

THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE ANNUAL MEETING 2024

Torah Restoration Project

The Torah Restoration Project, titled "Our Sacred Legacy: Up Close and Personal with the Torah," stood as our primary fundraiser for the fiscal year 23/24. The initiative commenced during Simchat Torah, where the entire Torah Scroll was unrolled, allowing congregants an intimate engagement with it. The project encompassed various events, including dinners and lectures featuring Sheila Pally, a photographer and co-author of "Light Beyond the Shadows," which highlights the rescue of Czech Republic scrolls post-Holocaust, and Rabbi Feld, author of "The Book of Revolutions." Additionally, a family program centered on understanding the work of a sofer (scribe) and crafting Tefillin for participants to take home. Donors also had the chance to spend time with Rabbi Hale, our Sofer, to gain insights into his craft. This involved learning and discussing Torah passages and interacting with displays illustrating the techniques and tools of a sofer. A dedicated group of congregants devoted weeks to learning to read the Torah and eventually read from it during a Shabbat morning service on Pesach. The culminating event, the Siyyum, occurred on Sunday, June 9th, where the Torah scroll showcased throughout the project was publicly completed. The final letters were inked in honor of our most generous donors on the Emanuel bimah, with Rabbi Lazowski inscribing the final letter. The completed Torah was then placed back in the ark as a certified kosher scroll. The project exceeded its fundraising goal of \$150,000, which will be allocated towards evaluating, restoring, and repairing our Sifrei Torah, as well as supporting the general budget operations. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated and donated, contributing to the tremendous success of this project.

Tamar Margolis & Randie Fierberg
Co-Chairs