



December 2025
Chanukah News!

Light the Candles: Dec. 14-21

This year the first night of Chanukah is on Sunday, Dec. 14, and the last night is on Sunday, Dec. 21. Chanukah ends at sundown on Monday, Dec. 22. [Click here](#) for the blessings over the candles and for information on how to place the candles and the order in which to light them.



Celebrate Chanukah with Rabbi Jacquie: Dec. 12-14

Just in time for Chanukah, Rabbi Jacquie is back for the first of four visits through May 2026. She will lead services on Friday, Dec. 12; the rest of the weekend TBD!



Chanukah Party for TERS and Chanukah Learning for Adults: Dec. 14

On Sunday, Dec. 14, our TERS students will have their Annual Chanukah Party, with food, crafts, prayer, song, and above all Jewish learning and community. And from 10 am-noon, Mark Epstein will present *Chanukah for Grownups: More than Menorah*. RSVP to [Bill Gross](#) so that we buy enough bagels!



Come one, come all!
Save the date for our

2nd Annual Chanukah Silent Auction

Saturday, December 6, 2025

7 pm

Temple Emanuel Social Hall

\$10 entrance fee

RSVP [HERE](#)



Enjoy heavy apps & sangria while shopping for exciting finds!

Funds raised will be used to
help pay for the fixtures/detailing
of our future restroom on the first floor.

Interested in donating an item or a service yourself?
Do you have “a connection in the right place” who
might be willing to donate something?

Wanted!
**SILENT
AUCTION
ITEMS**

Please help us find some great
items for the auction!

Contact Suzi Nash
(617-510-1332)
or Andy Osborne (704-854-1010)

בְּרַכָּהּ ה' וְיִשְׁמְרֶהּ יְאֵר ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיהָ וְיַחְנֶנָּה. יֵשָׂא ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיהָ וְיִשֶּׂם לָהּ שְׁלוֹם
May you and your loved ones be blessed through this donation.

Recent Legacy Gifts

In recent months we've received planned gifts from individuals who generously remembered the Temple in their estate plans. The Board would like to share their stories with you.

Deane C. Griffin

Many of us remember Deane as the woman from Lincolnton who wore jaunty berets, rarely met a stranger, had a green thumb, and loved being Jewish. She converted in 1983 under the guidance of our late rabbi, Israel Gerber, and over the years was a member of our congregation and the Hickory Jewish Center. Long before her death in July 2024, Deane made our Temple a beneficiary of her estate. In anticipation of receiving these funds, our Board has established the Deane C. Griffin Conversion Fund and will allocate a portion of her forthcoming bequest to help underwrite our Conversion Program, which is now serving its second cohort of students. (Please see p. 3 for more about the Conversion Program.) Given Deane's joy in Judaism, we believe she would wholeheartedly endorse this use of her funds. And we are eternally grateful.

Jan Devine

While it had been a few years since we last saw her, Jan cared deeply about our Temple. A laboratory technician with a deep love of animals, gardening, drawing, and painting, Jan was often quiet and always astute. She converted to Judaism in upstate New York, many years ago. Soon after her passing in January 2024, we learned she made a generous bequest to our congregation. As our Board decides how best to use her unrestricted gift, we remember her strong faith and her commitment to strengthening our Temple.

Alice Arkin

While many of us did not know Alice, she was a steady, long-time friend of our Temple. A member of First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, she was married to Joel, a Temple member who died in 1998. Since then, and without fail, Alice sent us monthly checks in memory of her beloved husband. A retired teacher with a ready smile and a warm personality, Alice was a native of Gastonia who loved to read, garden, and care for feral cats in her neighborhood. After her death in December 2024, Andy Osborne, along with the executor of her estate, arranged a gift of undesignated funds to Temple Emanuel, consistent with her giving history. We are using this gift to upgrade our security system. Our Temple gratefully acknowledges Alice's enduring generosity to our congregation.

Conversion News!

