

# WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

Online Edition  
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## BUMM IN

Volume 95, Number 24 • December 15, 2008

# I LOVE ISRAEL *you will too*

**What is Israel** above all else? A beacon of hope. Our national anthem *Hatikvah* literally means “The Hope.” Israel represents hope in an often hopeless part of the world. Did you know that Israeli scientists recently developed the world’s smallest computer? About a trillion of them fit in a single drop of water. There are more books published per capita in Israel than any other nation on earth. It is the passionate and powerful center of Jewish life. Already, more than 50% of the Jewish babies born in the world are born in Israel. Within a few years most of the world’s Jews will live in Israel. Israel represents the greatest renaissance of Jewish culture, history, philosophy, theology, language, dance, food, music, literature, science, economics, art, medicine, archeology, nano-technology, and Torah the world and we have or will ever know.

Ask anyone who has been there. Going to Israel changes you. Going to Israel makes you a better Jew—period. I know many of us are afraid to go. I understand that. So consider this. You are four times more likely to die and four hundred times more likely to be injured driving on an LA freeway than you are visiting Israel. Don’t rely on the news to tell you the truth

about life in Israel. Life in Israel is moving and beautiful. It is not a violent place—certainly not as violent as our freeways.

I love Israel. You will too. I love that the cab drivers know the weekly Torah portion. I love the food, the beautiful faces with dark, almond eyes, the brave young soldiers, the professors and the poets, the children walking home from shul chattering in a language once near dead and now alive on the tongues of six million, the language of Torah dancing like the sun off the stone walls of Jerusalem gleaming and gold beneath the azure sky.

So come with me June 14-28, 2009. Bring your children and your grandchildren. Come with me to change your life. Come with me to change your soul. Be a part of the most hopeful and beautiful people on earth. Be a part of the greatest Jewish story ever lived.

■ *Rabbi Steven Z. Leder*

Intergenerational  
**TOUR OF ISRAEL** *with Rabbi Leder*

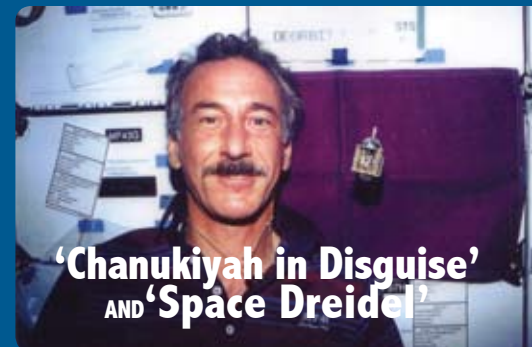


For more information and to register, call Ruth Stoch at (213) 388-2401 or visit [www.arza.org](http://www.arza.org).



## In This Issue

*We've*  
**GOT  
BONE  
MARROW!**





# VAYESHEV

VAYESHEV | GENESIS 37:15-19

We can experience God in countless ways. Sometimes through the discipline of prayer, the knowing glance, the warm touch, a child's laughter- a sacred sound. Sometimes God appears without invitation-in random, unforeseen moments.

We think of these moments as pleasant surprises, but upon deeper reflection they are messages from The Most High.

Joseph the dreamer, beloved by his father Jacob, despised by his jealous brothers, sets out to the fields of Shechem. Along the way, a stranger suddenly appears who seems to know Joseph and the whereabouts of his brothers. This unnamed person, a messenger from God, asks, "What do you want?"

After Joseph's reply, he shows him the way and disap-

pears. God's messengers come to help clear our minds so we can know what it is we truly seek. In his encounter Joseph learns that God has a plan for him and knowing this, he is clear and at peace with his destiny. Enslaved in Egypt, he rises to power, saves countless lives and reunites his family. All this to set the stage for the seminal moment in our people's destiny. We, too, experience these encounters. What we make of them is our destiny.

■ Cantor Don Gurney



## Tikkun Olam

# GOT BONE MARROW?

The day after Yom Kippur, when Wilshire Boulevard Temple members participated in the City of Hope-sponsored Bone Marrow Drive, I happened to be at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. As I walked down the hall to my appointed area, I saw the 'Got Bone Marrow?' slogan on the T-shirt of a young, bald and obviously sick boy. Tears filled my eyes, and I wanted to shout, "Yes, yes, we do have bone marrow!" And I said a special prayer to God to find a match for this little one.

At our Yom Kippur Bone Marrow Drive, 168 of our Temple members rose to the occasion, waited in line, filled out forms and committed to step forward if and when they were called upon. This is the true essence of *tikkun olam*, and we're

so proud of our Jewish community. Meanwhile, 6,000 families per day wait for people just like you. So, while it's a good start, many more people are needed. Please spread the word and ask people to register at [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org).

