

Belong. Connect. Grow.
The Sisterhood of East End Temple



Member of  **WOMEN OF
REFORM JUDAISM**

Find Out More!



A Year in Pictures
5785 (2024 – 2025)



The Sisterhood of East End Temple Mission Statement

The Sisterhood of East End Temple welcomes anyone who identifies as female, nonbinary or gender-fluid. Consistent with our longstanding legacy of women's empowerment, whenever the words "woman" or "women" appear, we understand them to include all of these individuals.

We listen to the voices of our membership, promoting their interests, passions, ideas, and concerns, and develop communities, friendships, and leaders.

Together we engage in *tikkun olam* by producing timely and relevant programming, fundraising, and advocating for social justice, while nurturing our spiritual and intellectual growth and the life of the congregation, leaders, and the community at large.

This philosophy aligns with our affiliate, Women of Reform Judaism.



In 2024/2025, we increased our use of our team leadership model, building more communities, increasing our collaboration with each other, not only as participants, but as planners as well. Together we create greatness.
See our results...

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OUR 2024/2025 PROGRAMS



July and Beyond...Donating Jewelry

Leaders: Linda Hetzer and Beth Labush

Sisterhood donated jewelry to The Lower Eastside Girls Club of NY, which shared the jewelry at two events: with teens at their Prom Dress Giveaway in May, and with the community at large at their Spring Community Sharing party in June. The very appreciative Girls Club leaders had signs on the tables to acknowledge our contribution. Sisterhood also donated jewelry to give to the attendees of EET's Refugee dinners.

These jewelry pieces came from donations made to our Carnival of Jewels sales over a number of years.



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September – Welcome Back Vision Board Workshop

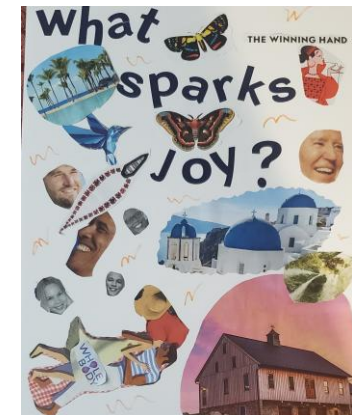
Leader: Rachel Gibbs-Shapiro



Our fearless leader giving instructions



Happy family sharing



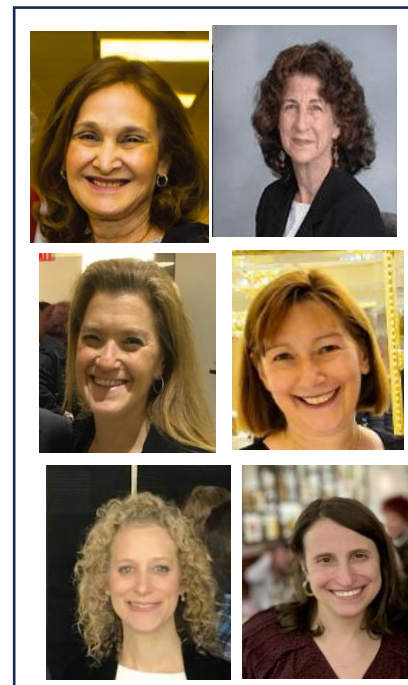


October – March (Monthly) – Food For Families

Team: Cynthia Dubensky, Marian Fish, Andrea Pincus, Celia Vimont
Adding Melanie Kletter and Julie Lansky to the team for next year

Started by Sisterhood over 30 years ago.

Food packages picked up by City Harvest and delivered to those in need.



Intergenerational volunteers made over 10,000 meals to feed hungry New Yorkers!





September – Rosh Hashanah Gifts for College Students

Leader: Fern Stampleman



Sweet treats were sent to 30 college students for Rosh Hashanah along with letters from temple clergy and leadership and from the Sisterhood Leadership Team to keep them connected to EET.



RABBI
JOSHUA STANTON

CANTOR
OLIVIA BRODSKY

CO-PRESIDENTS
BRIAN LIFSEC
REBECCA SHORE

THE SISTERHOOD OF EAST END TEMPLE

is thinking of you as you begin or continue your course of study at college this year.

With a "Grab 'n GO" Apple and Honey New Year's Breakfast Treat and a specialty drink from your local Starbucks, we wish you a sweet year of hope, success in your endeavors, and the joy that family and friends bring!

On behalf of your whole East End Temple Family,
L'shanah Tovah u'Metukah...

Warm regards,
Fern Stampleman
Sisterhood Leadership Team / College Liaison
sthstamps@gmail.com

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245 EAST 17TH STREET NEW YORK, NY 10003 212.477.8444 EASTENDTEMPLE.ORG





September – May - Mah Jongg – Twice Monthly Games + Day of Mah Jongg Leader: Marcia Muskat (with a big assist from Amy Feldman)



Men and women from EET and our surrounding community learned from our volunteers, played, made new friends and had fun!