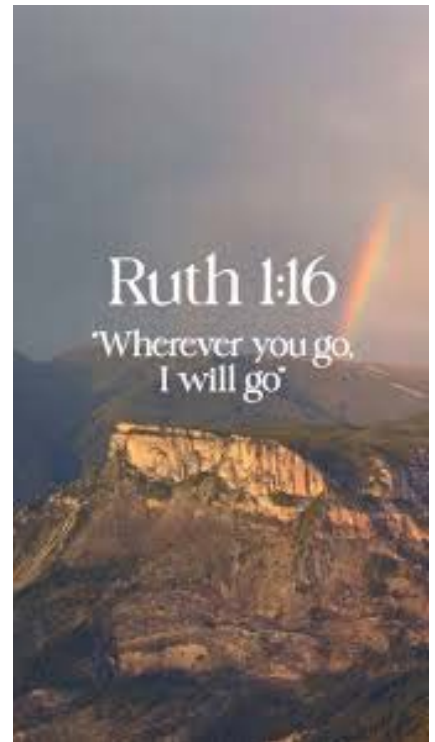


Our second conversion class is now underway! Eight (yes, eight!) students are currently completing *Introduction to Judaism*, an [online course](#) offered by the Union for Reform Judaism. This overview of Jewish theology and practice is our prerequisite for taking our homegrown course - *18 Weeks to a New Life in Torah* - developed by Rabbi Ya'akov Walker. Rabbi Ya'akov, Mark Epstein, and Bill Gross will teach *18 Weeks* in biweekly sessions at Temple starting on January 11, 2026. The third part of our conversion class is learning to read Hebrew with congregant and lay leader Bill Marx, which will also start in the new year.

After completing this three-part program, each conversion candidate will stand before a Bet Din at Charlotte's Temple Israel. This religious court, composed of three learned individuals, will interview each candidate and determine whether they are ready to become a Jew by Choice. Those accepted into the covenant will immerse in Temple Israel's mikveh. Their conversions will be recognized by both the Conservative and the Reform Movements. A joyous Shabbat service during which the new members of our Jewish family have their first aliyah is the bridge from the successful completion of over a year of study to a lifelong journey as a member of B'nai Israel.

If you attended the recent Shabbat service celebrating Allison Kanipe, Clark Simon, and Claudia Dorfman - who completed our first conversion class and stood successfully before their Bet Din in October - you know how meaningful the entire process is and how wonderful it is to welcome those who choose to join the Jewish People. Please look forward to being introduced to our eight new sojourners at Shabbat services over the coming months.

As shared on page 2, thanks to a generous contribution the Board has established the Deane C. Griffin Conversion Fund to help underwrite program expenses. Students in our conversion class pay tuition based on a sliding fee; their payments will revert to the Conversion Fund so that we can offer the program over the years to come.

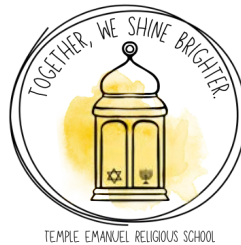


Already Jewish But Eager to Learn More About Judaism?

Please sit in on our conversion class sessions! Learn the nuances of Judaism you didn't learn in Hebrew School or at home. The course, *18 Weeks to a New Life in Torah*, runs from Jan. 11 to Sept. 6, 2026, and will be held in the Board Room from 10 am to noon.

[Please click here](#) to see a description of what's on offer each of the 18 weeks. You are welcome to attend the sessions of your choice - or the entire program. Although there is no fee for Temple members, we encourage a donation of your choosing to our recently established Deane C. Griffin Conversion Fund. For more information, please contact [Mark Epstein](#).

News From TERS (Temple Emanuel Religious School)




Our Chanukah party is on Sunday, Dec. 14. Join us for food, crafts, prayer, song, and above all Jewish learning and community.

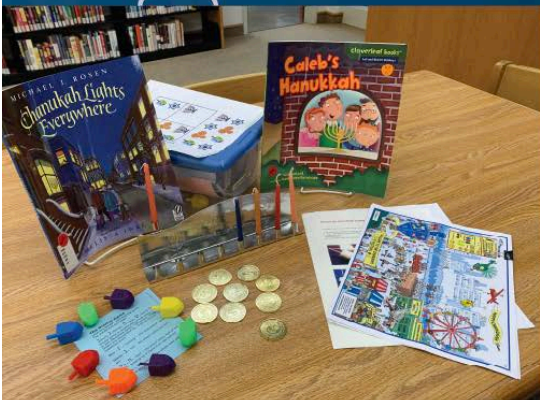


In addition, we'll be announcing our new kids club, **Tzedakah Kids**, a monthly opportunity during Religious School to engage in Tikkun Olam and do our bit to repair the world! Lucy Thomas and her mom Barbara Blau will tell you all about it on Dec. 14. We'll officially kick off the program on Mitzvah Day during Religious School on Jan. 18, 2026!

