



EMANUEL CONGREGATION

Brotherhood

An affiliate of the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods

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News From the Brotherhood

Welcome to the Emanuel Brotherhood. When you join the Brotherhood, you will be sent from time to time information on the activities of the Emanuel Brotherhood that we think will be useful and interesting for you. So what is this information and why should you be mindful about it?

In this open letter, we summarize what we have to offer and to why joining us is a great idea. For each man, the reason for joining will be different.

The Emanuel Brotherhood is an auxiliary organization of Emanuel Congregation. We exist specifically to serve the needs of the men of Emanuel and generally to enable the men of Emanuel to find a way to channel their special talents or experiences to help the entire congregation.

We have events and perform services. We donate our time, talents, and resources to help Emanuel be a better place for all. We provide a forum for men alone and men with their partners to voice their concerns, opinions, and questions regarding issues that affect Emanuel, the Jewish community, and society at large, whether that is specifically for men or not.

We have fun often and we are just as often very serious.

The Emanuel Brotherhood gives OSRU camp scholarships to Emanuel children each year. We also contribute to Emanuel fund raising programs, such as the Torah Writing Project.

Our activities include sponsoring the Emanuel Picnic. You may remember this on the first day of religious school. Also, we organize and supervise the ushering corps for the High Holidays. There are a series of Round-Table Discussions that open challenging topics to examination and debate. This, in recent times, included "The Jewish Perspective on the Environment" and "The Jewish Perspective on Stem Cell Research". The Brotherhood also sponsors the Emanuel Second Night Seder. This last one is our chief fundraiser each year.

The Brotherhood works and supports other Emanuel Groups and people as well. This past year we had a Line Dancing night jointly with the Women of Reform Judaism. We bought a block of tickets last year to cheer on Rabbi Schaalman when he threw out the first pitch at a Cubs game. We offer financial and other support to the Youth Group for the Purim Carnival. And, we present a gift to the confirmands at Shavuot.

The Brotherhood gets support from all Emanuelites and also from our national organization, the Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ). MRJ supports us with a Magazine called Achim. It has articles that deal with men's issues, whether that is health or family or Israel, presenting the Jewish male's perspective. MRJ also supports some very important programs, such as the Jewish Chautauqua Society, a program that empowers Rabbis to teach Christian Seminarians about Judaism. There is also Reform on Campus, and the Achim Corps and others.

We want to send you an application to join us.

David Fleischman and Barry Glaser
Brotherhood Co-Presidents