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December - April (Monthly) – Getting To Know You

Leader: Dr. Ellen Ettinger



Meeting our amazing EET community!
Doctor, Artist, Educator, Investor, Fashionista



Dr. Louise Klebenoff



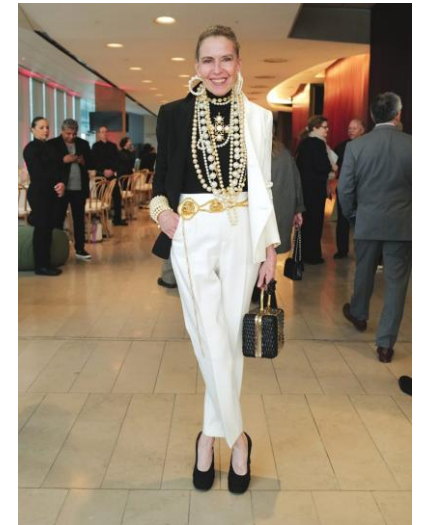
Susan Schwalb



Tehila Eisenstadt



Jamie Silver



Marilyn Kirschner

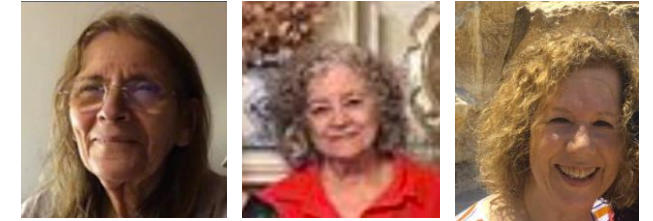
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Jan to April (Monthly) – Rosh Chodesh Brunch and Study

Leaders: Fern Stampleman, Elissa Macklin, Laurie Treuhart



Lay led by women
passionate about Torah!

Women sharing the study of Leah and Rachel – in person with
potluck brunch and on Zoom.

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January to April – Stitch A Thon / Cold Weather Project

Leader: Fran Kolin



Three times a year, people of all talents of knitting and crocheting gather to share projects and stories.

This year we donated 40 hats and scarves, made with love, for attendees of EET's refugee dinners.





March -Meet Recipients of 2024 Birthday Fund Grant

Leaders: Jodi Malcom and Andrea Viders



The Sisterhood of East End Temple



Birthday Fund

The Birthday Fund was started in 2012 by Sisterhood Board Member, Jodi Malcom and supported by Sisterhood leadership. Its mission is to aid non-profit organizations that improve the lives of women and girls in New York City. Less than 2 percent of charitable giving nationwide goes to women and girls despite continuing gender inequities. With generous contributions from East End Temple members to honor their birthdays and the birthdays of loved ones, Sisterhood transforms individual and family donations into annual grants of \$500-\$2,500. Birthday gifts become acts of giving, not receiving, and more meaningful as they are transformed into active outreach by our community.

Since its inception, the Birthday Fund has donated over \$20,000 to the following organizations:

- CASA- NYC, casa-nyc.org
- City Living NYC, citylivingny.org
- Correctional Association of NY, correctionalassociation.org
- Foster Care to Success, fc2success.org
- Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), gems-girls.org
- Girls Who Code, girlswhocode.com
- Girls Write Now, girlswritenow.org
- Girl Scouts of Greater New York Troop 6000, girlscoutsnyc.org
- Hot Bread Kitchen, hotbreadkitchen.org
- Immigrant Justice Corps, justicecorps.org
- Invest in Girls, investingirls.org
- National Council of Jewish Women New York, ncjwny.org
- New Women New Yorkers, nywomenimmigrants.org
- NOW-NYC, nownyc.org
- PACE Women's Justice Center, pace.edu
- Turning Point for Women and Families, tpny.org
- Women's Prison Association, wpaonline.org



Listening to speakers from City Living NYC and Girl Scouts of Greater New York Troop 6000



Presenting the check



We look forward to meeting next year's Birthday Fund grant recipients – watch emails/website for more information!

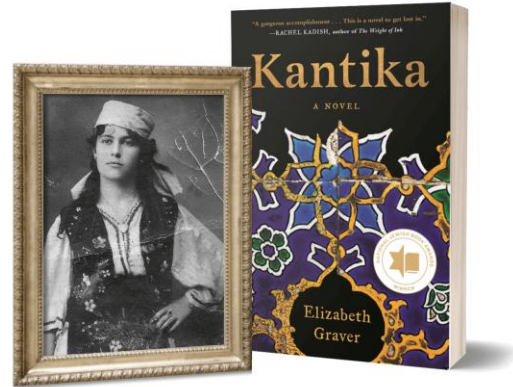
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March – Helene Spring Library Event

Leader: Barbara Ringel



Author, Elizabeth Graver



Homemade dessert buffet!

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March/April – Sales of Hamantaschen and Macaroons

Leader: Fran Kolin



Sharing the sweetness of
the holidays – sales and
donations.





March – Sisterhood Shabbat

Leaders: Suellen Eshed, Fran Kolin and Fern Stampleman
(Marcia Muskat, Catering)



Intergenerational women
lighting candles.



Sharing reflections on community.



Good food and friendships!



Congregational tea light lighting.





