

RITUAL COMMITTEE REPORT

2022-2023

The Ritual Committee met 6 times this year. All meetings were via Zoom.

Highlights of the year include:

- We met 6 times this year.
- We continue to support and provide a sounding board for our clergy.
- We welcomed new a member to our committee: Emily Lebovitz-Miller.
- We continue to support Zoom, Streaming and outdoor services. This year we have especially encouraged in-person minyanim and we are seeing an increase in in-person attendance.
- We saw increased in-person attendance at our High Holiday services this year. Services really felt like coming home.
- Gabbaim have returned to the bimah.
- The committee supported a communal second night seder. It was very well received, and we hope to continue this practice.
- We welcomed our student rabbi Sass Orol Brown. We have been approved as a Resnick site and we will host a Resnick intern. Max Silverstone will be our next student cantor. We are grateful for the angel donation that will fund the new student intern.
- In February members of our committee welcomed a sofer from Sofer on Site to review our sifre torah to appraise, evaluate for damage, list necessary repairs and provide a report. His analysis will help us decide which sifrei torah will be restored. We will limit the amount of restoration to the available funding. The sofer has also provided us with an updated appraisal for our insurance policy.
- The electronic yearzeit boards that we approved last year will be installed as soon as materials are available. We are hopeful this will happen before Rosh Hashanah 5784. There will be one in the main sanctuary and one in the chapel. The database has already been developed and is operational.
- We continue to support:
 - a. The work of clergy and lay leaders
 - b. The World Wide Wrap and the ongoing practice of b'nei mitzvah using tefillin in their Sunday morning minyanim.
 - c. The work of the Cemetery Committee and the inclusion of an interfaith burial area for members and their partners.
 - d. The review and approval of the daily minyan schedule
 - e. The review and support of all holiday services, including Yom HaShoah and Tisha B'Av.
 - f. The Emanuel Board of Trustees with regular reporting
 - g. Shiva minyanim

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Bower and Donald N. Miller, Ph.D.

Emanuel Synagogue Ritual Committee Co-chairs