

Emanuel Synagogue



Bulletin



Emanuel Synagogue Bulletin

June 2026

Sivan- 5786

SERVICE TIMES

Join us on Zoom, using the same link as all services: <https://zoom.us/j/6574911810>.

Please remember that we still have Evening Minyan Sundays through Thursdays at 8:00 pm, and Morning Minyan every Thursday at 8:30 am.



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THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

ATTENTION PLEASE

In our efforts to organize, starting this month members can begin using the below email addresses. Cox accounts will no longer be available starting May 2025.

- Office@emanuelsynagogueokc.org
- Finance@emanuelsynagogueokc.org
- Rabbi@emanuelsynagogueokc.org
- President@emanuelsynagogueokc.org
- Membership@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

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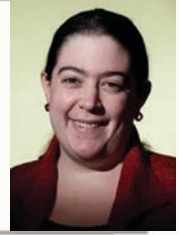


June

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
					8:24 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:25 PM Havdalah
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					8:28 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:28 PM Havdalah
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Erev Rosh Chodesh	Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	Rosh Chodesh Tamuz			8:30 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:31 PM Havdalah
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					8:31 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:32 PM Havdalah
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
				Tzom Tamuz	8:31 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:31 PM Havdalah

MESSAGE FROM RABBI JACOBSON



Are They Trying to Argue? Because That's How You End up Arguing!

Shammai and Hillel, and Less Discussed
Parts of Their Legacies

Pirkei Avot, a tractate of Mishnah often translated as “The Ethics of the Fathers,” mostly contains interesting sayings, miscellaneous pieces of advice, and observations from Sages of the Mishnah, collected roughly chronologically and mostly not related to any of the other laws, Biblical interpretations, or Jewish values that those Sages discuss in the other sixty-two tractates of Mishnah. Shammai and Hillel, the two main Jewish community leaders around the late first century B.C.E. and the early first century C.E., are mentioned in the chain of tradition from Mt. Sinai to Moses to Joshua, and so on down through the generations of Sages.

Shammai and Hillel disagreed on almost everything. Shammai was born and raised in the Land of Israel, a son of a wealthy family. In contrast, Hillel was almost sixty years older than Shammai, born and raised in Babylonia, moving to

the Land of Israel as an adult, and his family was less wealthy, but his mother was a direct descendant of King David – which gave him some amount of bragging rights. As a historical note, the terms “Rabbi” and “Rav” were not used for community leaders at that time, although according to later standards for conferring those titles, both Shammai and Hillel would have qualified.

Hillel became the *nasi* (“president”) of the Sandhedrin (“high court”), and Shammai followed him as the vice president once the position became vacant. By that time, each had amassed a following of students and disciples, who called themselves *Beit Shammai* (Shammai’s “house” or “school”) and *Beit Hillel* (Hillel’s “house” or “school”), and who would continue for a few generations after their deaths.

Some Jews have learned that Shammai made stringent, inflexible legal decisions, while Hillel made more flexible, sometimes more practical legal decisions. This is true

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and a good observation of the differences in their legal positions. Many Jews will recognize that the international Jewish student organization on college campuses bears the name “Hillel,” rather than the name “Shammai” or any other Jewish community leader.

Here are some details about the relationship between Shammai and Hillel that many people do not know.

The Sanhedrin of which they were both leaders agreed with Shammai and adopted his legal positions only three times, out of many hundreds of legal disputes and disagreements.

After Hillel’s death, Shammai took over control of the Sanhedrin and forced through eighteen legal changes. To accomplish this, Shammai partnered with the Kohanim running the Temple (in the years just before the Romans destroyed it). The ruling Kohanim at the time were neither Shammai followers nor Hillel followers, but Zealots. The Zealots were a political movement made up of religious and non-religious Jews alike, mainly focused on violent overthrow of the Roman colonial occupation. When Shammai became president, he and his followers on the Sanhedrin did not appoint a vice president from a minority party, as had been the tradition until then, so the Hillel followers remained outnumbered and without a voice. Then, one of the Zealot leaders on the

Sanhedrin offered to host a meeting in his own home to allow the Sanhedrin to debate the eighteen hotly contested legal changes that Shammai had proposed, posting armed guards at the doors to prevent anyone’s leaving until the votes swung in Shammai’s favor – thus pushing these eighteen legal changes through.

