



# EMANUEL CONGREGATION

## **Brotherhood**

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*An affiliate of the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods*

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### News From the Brotherhood

Last month we recognized that it is important to support the Jewish community as a whole, but that we must also remember that there are smaller communities that need to band together. Through this uniting, the smaller communities will give more to the larger community than the individuals in the smaller communities can by themselves.

We then identified some of the smaller communities at Emanuel in the context of life cycles. These include the older youth of Emanuel, the young adult community, the religious school parents, the empty nesters, the senior community, and the elderly. Each group needs to reach up and reach back to each other to enhance the quality of life for the other groups and for Emanuel as a whole.

In the sense of our desire to serve Emanuel and to provide a platform for addressing the needs of Emanuel's men, the Brotherhood is a microcosm of the larger Emanuel community. That is, the Brotherhood, at its best, consists of young adult men, fathers of the children in religious school, empty nester men, senior men, and elderly men.

As a group we offer much to the Emanuel Community already. The Brotherhood calendar is full of services and programs that is greatly appreciated at Emanuel, such as organizing and implementing the ushering for the High Holidays, planning and staging the Second Night Passover Seder, hosting and arranging the annual Round-Table Discussion Series, to name just a few.

The question now remains, what does the Brotherhood offer to the men of Emanuel? The answer simply is we offer a comfortable and secure environment for men to express themselves and we offer our support and understanding of issues that are unique to men.

The best example of how we support the Emanuel men is how the Brotherhood conducts its monthly meetings. Ostensibly, these meetings are for the Brotherhood board. However, all Brotherhood members and even Emanuel men that are only interested in lending their ideas and feelings to the Brotherhood are welcome. Although we have an agenda each meeting and we try to loosely follow that outline, we are far from parliamentarians. We encourage all the men to contribute their opinions to the subjects we discuss, but we often find ourselves off on some tangent. This may seem to be an inefficient use of our time, but we have found that there is very often a need for our men to freely express their feelings and emotions. The older men are able to relate their experiences to a situation or program being discussed and they offer a stability and continuity to our ideas. The younger men give us all a boldness and freshness that make it possible to think and act in ways that some thought was no longer possible. We encourage all to relate their ideas and proposals in narratives, to tell us through stories. We believe there is no single view that is right to the exclusion of all others.

Join us. Call the office to find out when the next meeting is.

David Fleischman and Barry Glaser  
Brotherhood Co-Presidents