mindful of our special traditions. They have events in person and virtually, programs and workshops that can be done at any of our temples and synagogues, special resources for bar and bat mitzvahs, and trainings. For example, this October, November, and December, they've been training on how to use Narcan, the emergency drug that saves people from dying of drug overdoses. They have resources you can buy as well, like one book called "Quieting the Silence," another way of saying no more accepting stigma - let's talk about it, as they present individual stories of real people.

Personally, we love the name of this wonderful group – The Blue Dove Foundation. Imagine a blue dove, imagine its song and how it flies. As they say:

"The dove represents peace of the deepest kind. It soothes and quiets our worried or troubled thoughts, enabling us to find renewal in the silence of the mind. Its role as a spiritual messenger imparts an inner peace that helps us go about our lives calmly and with purpose. Some believe the dove also represents hope, while others believe it denotes freedom.

"Bringing peace, life, hope, and freedom to those facing addiction or other mental health challenges is the goal of the Blue Dove Foundation."

You can check out their rich array of resources and meaning at *thebluedovefoundation.org*. For example, they have a resource called "Healing on Hanukkah, One Candle at a Time."

Nancy Sidhu and Heidi Nimmo, Co-Chairs, Mental Health Awareness In Action (MHAIA)

## From Our School for Jewish Living

Hanukkah, also known as the "Festival of Light," refers to the miracle of the oil, commemorated traditionally through the lighting of the Hanukkah candles. This is also manifested through the light that we aim to share as a community, to help others on an individual, family, and congregational level. The Hanukkah miracle can give us hope for today and reinforce the importance of spreading the light in challenging times. Each group worked on their Tikkun Olam projects and the SJL students talked more about Ometz lev, building on last year's learnings about the Maccabees. Ometz lev is about not being fearful, finding the will within us to face our fears, demonstrate a willingness to turn to God in trust and faith, and believing that we can get through tough times. This real courage is having the endurance, persistence, and strength it takes to be faithful and be a good person. It is about standing up for each other and oneself and how "doing the right thing" relates to good decision making, empathy, and character. Emerson's Book drive is doing well- 60 books at the time of this writing. Most importantly, the students enjoyed literature, art, games, gaga, dance and of course music with Mrs. Z. We hope everyone can join the students and teachers at both Hanukkah events on the 19th & 20th.

Wishing everyone continued joy, peace, and blessings.

Happy Hanukkah!

Míss Ilene, Míss Karyn, & Míss Shaína



Learning our Hebrew Letters



Studying all about Shabbat



and

Our preschoolers having fun, too!

### Rabbi Cohn to deliver sermon on "Jew of the Year for 2025"

On Friday night, January 2nd, Rabbi Emeritus Hillel Cohn will deliver the sermon at our Erev Shabbat service. He will speak on "Jew of the Year for 2025." In 1974 Rabbi Cohn began the custom of devoting the first sermon of the new secular year to announcing his choice of a "Jew of the year" for the secular year just ended. He continued that practice over the years in our congregation as well as the two congregations that he served after retiring as our rabbi in 2001 (Adat Ari El in Las Vegas and Sun City Jewish Services in Palm Desert). We look forward to learning whom Rabbi Cohn has selected as the "Jew of the Year for 2025".



### **SAVE THE DATE**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025

All members and their guests are welcome to join for a Luncheon Program

11:45 am at Congregation Emanu El

1495 Ford St., Redlands, CA

More information will be forthcoming.

# 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:

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 יָיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעְשָׂה נִסִּים לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ וָאָמוֹתֵינוּ בַּיַּמִים הַהֶּם בַּזָּמֵן הַזָּה.

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 wonderous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

#### For first night only:

# בָּרוּדְ אַתָּה יָיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלֶם, שֶׁהֶחֶיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וָהִגִּיעַנוּ לַזּמֵן הַזֵּה.

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.



rom Mishkan T'filah, CCAR Press, New York.



Seventh Night of Hanukkah - December 20th, 5:00 p.m.

Ed Hales Park on State Street

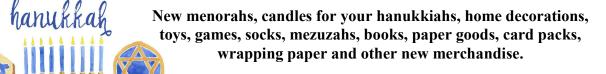
Downtown Redlands

Bring your menorahs and candles as we gather as a community to light the menorah, sing songs, and celebrate Hanukkah!



# SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

Hanukkah Sale, Chanukah Sale, Hannukah Sale, Chanukkah Sale.... No matter how you spell it, your Gift Shop Holiday sale is here!!! 20% off sale on..........



20% (or more) off select jewelry, Shabbat candles, perfume, body lotions, wall art.

Purchasing gifts from your gift shop helps to support Sisterhood activities year round, including those for our SJL children.

Spending your holiday budget with national and on-line retailers only benefits their bottom line.

Shop Local..... At your Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop Doing so benefits your entire congregational community.

Please contact Lisa Wise-Wolk at 909-723-3238 or Barb Smith at 909-801-4436

# CONGREGATION EMANU EL – FUNDRAISING WITH SCRIP PROGRAM SCRIP IS PERFECT FOR GIFTS!

### RaiseRight: Simply the right way to fundraise.

Raise funds by buying gift cards from RaiseRight to pay for your everyday shopping and spending year-round. Groceries, dining out, home improvement, and everything in between. It's the most convenient and effective way to fundraise because earning becomes part of your everyday life. Plus, gift cards are great for helping you to set and keep a weekly budget. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

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- Buy gift cards at full value from 750+ brands. Pick from eGift cards and physical gift cards.
- Earn up to 20% on every gift card you buy.
- Use gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases.
- Watch your fundraising account grow throughout the year, thanks to the brands that give back to support your community!

#### **Get started today!**

Create a free fundraising account on the RaiseRight mobile app or at RaiseRight.com.

Congregation Emanu El - Our Enrollment code is 477F26554739.

Have questions? Contact: Julie Strain at scrip@emanuelsb.org.

# Happy Birthday!!!

We rejoice with those whose birthdays occur in December and wish them a *Mazal Tov*:

18-December Nancy Sidhu 3-December Emerson Poulin (13 years old) 5-December Paul Zipperstein 19-December Ethel McAfee 5-December Judson Carbaugh (4 years old) 23-December Norman Hanover 7-December Laura Fenster 24-December Elise Wilkie (10 years old) 16-December Judith Smith 25-December Lisa Wilkie 16-December Holden Becker-Kurily (6 years old) 30-December Shauna Van Horn 17-December Roy Nierman 30-December Derek Hyman 18-December Neil Brown

## Happy Anniversary!!!

We extend a hearty *Mazal Tov* to the following whose wedding anniversaries occur in the month of December:

1-December Lori & Gary Fenster 25-December Rita & Rabbi Hillel Cohn 29-December Lynn & Jerry Mathews



### We Gratefully Acknowledge

We gratefully acknowledge these contributions to our various temple funds:

#### **TEMPLE FUND**

In observance of the Yahrzeits of...

Max Rosen by Zeeda and Roy Nierman

Irvin Yaffe by Deborah and Daniel Schwartz

Lillian Rhein by Linda and Peter Rhein

Martin Phillip Lebowitz by Nancy Justice

Jack Murray Lampel by Anita Lampel

Thomas McAfee by Ethel McAfee

Sophie Peters by Shauna and Walter Van Horn

Michael Hosmann by Michele and Paul Zipperstein

Douglas Hosmann by Michele and Paul Zipperstein

# CHERRIE LUBEY SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of...

Leona Libby Soltz by William and Leslie Soltz

Lise Rundberg by Monique Coleman

Isadore Rundberg by Monique Coleman

Israel Gold by Roberta and Philip Gold

### **CEMETERY FUND**

In observance of the Yahrzeit of...

Ella Sherman by Shelley and Barry Silver

Marilyn Estrin by Shelley and Barry Silver

#### SCHOOL FOR JEWISH LIVING FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of...

SPC Jack Flatcher KIA by Vick

SPC Jack Fletcher KIA by Vickie and Steve Becker

On occasions of joy or sorrow a contribution to one of our Temple or Sisterhood funds is always appropriate.