And TERS students, don't forget to bring your grownups to school with you for our **2nd Annual Mitzvah Day on Sunday, Jan. 18**. This is an occasion that the entire congregation can participate in, as we engage in acts of compassion and kindness to benefit those in our community and around the world who are needy. While this event takes place during Religious School, it is most decidedly NOT "just for kids."



HANUKKAH TOOLKITS FOR "HANUKKAH PARENTS"






Teaching about Hanukkah at your child's school? Don't fear! The Center for Jewish Education and PJ Library have you covered!

Free kits for sharing Hanukkah are available for checkout at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library.

Kits Include:

- Explanation of the holiday of Hanukkah
- Appropriate story book
- Hanukkah menorah and candles
- Dreidels and directions for playing
- Craft Ideas
- Hanukkah worksheets/coloring pages (We can make copies for you in the Library.)
- Classroom set of dreidels and gelt to leave as a treat for students

Please call or email the Library to reserve your kit today—quantities are limited.
704.944.6783 • library@jewishcharlotte.org





Temple Emanuel will celebrate 6 B'NAI MITZVAH from February to July 2026!

- February 7, 2026: **Jackson Gardner** (son of Amanda and Bill Gardner)
- April 11, 2026: **Aaron Dorfman** (son of Denny and Claudia Dorfman)
- June 27, 2026: **Maddie Pasour** (daughter of Emily and Eric Pasour) and **Nate Santay** (son of Dale and Sean Santay) with parent **Dale Santay**
- July 18, 2026: **Nora Bradenburg** (Pete and Vicki Rauch's granddaughter)

Friday Night Services in December

Please join us on Dec. 5, 12, 19 and 26 for Shabbat services at 7:30 pm, followed by oneg.

Note that we will not have our usual First Friday Potluck Supper on Dec. 5, due to the Silent Auction on Dec. 6.

Please [click here](#) to sign up to host an oneg in December. As of this writing, all four dates are available.

In particular, we invite those observing a yahrzeit to consider hosting the oneg. This used to be a tradition at Temple Emanuel, and we hope to see it revitalized! An oneg need not be fancy, nor need it be a lot of work. Something as simple as cookies, fruit and some seltzer water from the Temple's refrigerator is perfect!



[Click here](#) to sign up to host or to help with set up or clean up. Basic instructions are in the link and posted in the Temple kitchen. More detailed instructions are [here](#).

Help Feed the Hungry by Filling - and Refilling - Our Collection Box!

When you come to Temple - whether it be for services, Religious School, an Adult Ed program, Hebrew lessons, Mitzvah Day, conversion class, or any other reason - please bring nonperishable food items to help feed the hungry. You'll find the Collection Box in the social hall. This is an ongoing effort, so we can all make it a habit to bring a donation whenever we head to Temple.

Welcome to our New Members, Allison Kanipe and Clark Simon, both graduates of the very first conversion class at Temple Emanuel. Mazel Tov!

Interested in joining Temple Emanuel? Do you have children you might want to enroll in our Religious School? Please email [Mark Epstein](#), our Board member in charge of Membership, and he will reach out to you.



Member News: Mr. Peabody Needs a Home

Elaine Lyerly shares the following:

"I am looking for a good, loving home for my cat, Mr. Peabody. He is approximately 9 months old and was lovingly rescued and fostered before he came to live with me. Sadly, due to cat allergies, he needs to find a new family. He is neutered, chipped and current on all shots. If he captures your heart, please text or call Elaine Lyerly at 704-996-4605."

Paying your dues? Making a donation? Use Rakefet!

To set up your Rakefet account: Go to <https://us.rakefetonline.com> and enter the email address on file for you at the Temple. Click on "Forgot Password" to get a temporary password emailed to you. (Check your spam folder if it's not in your inbox.) To set up a payment account and to schedule or make payments, click on "Payments" on the Dashboard. For questions or assistance, please email [our Treasurer](#).