After the Destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E., Hillel’s descendant was appointed *nasi* (“president”) of the Sanhedrin, and the Sanhedrin voted to overturn all eighteen. Further, the Talmud records that a Voice from Heaven echoed out of the sky, declaring the positions of Shammai and Hillel both to be the “words of the Living God,” but also declaring that the practical applications of legal decisions should follow Hillel’s positions. The Talmud offers the explanation that Hillel’s students regularly taught Shammai’s positions in addition to Hillel’s positions, explaining their opponents’ viewpoints before their own, and suggests that God chose Hillel’s legal rulings because of that deference and pluralism.

It is possible that both God and the Jewish community leaders at the time, having seen so much death and suffering at the hands of the Romans, simply refused to follow a leader who resorted to Shammai’s shady tactics trying to overtake the Sanhedrin.

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Drop in for tea and a chat with Rabbi Jacobson!

Office Hours are

Mondays - 9:30-12:30 pm

Wednesdays - 12:30 pm-3:30 pm

Thursdays - 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Feel free to drop in, or schedule a meeting time that is more convenient for you.

(Hours subject to change to accommodate an emergency in the congregation, and Rabbi Jacobson will not hold office hours on Jewish holidays, federal holidays, or any other time when the Synagogue offices are closed.)

Do you know someone who is sick, or who could use some cheering up? One way to help someone who is sick or feeling down is to let Rabbi Jacobson know to contact him/her/ them. Another great way is to add someone to the Misheberach list, for the congregation to pray for their health. However, please remember to ask that person's permission first!

*Please note: We read the names on the Misheberach (sick prayer) list out loud during Shabbat services and Evening Minyan. For the sake of their privacy, we read people's Hebrew names, or if they do not have a Hebrew name, we only read their first name in English. We want to comfort people with our prayers, not to invade their privacy.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As I sit down to write my final bulletin message as president, I find myself reflecting on how much we have accomplished together over these past two years. None of it would have been possible without the dedication of our Board of Directors, committee members, staff, and officers. Together, we strengthened every aspect of Emanuel and worked to bring our synagogue into modern times through improved communication, new systems, and better processes that will support future growth.

One of the things I am most proud of is bringing programming back into the building. From Sisterhood events to our successful Boots and Brachas evening with Joe Buchanan, Emanuel has once again been filled with community, connection, learning, music, and friendship. It has been wonderful to see our spaces alive again.

We also took an important step forward with the creation of a new logo for Emanuel. It may seem small, but having a strong identity helps us present ourselves clearly and confidently as we continue to grow and serve our community.

It has been an honor and a pleasure serving as your president these past two years. I look forward to continuing to support this community that means so much to me, and I hope you will join me in helping Emanuel thrive for generations to come.

Thank you for your trust, your partnership, and your love for this community.



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HEBREW SCHOOL



BLOOM HARD AT WORK DURING THE SUMMER AS WELL

Another season that turns, another year that ends. In 5876 we learned, celebrated, created and prayed as one community. We grew, we sang, and we flourished. Now, during the summer months, its when our students and faculty reset and rejuvenate. For our students, that usually means sleeping late, relaxed schedules, and fun weeks away at camp or family vacation. For our teachers, this means to increase our learning and broaden our horizons so we can bring the most successful strategies and the latest developments to our community.