March – Docent-Led Visit to Museum of Jewish Heritage The Holocaust: What Hate Can Do

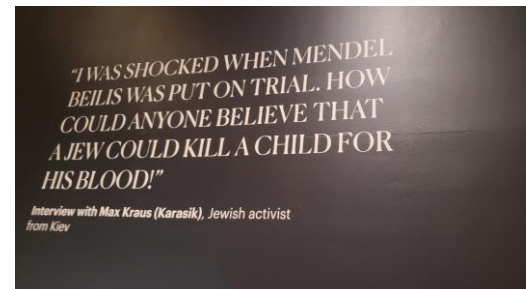
Leaders: Ellen Ettinger and Jeff Hahn
(Co-sponsored with Men's Club)



Our Docent, Beth Gerson



Propaganda





April – Lilith Seder

Team: Suellen Eshed, Fran Kolin, Judith Lorber, Alexis Pederson, Fern Stampleman, Andrea Vidars



Joining in song and prayer
using our own Haggadah of
the story of Passover from
the women's perspective.
Led enthusiastically by
Cantor Xan Weiser



Couldn't join in
person? No
problem!



And the women
dancing with their
timbrels!



April – Claim Your Hebrew Name

Leader: Fran Kolin



Second year of this successful and meaningful program. Twelve (12) people of all ages received new Hebrew names and blessings at Shabbat services on Friday night.



April – Nechama: Packing Post- Abortion Care Supplies

Team: Suellen Eshed, Andrea Viders, Carol Sauerhaft, Susan Rose



Women, men, youth
– working together
in community.

We raised over
\$2600 and had 40
volunteers packing
100 backpacks!



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FINANCES



FUNDS/SOURCES OF INCOME

Special thanks to our Finance Committee, led by Judith Lorber, and with the help of Nancy Schneider, Cynthia Dubensky and Liz Gross for creating and monitoring our budget, income and expenses, and working on clarification of our policies. Extra thanks to Liz Gross for her meticulous organization and administration of our detailed finances.

Also, big thank you to EET and Sisterhood member, Judith Sussman, for coordinating an NYU grant to help us to keep our Food For Families Program going!

Fund	Purpose	Manager (s)	\$ Collected
Food For Families*	To fund our Sunday programs, purchasing food and supplies.	Celia Vimont	\$11,300
Library Fund*	To fund our Library, and purchase books and supplies.	Barbara Ringel	\$3,900
Birthday Fund*	To raise money to donate to local NYC organizations each year, dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls.	Jodi Malcom, Andrea Viders	\$2,800
Leadership Fund*	To support the development of Sisterhood leaders through training programs and conferences.	Cynthia Dubensky	\$550
Membership	To support our programs and donations. (168 members)	Liz Gross	\$8,500
Programs**	Mah Jongg, Shake Your Soul, Museum of Jewish Heritage	Various	\$4,000

* Restricted Funds **Net of expenses



OUR GIVING TO THE EET COMMUNITY

The Sisterhood of East End Temple raises funds to give back to the temple. In 2024/2025, we funded (besides the restricted funds, i.e., Food For Families, Birthday Fund, Library Fund, Leadership Fund, for which we raise money):

- Kiddush cups for our Bet Mitzvah celebrants.
- A \$6,000 stipend to assist the temple with administrative expenses, especially as needed to support Sisterhood programs.
- Oneg Shabbats
 - A celebratory dinner for our Sisterhood Shabbat.
 - Shabbat service honoring those with new Hebrew names - \$100 contribution to oneg + cake.
- \$500 Donation to the EET Tomorrow Fund.
- Membership to Women of Reform Judaism (\$18 per member).
- Holiday packages for our college students.
- Hamantaschen for religious school and *onegs*.
- Thank you gifts to our office staff.



WE ARE SO GLAD TO LISTEN AND TO SERVE YOU! The 2024/2025 Sisterhood Board



Cynthia Dubensky



Suellen Eshed



Ellen Ettinger



Fran Kolin



Liz Gross



Marian Klein



Judith Lorber



Elissa Macklin



Jodi Malcom



Marcia Muskat



Barbara Ringel



Debra Sencer



Fern Stampleman



Alexis Pederson

And we are happy to
announce two new board
members in 2025/2026 !



Andrea Viders

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Final Statement



WHO ARE WE?

We are connected by the desire to use our passions, personal histories and skills as part of the larger community of EET. We are volunteers, leaders, and sisters working in sacred community, with grace, support and love.

Like biological sisters, our personal challenges may get in the way of meeting our goals of mutual support and belonging. At the end of the day, the Sisterhood of East End Temple and its leadership, is blessed with an opportunity to support, forgive, provide healing, love and be there for each other. We are here to do good for ourselves and inspiring each other as well as the community, leading with best intent.

As we have seen many of our sisters suffer through health crises and losses, we are there to support each other. Sometimes we are the main family available to do that. How fortunate we are to have each other!

Mi shebeirakh avoteinu v imoteinu

May the one who blessed our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel, bless and heal us all. And may we all continue to be part of a sisterhood who supports, encourages and builds each other up, while creating goodness.

And in community.