Contribution can be made to the following funds:

Temple Fund
School For Jewish Living Fund
Home of Eternity Cemetery Fund
Lionel Heller Music Fund
Rabbi Cantor Bern-Vogel Discretionary Fund
Landscape Fund
William Russler Memorial Archives Fund
Temple Security Fund
Leone Hyman B'rit Olam Fund
\*Cherrie Lubey Sisterhood Pulpit Flower Fund
\*Rabbi Hillel & Rita Cohn Campership Fund

\*Sisterhood Funds - donations payable to Sisterhood

# **Yahrzeits**

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during the month of December: Those with a (\*) are inscribed on the Wall of Perpetual Memorial:

| December 5-6                    | December 12-13              | December 19-20                | December 26-27         |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                 |                             |                               |                        |
|                                 |                             | ▼I. Dave Bachman              |                        |
|                                 | Charles Binder              |                               | <b>¢</b> Eva Berman    |
| <b>‡</b> Ruth Becker            | Itzik Blumen                | Lucille Druker                | <b>  Sally Fox</b>     |
|                                 | <b>‡</b> Dr. Theodore Cohen | <b>p</b> Rose Eliot           | Claire Gottlieb        |
| <b>‡</b> Esna Cohen             | Rebecca Finkler             | <b>p</b> Rose Ernstein        | Rose Grossman          |
| <b> </b>                        | <b>‡</b> Dr. Abram Hodes    | <b>p</b> Pauline Forman       |                        |
|                                 | ❖Arnold F. Levine           | Benjamin M. Gilbert           |                        |
| Zisle Degin                     |                             | Flora Goldstein               | Hal Herman             |
| <b>p</b> Rose Doros             | <b>p</b> Max Moschel        | <b>‡</b> Louis Guttman        | <b>⇔</b> Bob Kipper    |
| Janice Berzin Fingerut          |                             |                               | ★Maxine Esther Lerner  |
|                                 | Richard Pick                | ✓ Isabel Sadie Helfman        |                        |
|                                 | Yetta Schwartz              | Ralph Hertz                   |                        |
| Leslie I. Harris                |                             | Ruben E.K. Joseph             | <b>⇔</b> Anna Magid    |
| Tillie Hill                     |                             | Charles E. Kahn               | Lester Meyer           |
| <b> </b>                        | <b> </b>                    | <b> ☆</b> Max Levin           | Blanche Speyer Meyers  |
|                                 |                             | <b> </b>                      | Samuel Nelko           |
|                                 | <b> ☆</b> Murray Weintraub  |                               | <b>‡</b> Evelyn Press  |
|                                 |                             | Chassie Nelko                 |                        |
|                                 |                             |                               | ★Kathryn Iris Robbins  |
|                                 |                             |                               |                        |
| Leon Penso                      |                             |                               |                        |
| <b>⇔</b> Philip Henry Philipson |                             | Nathan Sabbath                |                        |
| Lester Pollen                   |                             |                               |                        |
| Alan G. Schwartz                |                             | <b> </b>                      | <b>p</b> Morris Shane  |
| Sam Schwartz                    |                             |                               | <b> </b>               |
| <b>≯</b> Harry Selwyn           |                             |                               | <b>‡</b> Louis Sussman |
|                                 |                             |                               | <b> </b>               |
| <b> </b>                        |                             | Lea Sosnowicz                 |                        |
| <b>⇔</b> Bessie M. Uffer        |                             | <b>p</b> Margurite Spears     |                        |
| <b>⇔</b> Bertha Weinberg        |                             |                               |                        |
| <b>‡</b> Hyman Weisser          |                             |                               |                        |
| <b>‡</b> Caroline Wolfenson     |                             | <b> </b>                      |                        |
| Max Yaffe                       |                             | Clara Wassner                 |                        |
| <b>⇔</b> Dr. Jacques Zagha      |                             | <b>‡</b> Rabbi Bernard Zeiger |                        |
|                                 |                             |                               |                        |



### Rabbi Cantor Jennifer Bern-Vogel Hillel Cohn, Rabbi Emeritus

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Judy Filsinger, Temple Administrator: 909-307-0400 / templeadmin@emanuelsb.org

Our website: www.emanuelsb.org

Greg Weissman, President • Scott Wilkie, Vice President • Julie Strain, CFO • Sidra Knox, Secretary Immediate Past President, Paul Zipperstein Ilene Mino, President, Sisterhood Steven Becker, Member-at-Large

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### Member, Union for Reform Judaism (URJ)

#### THE BULLETIN - CONGREGATION EMANUEL

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