In years past, we have sent teachers and administrators to Jewish Educational Fairs like NEWCAJE to learn from other teachers and principals, see the latest curricula for Hebrew learning, and recreate great ideas that work from colleagues. In recent years, we have partnered with

institutions like Graetz College, Shalom Learning, and the Institute for Jewish Spirituality to give our faculty access to virtual classes so they can broaden their Jewish practice and knowledge. This Summer Morah Sarah Balyeat and Rabbi Juan Mejia will be representing EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE and the BLOOM FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL at the [NATIONAL HAVURAH COMMITTEE SUMMER INSTITUTE](#).

The National Havurah Committee is a “a network of diverse individuals and communities dedicated to Jewish living and learning, community building, and tikkun olam (repairing the world). For almost 40 years, the NHC has helped Jews across North America envision a joyful grassroots Judaism, and has provided the tools to help people create empowered Jewish lives and communities. The NHC is nondenominational, multigenerational, egalitarian, and volunteer-run.” A “Havurah” was a Jewish form of religious community organized as a countercultural response to post World

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War II rigid American Jewish life. Havurot were communities of young Jews that wanted to pray, live, farm, learn in a more democratic and egalitarian setting.

The Summer Institute is one of their main educational events. Set in the kosher Pearlstone retreat center in rural Maryland, the Summer Institute brings over 300 Jewish leaders, lay and otherwise, for a week-long exchange of knowledge through seminars, workshops, prayer services, and late night fireside song circles. The topics available range from Sephardic cooking, to Pirkei Avot, to Jewish Meditation, to how small communities in Latin America and Oklahoma are changing the Jewish world. Morah Sarah and yours truly are sure to come back with new ideas, songs, classroom activities, recipes.

And although Morah Sarah will be there as a Zeitler Fellow, and Rabbi Juan will be there as an instructor, most of the learning will happen in the shared spaces outside the classroom. Most of the participants will be coming from communities with very similar demographics and size to our beloved Emanuel, so on the one hand we get to learn from the cutting edge, and we get to show the Jewish world the Oklahoma Standard for Small Jewish Community. The

shared networking and processing that educators achieve in such events is outstanding.

Morah Sarah and myself are thankful to the Bloom Fund, the Education Committee, and our Leadership for helping us enrich our pedagogical arsenal by contact with this thriving community of communities just like ours. Pictures and in-depth reports will be delivered once we return. The National Havurah Committee Summer Learning Institute will run from August 3-9, 2026 in the Pearlstone Retreat Center.

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YOUTH



Hello everyone,
This month with summer starting and everyone making their summer plans, we have one scheduled event. A trip to the Oklahoma Zoo on June 7th. We are meeting at the café just inside the ticket booths at 10am. We will get ourselves organized. If anyone has extra spots on their family passes we will try to assign groups to go in together and will get tickets for the rest. Please RSVP by calling or texting 678-431-4243. We will be roaming the zoo playing "Is it Kosher?" And learning to say the names of the animals in Hebrew!

WE'RE GOING TO THE ZOO
2000 REMINGTON PL, OKLAHOMA CITY

June 7th • 10 to 2 (roughly)
meet up at the coffee house in the entry way

Please pack:
water
hat
either cash or a lunch for your child

Sunscreen
and a
Light snack will be provided

See you all there!

Ma'ayan

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HOLOCAUST BOOK Drive

For Teachers

WE ARE COLLECTING GENTLY USED HOLOCAUST
BOOKS, BENEFITTING HOLOCAUST EDUCATORS

Thank you on behalf of the teachers
attending the 2026 Eva K. Unterman
Conferences for Holocaust Educators (SB
1671 Oklahoma Holocaust Legislative
Coalition) who spend hundreds and often
thousands of their own dollars to provide
their students with materials that matter.