We gratefully thank the following individuals for their November donations:

- Sue Corbin, in memory of Dorothy Corbin
- Jacques Elfersy, in honor of Augustina Ince
- Stephanie Rauch, in memory of Isaac Rauch, Esther Rauch, Kenny Girard, Ethel Ross, Clarence Alfred Ross, Rose Wohl Marks, and Connie Girard
- Alton Reeder, donation to the General Fund
- Denny & Claudia Dorfman, donation for a Memorial Plaque for Denny's mother Linda Blitz-Eccles
- Kevin Kirsh, donation in memory of his brother Bruce Kirsh
- Sue Corbin, in memory of Millard Corbin, Jordan Misheff and Margaret Ewing



**Why wait for Temple Emanuel's Mitzvah Day on Sunday, Jan. 18?
Do a mitzvah right after you read this newsletter!**



Current policies have resulted in a great need for donations to the food pantry at Gastonia's Crisis Assistance Ministry (CAM).

CAM in Gastonia serves approximately 250 families a month. Its food pantry depends on donations from the community—which includes us!

[Click here](#) to find out more about giving, either by writing a check or by donating food. If you choose to write a check, be sure to write "Temple Emanuel" on the check. And if you'd like to donate food, you can drop it off M-Th, 9 am to 2 pm, at 805 W. Airline Ave, Gastonia. For after hours donations, call 704-867-8901. Currently CAM especially needs jelly, canned green beans and canned pasta.

Please feel free to leave food donations in the new Collection Box in our social hall or on Janet Epstein's front porch. Your donation will be delivered to CAM. Janet is on our Board and also on the Board of CAM; her number is 704-860-5653.

Upcoming Events:

- **There will not be a First Friday potluck in December** due to the auction on Saturday night, Dec. 6.
- **2nd Annual Chanukah Silent Auction, Sat. Dec. 6, 7 pm.** Enjoy heavy apps and sangria while shopping and schmoozing. \$10 entrance fee. Please call Suzi Nash (617-510-1332) or Andy Osborne (704-854-1010) to donate an item to be auctioned off – or to share the name of a friend or organization that might donate. Funds raised will go towards the fixtures and detailing of the restroom planned for the main floor of the synagogue. Please [click here](#) to let us know you're coming. Thank you!



- **Rabbi Jackie Marx joins us for the weekend of Dec. 12-14:** We will celebrate Chanukah as Rabbi Jackie leads us in services on Shabbat. The rest of the weekend is TBD!
- **TERS Chanukah Party, Sun. Dec. 14,** during Religious School.



- ***Chanukah for Grownups: More than Menorah, Sun. Dec. 14, 10-noon*** in the sanctuary, presented by Mark Epstein (who should be dubbed our Permanent Scholar in Residence!). RSVP to [Bill Gross](#) so that we buy enough bagels (please bring your own coffee).

- **Festival of Lights Hanukkah Concert with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Thurs. Dec. 18, 7:30 pm:** Celebrate the joy of Hanukkah with an uplifting evening of music, light, and community. This festive concert brings together voices from Charlotte's Jewish communities for a heartwarming night filled with the spirit of the Festival of Lights -- featuring cantors and a children's choir from local congregations, music from across the centuries, and a lively sing-along of favorite Hanukkah songs. It's a celebration for all ages at the Knight Theater in Uptown Charlotte. [Click here](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.



- **Hockey & Hanukkah Night, Sun. Dec. 21, 4 pm:** The Charlotte Checkers would love to welcome Temple Emanuel to a special evening for their Hockey and Hanukkah game at Bojangles Coliseum. This festive night will feature:
 - A menorah lighting ceremony on the ice
 - A special Checkers group gift
 - Discounted tickets

It's a great way to bring families and friends together to celebrate Hanukkah and enjoy some exciting hockey action. You can find the special offer here: [Hockey & Hanukkah Special Offer](#). We hope you can join this meaningful and memorable celebration!



