



EMANUEL CONGREGATION

**Brotherhood**

See our web page: <http://EmanuelBrotherhood.com>

*A member of the Men of Reform Judaism*

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## From the Brotherhood President

As we all stash our heavy coats in the closet and (finally!) welcome spring in Chicago, I feel my own sense of 'fresh beginnings' as the Acting President of the Emanuel Brotherhood. You may wonder what led me—a busy working dad and weekend musician—to assume this added responsibility. The answer is simple: I want to give back to the Emanuel community and the Brotherhood for the way you have helped reignite my commitment to my Reform Jewish identity, and to full participation in a Jewish community. Lisa and I were married by Rabbi Zedek six years ago and have grown to love this congregation for its openness, warmth, and diversity.

With our daughter Joella's sibling due this summer, we expect our commitment to Emanuel to deepen even further. As outgoing Brotherhood President David Fleischman has remarked in past newsletters, Emanuel needs a separate Brotherhood because Reform Jewish men have a special responsibility to examine our male identities, social and familial roles, and Jewish obligations in light of a rapidly changing world. The Brotherhood fosters friendship and interdependence among the men of Emanuel as we grow as individuals. Of course, the Brotherhood has another important purpose: supporting the entire congregation! To this end, we are proud to have hosted two well-attended roundtables this past winter. The first roundtable, which I presented, covered the topic 'Jews and Jazz.' The second, presented by my sister, Julia Bachrach, explored architect Daniel Burnham's historic Burnham Plan for developing Chicago. Both roundtables featured refreshments, camaraderie, and lively discussion.

The Brotherhood also hosted Emanuel's Second Night Seder, which provided a moving and meaningful Seder experience for congregants and guests. Through last year's event, the Brotherhood raised enough money to provide three scholarships for Emanuel children to attend OSRUI summer camp. Finally, for the Harold Ramis and Aaron Freeman event, Brotherhood members staffed the parking lot on that cold, rainy night and somehow had fun doing it!

I look forward to the rest of 2010 here at Emanuel.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community.

*Daniel Sniderman, Brotherhood President*

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