PLEASE DROP OFF BELOW

Questions? Email NancyP@sb1671.org



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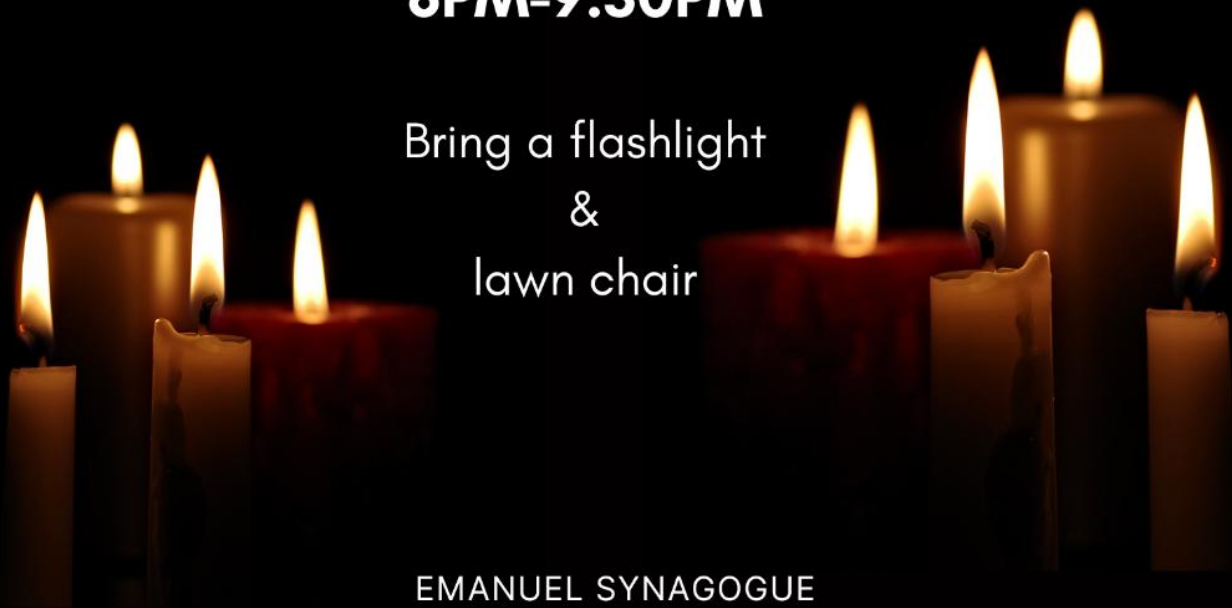
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Tisha B'av

ANNUAL PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 22, 2026
8PM-9:30PM**

Bring a flashlight
&
lawn chair



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SISTERHOOD



**SUPPORT THE
COMMUNITY & GROW
YOUR BUSINESS**
Advertise in the 2026–
2027 Emanuel Synagogue
Membership Directory

- Affordable Advertising
- Local Community

Exposure

- Multiple Ad Sizes

Available

- Business & Personal

Ads Welcome

Ad rates start at only \$50.

Submission Deadline:

June 20, 2026

For more information,
please contact Shirley Meek
at (405) 561-9067 or via
email
at shirley.emanuelsynagogue@gmail.com. An official
form with further details can
be emailed or mailed upon
request.

Sisterhood Gift Shop

Buy your Bar & Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, and Baby
Gifts. Plus, Yahrzeit and Shabbos candles, Jewelry,
pottery and so much more.

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With Affection We Recall...



