

# WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

Online Edition  
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## BULLETIN

Volume 95, Number 17 • September 1, 2008

## Continuing A Long Valued *Tradition* Of Teaching

At Wilshire Boulevard Temple, we have a 136-year tradition of leading Los Angeles's Jewish community in an innovative, thoughtful and progressive manner. This applies to all of our various Temple activities, but it's especially true of how we educate our congregation's children. At the Center for Learning and Engagement, we seek to provide religious education through outstanding formal and informal opportunities for our children and their families to learn and grow.

Our leadership may change occasionally, but our goal always remains the same: to create strong and positive connections to Judaism by focusing on learning as a lifelong process. We've adapted the Union for Reform Judaism's Chai curriculum to our distinctive learning environments at the Temple and Irmas Campuses and at Bamachaneh, our bi-monthly program at Camp Hess Kramer. The themes of *Torah*,

*Avodah* and *G'milut Chasadim* strengthen our 700 participants' experience from *Tamar* (Kindergarten) through *Yaar* (12th grade) with values that will ensure the survival of the Jewish people.

Granted, it's not an easy task, but we are committed to the continuation of *Am Yisrael*—Israel, the people and the land. Our Temple has spent its entire history, and especially this summer at the CLE, building a strong, passionate team. My partners in leadership are: Rabbi David Eshel and Eric Nicastro in our Youth Programs; Rabbinical Interns Gersh Lazarow, Temple Special Programs Director/CLE Site Manager and Erin Mason, the Bamachaneh Coordinator; David Green with PACE (Parent and Child Education) and trainer for our 30

Ozrim; Shira Brown, our CLE Program Administrator and 60 remarkable educators all dedicated to creatively sharing their love and wealth of knowledge of all things Jewish.

With an energetic, thought provoking, accessible curriculum, our communal actions reflect and instruct a life of Jewish content and meaning. Music, art, drama, dance, fall and spring retreats at Camp, opportunities for families to learn together in PACE, continued school-wide projects to support groups doing great work in Israel, Darfur and here in America, we enrich and broaden our participants' experience to help create a better world.

We want this to be our best year ever. Our success will depend upon your support and participation, and we look forward to your enthusiastic involvement. Together we can accomplish great things!

■ Vinny Green

*Interim Director, Center for Learning and Engagement*

## In This Issue

Read, Talk, Blog:

All Part of Being a Jew

Celebrating a **BIG** Year

our teenagers  
**MAKE THE DIFFERENCE**



# Parashat Shoftim

The pursuit of justice in public affairs and interpersonal relationships is an eternal challenge. The ancient Hebrews and the biblical authors placed it at the center of their responsibilities. They created a structured government whose appointed judges would eagerly pursue justice, rebuke the influence of the powerful (taking no bribes) and judge with fairness and impartiality. Parashat Shoftim proclaims “*tzedek, tzedek tirdof*”—justice, justice shall you pursue. The repetition of a word in the Torah demands our attention. We are to pursue justice, and only justice, with passionate persistence.

The responsibility is magnified with authority and influence. Parents and children, employers and employees, teachers and students, doctors and patients, clergy and congregants—all are entrusted with the well-being of those less knowledgeable or powerful.

“The repetition of a word in the Torah demands our attention. We are to pursue justice, and only justice, with passionate persistence.”

The Torah teaches that each of us must strive to live a just life. We are all responsible for the success or failure of our society, our government and our personal relationships. Shoftim’s clarion call is a reminder to seek justice in every word, intention and gesture—and that Rosh Hashanah is drawing near.

■ Cantor Don Gurney



## Adult Opportunities

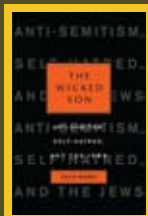
### Read, Talk, Blog: All Part of Being a Jew

It’s no secret that reading is an important part of being a Jew. We are a people of education, a people who thirst for knowledge...and, hence, the “people of the book.” Statistics indicate that Jews read and write more books than any other race or cultural group. I believe it. Reading opens the gateway into Jewish thought and experience. The Hebrew poet Hayyim Nachman said, “The language of every nation is a wonderful violin.” To be Jewish is to play and hear the resonant tones of that instrument; the book.

Our tradition doesn’t say to just read on our own. We have a tradition of *bevruta* learning; it’s a shared experience. When we share the reading, the learning, the questioning, we stimulate each other and grow through discussion and thought.

For this reason, Wilshire Boulevard Temple will be taking a new step this fall—we’re participating in a pilot program called One Book: One Congregation, brought to us by Nextbook ([www.nextbook.com](http://www.nextbook.com)). This dynamic program encourages an entire congregation to read one book together, and then explore the concepts found within. Nextbook encourages us

to step out and confront the edgy issues of our time through ongoing conversation.