Thanks again to everyone who signed up, wanted to sign up, contributed money and/or time and sent their good wishes. Yes, at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, we've "got bone marrow"!

■ Lori Plager  
congregant and coordinator of the Temple's Bone Marrow Drive



It's never too late to participate.  
To help, visit [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)



## Early Childhood Centers



The Mann Family Early Childhood Center art enrichment studied Alexander Calder and his amazing wire sculpture mobiles. We looked at all his influences from modern art to his peers such as Kandinsky and Mondrian. The children made amazing wire mobiles and then did watercolors inspired by their own wire creations.

This is what the children said to describe the Calder mobiles :

"IT'S LIKE A VOLCANO" - Alex

"I LIKE THAT THEY ARE HANGING." - Isabella

"COLORS." - Becca

"GOING AROUND." - Ava

"I LIKE THE SHAPES." - Adam



## Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps

### Reunion Held for College-Age Camp Alumni

The Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps Alumni Association held its first college-age alumni event the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, welcoming back 25 former campers, many of whom went on to be counselors and/or staff at Camp Hess Kramer and Gindling Hilltop Camp. Hosted by camp committee member Marci Foster and her husband, Greg, alumni returned from colleges and universities around the country, and enjoyed reconnecting and sharing *Havdalah* led by camp song leader Marshall Voit. This inaugural event for college-age alumni is part of the camps' efforts to broaden our outreach to camp alumni, to get them reengaged and reconnected as members of the camp community. Reunions, networking opportunities, events and programs are being planned for alumni of all ages; check the alumni portion of the camp's website, [www.wbtcamps.org](http://www.wbtcamps.org), for additional opportunities to get involved!

■ Cheri Lauterbach

Associate Director for Alumni & Development

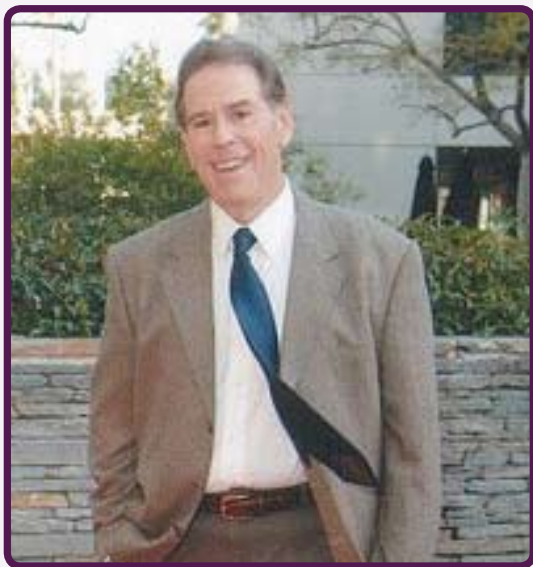




# ‘Chanukiyah in Disguise’ AND ‘Space Dreidel’ LIGHT UP TEMPLE JUDAICA COLLECTION AND SPIN INTERESTING TALES

Wilshire Boulevard Temple’s Judaica collection is a vital part of the historic legacy of our congregation and come with their own unique story. The many examples of 18th- and 19th-century textile *parochet* (ark curtain) gracing the foyer of the Sanctuary and the Roth Gallery were spirited out of Germany in the late 1930s by Henry Weinberger and presented to the Temple for safekeeping. The spiceboxes donated by the Belousoff Family comprise perhaps the largest privately owned collection in the country and is museum quality. The stamps on display in the Old-New Land exhibit were a gift of the Belinkoff Family and tell the story of the founding of the State of Israel from the harrowing first days to the 1980s.

Yet the Temple’s extensive collections are more than



historic artifacts on display, they are active elements of the curriculum at the Center for Learning and Engagement (CLE) where students learn history by “studying the building.” Our Temple is a rich repository of ritual art that illustrates our traditions, heritage and history and was the subject of a pictorial calendar in late 2008.

Recently, collector Roger Richman donated two unique Chanukah-related pieces which will soon be added to the Nettie Wolf Gallery of Jewish Festivals display at the Temple Campus. Richman collects items he considers unique and the “*chanukiyah in disguise*” and “dreidel in space” certainly qualify!

The *chanukiyah in disguise* is a striking piece of intricate silver-and-gold vermeil filigree in an egg shape surrounded by eight covered reservoirs for oil. A bird sits astride the large central reservoir that serves as the shammash. Created in Kiev in the mid-19th century, the *chanukiyah in disguise* bears no resemblance to a conventional *chanukiyah* and carries no marks

identifying its maker or owner—the better to conceal its purpose and use from the authorities.