- **4th Sunday of the Month Women's Club Hike, Dec. 28, 10 am:** Join us as we hike Belmont's [Seven Oaks Preserve Trail](#). RSVP to Lisa Jenkins 980-833-6299, Stacey Bhalla 704-616-4732, Lee Buchanan 704-661-9685 or Stephanie Rauch 704-609-8425.
- **New Adult Education Course! 18 Weeks to a New Life in Torah, Sundays 10-noon, Jan. 11-Sept. 6, 2026:** This course is part of our conversion class but is open to all Temple members interested in exploring the nuances of Judaism one may not have learned in Hebrew School or at home. Come explore the tenets, practices and stories of our faith! [Please click here](#) for the course schedule. You are welcome to attend the sessions of your choice - or the entire program. Although there is no fee for Temple members, we encourage a donation of your choosing to our recently established Deane C. Griffin Conversion Fund. For more information, please contact [Mark Epstein](#).

- **Jewish Film Club, Sat. Jan. 17, 6:30 pm:** Join us at the Blau's house for our next movie night. Our movie: *Ushpizim*, a heart-warming 2004 Israeli film, set in an ultra-Orthodox neighborhood in Jerusalem and featuring a loving couple, escaped convicts and a very expensive etrog. Bring something to eat/drink and to share if you wish. Let Peter and Barbara know you're coming [by clicking here](#). We need to know how many chairs to set out, thank you!
- **2nd Annual Mitzvah Day, Sun. Jan. 18, 10-noon:** This is an occasion that the entire congregation can participate in, as we engage in acts of compassion and kindness to benefit those in our community and around the world who are needy. While this event takes place during Religious School, it is most decidedly NOT "just for kids." Please mark your calendar now and join us on Jan. 18. Tikkun Olam!
- **Jackson Gardner**, Amanda and Bill Gardner's son, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday morning, Feb. 7, 2026**. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this very special service!



We Have a Temple Calendar!



Forgotten when an event is or want to know the time of an event? Sign in to your account on [Rakefet](#) and find out on our brand-new Temple Emanuel calendar.



Security Updates!

In order to raise our level of security, we now need a password - Established 1913 - to access this and all previous newsletters on our Temple Emanuel website. [Click here](#) to access the newsletter archive on our website; you can also navigate to the archive from the site menu [here](#).

In addition, the Board is pleased to announce that during the first week of December an upgraded security alarm and CCTV system is being installed at Temple Emanuel. A legacy gift from the late Alice Arkin, for which we are very grateful, is being used to fund this very important improvement to our synagogue.

Caring For Congregants

- Volunteers provide home or hospital visits and deliver meals to congregants who are ill. Please contact [Stephanie Rauch](#) to become a volunteer. These visits are deeply appreciated.
- Stephanie Rauch and Charlie Brown offer pastoral counseling to congregants (charging only what insurance will pay or a fee based on a sliding scale). Both are licensed therapists with years of experience. Please email [Charlie](#) or [Stephanie](#).





Adult Ed Presentation: On Sunday, Dec. 14, from 10-noon in the sanctuary, Mark Epstein will present *Chanukah for Grownups: More than Menorah*. RSVP to [Bill Gross](#) so that we buy enough bagels (please bring your own coffee).

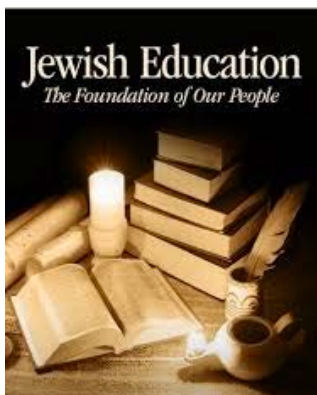
Temple Emanuel's Book Club is back!

Member Allison Kanipe is spearheading the revival of the Temple Emanuel Book Club. Please [email Allison](#) to let her know you're interested. At the first meeting (date and time TBD) the group will choose their first book (Jewish fiction, history, culture, theology...?) based on an interest survey. This is a great opportunity to study and learn together - and to socialize! If you might be interested, please email Allison now.



New Adult Education Course!

18 Weeks to a New Life in Torah, Sundays 10-noon, Jan. 11-Sept. 6, 2026: This course is part of our conversion class but is open to all Temple members interested in exploring the nuances of Judaism one may not have learned in Hebrew School or at home. Come explore the tenets, practices and stories of our faith! [Please click here](#) for the course schedule. You are welcome to attend the sessions of your choice - or the entire program. Although there is no fee for Temple members, we encourage a donation of your choosing to our recently established Deane C. Griffin Conversion Fund. For more information, please contact [Mark Epstein](#).