We’ll begin with *The Wicked Son: Anti-Semitism, Self-Hatred, and the Jews* by David Mamet. *The New York Times* calls it “blunt and bracing, honest and provocative, original and gutsy.” Don’t miss this opportunity to dive headfirst into a congregational discussion.

There will be book events and a blog! For the first time, we’ll be bringing a digital conversation into our adult programs, and you can be a part of it from your home computer.

I hope you’ll join us. Participating is easy, and it will be a rewarding experience to connect with other Temple members.

■ Rabbi Karen L. Fox



Visit us online to learn more about how to participate, or look for our EXPERIENCE fall programming guide, coming soon. Step through the door as a member of the “people of the book.” Blog at you soon!



# Celebrating a BIG Year

As Brawerman Elementary School prepares to open its doors on September 2, all of us are grateful for many blessings and say *mazal tov* to our school family for what has been accomplished thus far. We have much to celebrate. This year marks the tenth anniversary of our school.

Brawerman has been awarded the highest accreditation rating from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Students, teachers, parents, administrators and Temple leaders participated in the process. At the conclusion of a comprehensive three-day campus visit that included interviews, observations and examination of our self-study document, the accreditation committee found that Brawerman is indeed a special place. We are proud!

Meanwhile, the vision for technology implementation at the school is becoming a reality. The technology lab has been completely redesigned, and SMART Boards are being installed in every classroom. Each teacher has received a Mac laptop computer, and laptops will be provided for students as well.

A number of new students and an additional professional staff of highly experienced and dedicated educators will join us as we begin this special year.

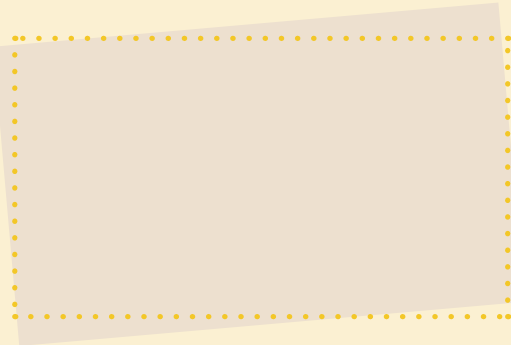
Fourth, fifth and sixth graders will participate in a well-coordinated program of after-school league athletics that includes boys' and girls' basketball teams, flag football, volleyball, soccer and track.

We will celebrate the presentation of personal copies of *Mishkan T'filah* (the new Reform prayer book adopted by Wilshire Boulevard Temple) to students in grades three through six, and the completion of the Brawerman Student Siddur for the primary grades.

We also look forward to a meaningful exchange and reunion with Ussishkin School in Tel Aviv, and sixth graders will once again have the opportunity to experience Israel with classmates and teachers.

Happy anniversary and *kol hakavod* Brawerman!

■ Susan Isaacson  
Assistant Head of  
School/Curriculum



## our teenagers *Wisdom (Torah) is a tree of life for them who hold fast to her. —Proverbs 3:18* **MAKE THE DIFFERENCE**

*God considered: It isn't good for someone to live alone— I will make a helper (ozzer) alongside them. —Genesis 2:18*

First, God created one human being. The beauty of Eden had all the food in the world to eat, no threats or worries, and just a little gardening to be done. But when God saw this human being all alone, it was clear creation wasn't quite right yet.

The problem? God doesn't say, "It isn't good to *garden* alone," but rather, "It isn't good to *live* alone." A solitary soul can't cultivate itself. We all need help, an *ozzer*, to grow and blossom.

We make *ozrim*—helpers—here in the CLE also. Every year our Ozrim Job Program puts 30 energized post-*b'nei mitzvah* teens back in classrooms to work with teachers and students, helping bring Jewish education to life for everyone involved.

We don't just teach our children the facts of Judaism. We strive to live as Jews along with our students. We live our lives in questions, history, family, argument, discovery, celebration and mitzvot. And we do it by living part of the week together: Our clergy, educators, staff and *ozrim* share who they are, as well as what they know.

This is our Torah, the one we receive and pass on, *l'dor v'dor*, generation to generation. Let's get to it!

■ David Green, Assistant Director  
Curriculum and Family Programming  
Center for Learning and Engagement

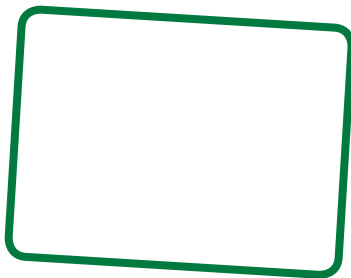


## Upcoming Events

### SANTA MONICA FOOD PANTRY PARTNERSHIP OPENING SOON! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Sunday, September 7, 2008

We are elated to announce our partnership with Ocean Park Community Center as we begin staffing their food pantry with Wilshire Boulevard Temple volunteers each Sunday morning beginning September 7.