More conventional in appearance, but strikingly unique is the “Dreidel in Space,” a solid brass dreidel taken by Dr. Jeffrey Hoffman as a crewmember on the Space Shuttle Endeavor in December 2-13, 1993 when he repaired the Hubble Space Telescope. Dr. Hoffman spun the dreidel in zero gravity to a live audience watching via satellite. The solid brass dreidel with *bas relief* depictions of the Maccabi heroes is considered the first Jewish artifact in space.

Richman donated the pieces to Wilshire Boulevard Temple at the suggestion of Temple member Dr. Barry Rosenbloom.

As we celebrate Chanukah this year, the Temple’s Judaica collection will be all the more relevant and rich because of these two very special additions that illuminate our history in distinctive fashion. We offer our deep appreciation and gratitude to Roger Richman.



■ Gina Lobaco, Development Director



## RABBI EDGAR F. MAGNIN FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Marian & Stanley Brown's 40th Wedding Anniversary by Saredel Riskind

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Beloved father, Sidney Dolberg by Phyllis Weiss  
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Caesar Kersten by Beth & Ronald Saul  
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Marvin Kristan by Diane & Noel Applebaum  
Blanche Lefton by Irving Novick  
Frances Libaw by Jacob Libaw  
Caroljean Osterweil by Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Phillips  
Benjamin Tuch by Shelley & Richard Bayer

## CLERGY FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Earl Bubar's 90th Birthday blessing by Norma & Earl Bubar

*In Loving Memory Of:*

My unforgettable mother, Regina Boehm by Sady Kahn  
Rae Bubar by Norma & Earl Bubar  
Mildred Terry Hirsh by Pam & Steven Hirsh  
Philip Weinstein by Shirley Weinstein

## SISTERHOOD PULPIT FLOWER FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Naomi Howard by Dayle Dolginer, Dana Futoran & Eric Futoran  
John Knight by Toibe & Jack Knight

## TIKKUN OLAM SOCIAL ACTION FUND FOOD PANTRY

Janet Gross

*In Honor Of:*

Marian & Stanley Brown's 40th Wedding Anniversary by Margaret Epstein  
Marian & Stanley Brown's 40th Wedding Anniversary by Carla Schauer  
Eli Reisz's 7th Birthday by Daniella & Kate Levy  
Eli Reisz's 7th Birthday by Lily Bragin & Family  
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Joseph Goldman by Ann Rubin  
Florence Graubart by Jeffrey Graubart  
Jean Hartman by Ruthie & Stephen Loeb  
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Ruth Farr & Samuel Sherwin by Helen Sherwin  
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Irving Simon by Beth Singer

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Alexis Brooke Kaufman by Adam & Alison Grossman & Family  
Alexis Brooke Kaufman by Jessica, Emma & Jack Limor  
Alexis Brooke Kaufman by Jenine & Paul Wexler & Family  
Alexis Brooke Kaufman by Jill & Eddie Zecker & Family

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Isaac Alex by Joan, Pearl & Melanie Borinstein

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*In Loving Memory Of:*

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## BIKUR CHOLIM FUND

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## WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE CAMPS

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Burton Kurtzman by Janet & David Lonner  
Beloved mother, Anna Malin by Madeline & Michael Price

## RABBI ALFRED WOLF CAMP FUND

Alan Sieroty

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Sam Breitbart by Jared, Sydnee, Jordan & Samantha Breuer

## BEARMAN AND LANCET CAMPSHIP FUND

*In Honor Of:*

The birth of our granddaughter, Ella Sophia Temple by Ronnye & Bill Grueber

## ALAN A. SIENER MEMORIAL CAMP FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Rabbi Karen Fox by Paul Siener

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Sarah Peterson by Anne Rubel  
Ann Siener by Paul Siener

## SILLS CAMPSHIP FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Gary Weiner by Merle, Arnie & Sharon Weiner

.....

Sunday, December 21, 2008  
FOOD PANTRY  
Underwritten by  
*Sidney Stern Memorial Trust*

Thank you to those individuals and families who have chosen either to underwrite (\$1,000) or sponsor (\$500) a week of food. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact Gina Lobaco at (213) 388-2401 or [globaco@wbta.org](mailto:globaco@wbta.org).

*Mitzvah Goreret Mitzvah—Doing a mitzvah leads to more.*



Due to the increased number of donations made to The Big Give, we have moved the listing to a different section. Thank you so much for your generous support.



We appreciate your generous donations. An \$18 minimum donation is required for each acknowledgment card.



There are no b'nei mitzvah occurring between December 15 - 31, 2008.



