

Devorah Marcus Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El

Devorah Marcus is the Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of San Diego and has been proud to live in San Diego since 2013 as a third generation San Diegan. As a rabbi Devorah works to build a strong sense of culture, faith, heritage, and resiliency within her synagogue while also helping her families and students embrace their roles as ambassadors for their people and their culture in our broader world. Temple Emanu-El has a long tradition of interfaith engagement, LGBTQ+ advocacy, and social action engagement, all of which have continued under Rabbi Devorah's leadership.

Rabbi Devorah works to promote positive community relations through respectful dialogue, something that she teaches actively in all of her classes and with her students at the synagogue. Tikkun Olam – the Jewish value of repairing our world – begins at home by learning to listen with respect and love, and to build a community of peace, warmth, inclusion, and respect. In a world where these basic principles have eroded from public discourse and conduct, Rabbi Devorah seeks to rebuild them as cornerstone of daily living and a reflection of faith in her synagogue community.

Rabbi Devorah is proud to have served two terms as the president of SDRA (San Diego Rabbinic Association) and is now happily the Immediate Past President. Rabbi Devorah is honored to currently serve on the HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) Clergy Council Executive Leadership Team as a national rabbinic voice advocating on behalf of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. She is a regular volunteer leading services at the MCRD (Marine Corp Recruit Depot) where she enjoys serving those who are beginning their training to serve our country. She is honored to have been invited to be a participant in many interfaith events speaking on the urgent social justice issues we face as a community throughout the past ten years with a number of interfaith allies and community partners and looks forward to continuing this sacred and important work in the years to come.

Rabbi Devorah received her masters in Hebrew Letters (2006) and Rabbinic Ordination (2008) from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, CA. She currently lives in the Del Cerro neighborhood of San Diego with her husband, their dog, and her mother. While not working, she enjoys cooking with her husband, taking her dog to San Diego's dog beaches, and swimming in San Diego's municipal pools as well as La Jolla Shores in pursuit of her first career aspiration from childhood, to be a mermaid.