**Monday, June 1,
16 Sivan**

Irving Goldberg
Louis Sherman

**Tuesday, June 2,
17 Sivan**

Ralph Alpert
Martha Weiss

**Wednesday, June 3,
18 Sivan**

Evelyn Trachtenberg

**Thursday, June 4,
19 Sivan**

Joseph Leder

**Saturday, June 6,
21 Sivan**

Meyer Osherwitz
David Targoff

**Sunday, June 7,
22 Sivan**

Frida Fritz
Rose Granison
Leo Plotkin
Judith Silverman
Harvey Weiss

**Tuesday, June 9,
24 Sivan**

Meyer Goss

**Wednesday, June 10,
25 Sivan**

Dorothy Langsam

**Friday, June 12,
27 Sivan**

David Sureck

**Saturday, June 13,
28 Sivan**

Leon Glymer
Hyman Josephson
Frances Nevard
Doris Rose

**Sunday, June 14,
29 Sivan**

Anna Bloom
Meyer Kornblit

**Monday, June 15,
30 Sivan**

Jonathan Harpman
Milton Oberstein
Grace Sureck

**Thursday, June 18,
3 Tammuz**

Thomas Durica

**Friday, June 19,
4 Tammuz**

Beverly Melnick

**Saturday, June 20,
5 Tammuz**

Elsie Rubenstein

**Sunday, June 21,
6 Tammuz**

Arvin Burdett
Joe Maxon
Edward Richardson
Eli Skalovsky

**Monday, June 22,
7 Tammuz**

Sarita Asner
Atanacio Gonzales
Dr. Alan Wagner

**Wednesday, June 24,
9 Tammuz**

Ruthe Moore
Morris Sureck
Arenette Leah Sutton

**Friday, June 26,
11 Tammuz**

Melvin Gerald Sandler

**Saturday, June 27,
12 Tammuz**

Rose Gringer
Lucille Horwitz

**Sunday, June 28,
13 Tammuz**

Dorothy Cohen

**Monday, June 29,
14 Tammuz**

Brett Shalom Kanter

**Tuesday, June 30,
15 Tammuz**

James Belson
Charles Goodman

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WE REMEMBER



**PHYLLIS
BLACK**

Linda Gardner

JUDITH COHEN

Dr. Martin & Laura
Levine

LAURA B. ELLIS

Gail Meltzner,
Jamie Meltzner
Spann & Leslie
Meltzner Hellman

**PHYLLIS
EPSTEIN**

Dr. Robert B.
Epstein, Scott
Epstein & family

SUE GOLDFARB

Alan Goldfarb

MYRNA KOPP

Nikki & Charles
Singer Foundation

**BEVERLY
MELNICK**

Stacy Coe

**GRETI
NEUWALD**

Sharon Neuwald

**SHIRLEY
SHANKER**

Robin Shanker &
Joseph Anzelmo

**DR. PAUL
SILVERSTEIN**

Dr. Amalia
Miranda-Silverstein

ALBERT WEISE

Elaine Weise
Shirley Skalovsky

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JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Keith & Lesley Bell
- 5 Louis & Laura Barlow
- 9 Michael & Joan
Korenblit
- 14 Drs. Ira & Beth
Targoff
- 15 Harold & Jan Green
- 18 Dr. Michael & Jiji
Pollack
- 19 Quenton & Deborah
Duren
Yair Pincu & Rhona
Seidelman
- 23 Dr. Mark & Debra
Wolraich
- 28 Richard & Glenna
Tanenbaum



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Jessica Carson
Harold Green
David Lunsford
- 6 Christy Smith
- 8 Carol Epstein
- 9 Dr. Robert B. Epstein
- 12 Jeff Goss
- 13 Shirley Meek
- 16 Judith Bateshansky
Jody Gonzales
- 17 Claire Boswell
Dr. Beth Resman Targoff
- 19 Lori Blumenthal
Joseph Shaver
Korrie Tauber
- 21 Nance Cunningham
Lindy Goss
- 22 Rhonda Day
- 23 Mitchell Rozin
- 24 Dr. Fatima Abrantes-Pais
Asher Carson
Dr. Alan Levenson
Dr. Steven Sloan
Debra Wolraich
- 27 Shelley Savage
- 28 Renate Fairweather
- 30 Carmela Logsdon
Dr. Mark Wolraich

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תודה רבה
TODA RABAH

**Donation to Rabbi's
Discretionary Fund**

Shelley Savage
Christy Smith

**Congregants
Assistance Fund
Donation**

Dr. Yona Rebbetzin
Alter & Dr. Rabbi
Levi Alter
Bernard Backer
Meredith Willis

**Cemetery Fund
Donation**
Shirley Skalovsky

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