## Contributions *Continued*



### THE BIG GIVE

Randye Soref, Michael & Jolie Abrams  
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#### *In Honor Of:*

Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Kirk Green  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Barr Potter  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Steve Root & Patricia Rudolph  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Dori Stegman  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Ashley Anderson  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Diane & Frank Haffner  
 Michael Saltzman's 50th Birthday by Judy Varley

#### *In Loving Memory Of:*

Elsie Fogelman by Betty Cohen



## Our Temple Family

### Welcome to new Temple members...

Todd and Jennifer Feldman and their son, Samuel...Bruce and Laura Klein and their daughter, Samantha...Randy and Alexis Miller and their daughter, Talia...Arie Posin and Sara Bottfeld and their daughter, Mischa...Cory and Jessica Rosenberg...Jessica Schneider and her son, Henry...Michael and Jessica Wachtel and their daughters, Alexa and Sofia...Eric Yellin and Elizabeth Goldhirsh-Yellin and their son, Caleb...

### Condolences to...

Diana Arnold Grycan on the death of her niece, Barbara Silvers ...

*And to all immediate and extended family.*



## LUNCH & LEARN TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI LEDER

Be uplifted and challenged. Understand how ancient values still have currency in your modern life.

Learn what reggae star Bob Marley and the Rambam share in common. Understand why Torah has sustained and nurtured our people for thousands of years. Even with no prior experience or Hebrew skills, you will come away with a deeper connection to Judaism. You bring your lunch; and Rabbi Leder will bring the wisdom of our ancestors—along with relevant insights from a variety of historical, anthropological, sociological and popular sources. Lunch and Learn Torah Study sessions will be held on Fridays. Check website for all dates.

### Century City, 12:00 p.m.

- January 9
- February 6
- March 6
- April 17
- May 8

### Downtown, 12:00 p.m.

- January 16
- February 13
- March 13
- April 24
- May 15

Please RSVP to Ruth Stoch at [rstoch@wbtda.org](mailto:rstoch@wbtda.org) or (213) 388-2401

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/219/adult\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/219/adult_events)

## WOMEN'S TORAH LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI FOX

Look at the Torah through women's eyes.

We begin our seventh year of study and continue to grow in friendship and learning. Bring a Bible of your choice and we'll study commentary from the newly published Women's Torah Commentary published by Union for Reform Judaism. Experience studying, eating together and enjoying the fruits of Torah. Bring your own lunch.

### Irmas Campus

#### 12:30 p.m.

- January 9
- January 23
- February 13
- February 27
- March 6
- March 20
- April 3
- April 24
- May 8
- May 22

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/221/adult\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/221/adult_events)

## DEFENDERS OF THE HEART: MANAGING HABITS FOR A RICHER, MORE SATISFYING LIFE

Thursday, January 15, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Irmas Campus

*Neil Einbund, Ph.D., and Marilyn Kagan, LCSW, Authors and Psychotherapist.*

Identify how to recognize which defenders are sabotaging your life. Break free of these life-limiting powers. Move toward the glorious, awe-inspiring, and utterly fulfilled existence you're striving for!

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/277/events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/277/events)



## PARENTING SPEAKER SERIES WITH DR. WENDY MOGEL

Thursday, January 29, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Irmas Campus

Dr. Wendy Mogel is the author of the New York Times best-selling book, "*The Blessing of a Skinned Knee.*" This groundbreaking book takes everyday parenting challenges and examines them through the lens of Jewish teachings. Dr. Mogel shows parents how to treasure the power and the

holiness of the present moment, how to accept their children as being both ordinary and unique, and how to teach their children to honor their parents. Her lecture is inspiring, humorous and effective in helping parents meet the day-to-day challenges of raising self-reliant children.

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/259/youth\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/259/youth_events)



# Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

### Shabbat Services

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist  
Elisa Waltzman  
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist  
Pam Simmons  
Zimmerman Rotunda  
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

### Camp Shabbat

Rabbi Eshel and Camp Staff  
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

### Torah Study and Service Combined

GENESIS Vayeshev 37:1 – 40:23  
Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist  
Marcus Feldman  
Temple Campus 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

*No service at the Irmas Campus*

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

First Chanukah Candle

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

### Shabbat Services

Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist  
Marshall Voit  
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist  
Pam Simmons  
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

### Torah Study and Service Combined

GENESIS Miketz 41:1 – 44:17  
Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist  
Lonee Fralich  
Temple Campus 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

*No service at the Irmas Campus*



# Chag Samei'ach — Happy Chanukah



**WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE**  
**3663 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA 90010**

**WILSHIRE  
BOULEVARD  
TEMPLE**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

#### Clergy

Rabbi Steven Z. Leder, *Pritzker Chair of Senior Rabbis*  
Rabbi Karen L. Fox, M.F.T.  
Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim  
Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein  
Rabbi David Eshel  
Cantor Don Gurney  
Rabbi Harvey J. Fields, Ph.D., *Emeritus*

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