Shared by Bill Gross: [Click here](#) to read a Washington Post article exploring different views of Shabbat and why an ancient spiritual practice is deeply important in our high tech world.

Ongoing classes:

- Want to learn to read Hebrew? Join our Adult Hebrew class! Email [Bill Marx](#) or call him at 314-749-3566 for more information.
- Want to learn Biblical Hebrew grammar and vocabulary? Contact [Barbara Blau](#).

If you have an idea for an Adult Ed program or would like to present, please contact [Mark Epstein](#) or [Bill Gross](#), co-chairs of the Adult Education Committee.

December 2025 Yahrzeits

Members can email Temple Emanuel to add a loved one's name to the list of yahrzeits read aloud at Shabbat services. Loved ones do not need to be Jewish.

To be read on Friday, December 5:

Dorothy Corbin (Sue Corbin's mother)
 Lester Cutler (Marla Brodsky's father)
 Vera Fox (Lyn Fox's mother-in-law; Andrew and Dr. Nicole Fox's grandmother)
 Frank Henry Goldberg (Stephanie Rauch's grandfather)
 Max Katz (Bill Marx's grandfather)
 Gertrude Ornstein (Andy Osborne's grandmother)
 Richard Selznick (Betsy Harnage's uncle)
 Minnie Efron Shanker (Sondra Katzenstein's mother)
 Stefan Owen Silverman (Glenn Silverman's brother)
 Ralph P. Weiss (Rob Weiss' father)
 Elke Garber Kaminsky
 Saul Mandel
 Tillie W. Silverstein

To be read on Friday, December 12:

Janice Annenberg (Andy Osborne's aunt)
 Miriam E. Girard (Stephanie Rauch's aunt)
 Solomon Halpert (Barbara Thymius' father)
 Cheryl Ann Sosnik (Marilyn Edwards' sister)
 David Sussman (Dr. Michael Sussman's father)
 Rose Szego (Andrew and Dr. Nicole Fox's great grandmother)
 Sylvia Williams (Amanda Gardner's mother)
 Robert Leland Winton (Andrew and Dr. Nicole Fox's uncle)
 Rebecca Hirshman
 Honigman
 Joseph Essac Slutsky
 Rebecca Wishnefsky



To be read on Friday, December 19:

Samuel Benveniste (Rebecca Benveniste's husband)
 Nicholas Zechariah Crawford (Robert and Betty Crawford's son)
 Eliezer Otto Falkenstein (Talia Wucherer's father)
 Jordan Misheff (Sue Corbin's infant son)
 Rose Tallman (Bill Gross' aunt)
 Edward Baker
 Dora Belkin
 Joseph Feuer
 Dr. Donald E. Kobley
 Mike Planer
 Rachel Morganstein Solomon
 Meilech Spectorman
 Avraham Abby Witten



To be read on Friday, December 26:

Henrietta Ochs Fried (Joe Hahn's grandmother)
 Herbert A. Girard (Stephanie Rauch's uncle)
 Helen Goldberg Jacobowitz (Eileen Morrell's mother)
 Dennis Johnston (Karen Sussman's father)
 Sarah Rachel Margolies (Allan Margolies' mother)
 Marcia Miller (Lynne Shoaf's mother)
 Robert Richard Planer (remembered by Joel and Toni Planer)
 Mina Rosenfeld (Marisa Rosenfeld's grandmother)
 Rosetta Dopkin
 Abraham H. Garmise
 Rebecca Goldstein Honigman
 Eli Nachamson
 Minnie Hoffman Ross
 Maurice H. Silverstein
 Elias Sonnenshein

Dec. 27-31 Yahrzeits—date of reading TBA:

Elaine Belaief Brown (Dr. Karen Rubin's mother)
Millard Corbin (Sue Corbin's father)
Frances Worthy Stringer (Eric Stringer's mother)
Sylvia Topal Cohen
Allen Joseph Greenspon
Jacob Kahn
Lena Lebovitz
Dora Luchen
Irene W. Planer
Hattie van Praagh
Ernest Witten



Life at Temple Emanuel A Bit of October, and November, in Photos



בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּים וְקִיּוּמֵנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

*Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who has kept us alive,
sustained us, and brought us to this season.*

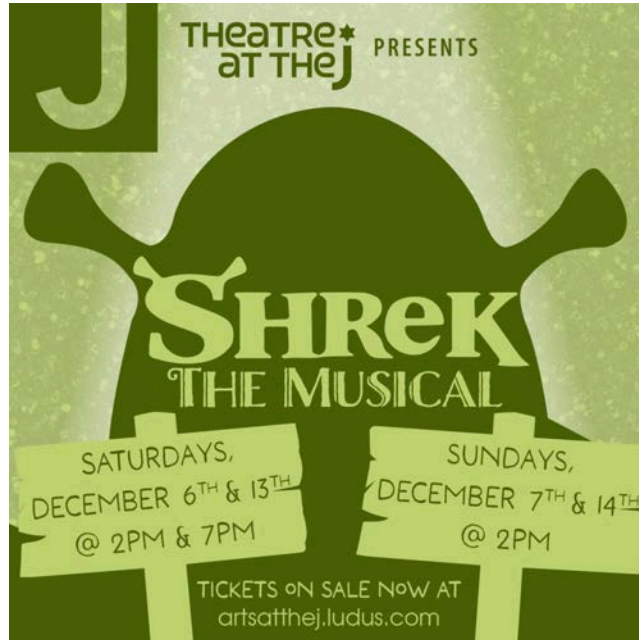
Oct. 30, 2025, after the Bet Din at Temple Israel in Charlotte, a very special day for the Dorfman family, Clark Simon and Allison Kanipe, and for all of us at Temple Emanuel! Mazel tov and welcome!

Photos from services and a special oneg on Nov. 21st when we celebrated and warmly welcomed into the Jewish People the graduates of Temple Emanuel's first conversion class.





Upcoming Community Events in the Greater Gaston Area: Learn, Participate, Celebrate, Support



FEDERATION SUPER EVENT BE A PART OF THIS

Jan. 22 | Temple Israel
Reception 5:45 PM | Event 7 PM

Register Now

Please join us for **The Super Event**, January 22, at Temple Israel, as we kick off the 2026 Annual Campaign. This extraordinary evening will be chaired by **Brian and Raizel Kahn** and will feature Academy Award-winning actress and activist **Marlee Matlin**.

Matlin, who has been deaf since she was 18 months old, has spent decades advocating for inclusion and equality. A proud Jewish woman, she has spoken openly about her faith and identity throughout her career. In recent years, particularly following Oct. 7, she has used her platform to speak out against antisemitism and to call for unity across the Jewish world.



At The Super Event, Matlin will share her personal Jewish journey, reflecting on how her sense of belonging and responsibility has evolved in a time of rising hate and global uncertainty. Her message of courage and connection ties directly to Federation's mission and the spirit of this year's Super Event theme, "Be a Part of This." Attendees will have the opportunity to make their 2026 Annual Campaign pledge.

Registration is now open!

Use the link below to register for The Super Event and the pre-event reception.

Register Here

[Click here to register for the Super Event.](#)

This is a time that matters.

This is Israel @ 78

April 20–27, 2026



**Jewish
Federation**
of Greater Charlotte

Experience Israel Like Never Before!

You're Invited! Join Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte for a mission to Israel unlike anything we've offered before.

This is a Time That Matters: Israel @ 78.

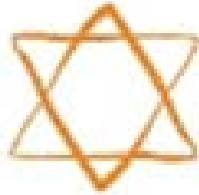
Space is almost full and this is your moment to secure your spot. From **April 20–27, 2026**, you'll be part of a transformative journey that places you in the heart of Israel during two of the most powerful days on the Jewish calendar: Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Together with our Charlotte community and our Israeli partners, you'll experience remembrance, resilience, and celebration in a way that simply cannot be replicated from afar.

Exclusive access. Powerful encounters. Unforgettable connection.

If you want to be part of this historic mission, now is the time to commit. Spots are limited and filling rapidly.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



Temple Emanuel

320 S. South Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

704-865-1541 Website: <https://tegastonia.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TempleEmanuelGastonia/>

Office email: [Temple Emanuel](mailto:TempleEmanuel@gmail.com)

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and the Union for Reform Judaism**