We are celebrating the 20th anniversary of our Temple Campus Food Pantry by “doubling the mitzvah” and partnering in another pantry, this one to feed the homeless. Much like its counterpart at the Temple Campus, the Santa Monica Pantry will operate every Sunday and we need you - particularly “Westsiders” to volunteer. Congregants from ages 5 to 95 are welcome for a variety of opportunities! For more info, email Phyl at [pwallace@wbtda.org](mailto:pwallace@wbtda.org) or call her at (213) 388-2401.

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/204/tikkun\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/204/tikkun_events)

### PARENTING CENTER: SIGN-UP NOW FOR FALL CLASSES!

Monday, September 15, 2008  
Temple Campus

We offer Parent & Me, Grandparent & Me, Working Parent & Me, Shabbat Shalom, music and cooking classes for children ages birth through nursery school age.

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/218/youth\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/218/youth_events)

### VOTE FOR BOOKS! 2008 ANNUAL BOOK FAIR



September 22 – 26, 2008  
Irmas Campus – Saffro Family Dining Hall  
Various times

Brought to you by the Mann Family Early Childhood Center and Brawerman Elementary School. Shop from a huge selection of books for your family and friends.

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/215/youth\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/215/youth_events)

### TOUR OF ISRAEL LED BY RABBI KAREN L. FOX

February 15 – 23, 2009

Join Rabbi Fox on a journey to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and the Galilee, connecting with our ancient past and vibrant future.

[www.wbtda.org/events/item/203/adult\\_events](http://www.wbtda.org/events/item/203/adult_events)

### LUNCH AND LEARN TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI LEDER

One Friday a Month

Two locations: Downtown Los Angeles and Century City  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Be uplifted and challenged. You bring your lunch; Rabbi Leder will bring the wisdom of our ancestors, and you gain a deeper connection to your Judaism, even if you don't read Hebrew. Lunch and Learn Torah Study sessions will be held on Fridays (schedule and mandatory RSVP available online).

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



For a calendar of events, including ongoing events and services, please visit [www.wbtda.org/events](http://www.wbtda.org/events)



## Our Temple Family

### Welcome to new Temple members...

Dave and Penelope Bullock...Jeffrey and Stephanie Gimbel and their son, Jonah...Peter and Ivy Greene and their children, Evan and Deryn... Andrew and Carrie Kreisberg and their son, Logan...Brian and Julie Liebman and their son, Jordan...Janna B. Sidley...Jed and Jessica Weintrob and their son, Noah...

### Condolences to...

Alice Gordezky on the death of her mother, Ida Holzer and to grandchildren, Aaron and Rachel...Pearl Loeterman on the death of her husband, Murray Loeterman and to son, Mark and Nancy Cole Loeterman and grandchildren, Jacob and Leah...Mary Zoe Phillips on the death of her husband, Dr. Jordan Phillips...Ronna and Burt Slutske on the death of her mother, Ida Siegel and to grandson, Adam and Andrea Slutske and granddaughter, Aimee and Josh Sesar and to great grandchildren, Maya and Sam Slutske, Chloe and Emma Sesar...

*And to all immediate and extended family.*



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## RABBI EDGAR F. MAGNIN FUND

Alyce & Philip de Toledo

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Frances Ach by Ernest Ach  
Irving Barshap by Leah Barshap & Family  
Bessie Miller Bodek by Gordon Bodek  
Estelle Copeland by Edith C. Schuman  
Harry Dawidoff by Fay Kozberg  
Davis Factor, Sr. by Barbara & Joseph Bentley  
Pauline Forman by Barry Forman  
Edward Goldstein by Robert Goldstein  
Edward Goldstein by The family of Edward Goldstein  
Mac Gordon by Joni & Monte Gordon  
Anna Harris by Rita & Albert Harris  
Nicole Harrow by Marcia Harrow  
Louis Haves by Hyman H. Haves  
Leon Kirschner by Helen Sherwin  
Shabsa Landa by Belle Landa  
Florence Lewin by Belle Landa  
John Mendez by Dr. Richard Mann  
Dr. Jordan Phillips by Debra & Benjamin Ansell  
Molook Rafii by Nahid & Hamid Rafii  
Jack Schuster by Corryne Schuster  
Sydney Sher by Sylvia Sher  
Nathan Sider by Harriet Freund  
Jae Weiner by Louise & Paul Greenberg  
Ida Zivetz by Gail & Joe Lowenstein

## CLERGY FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Rabbi Karen Fox on the occasion of Madeline Sloan's baby naming by Sara & Lawrence Sloan

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Leon Ginsberg by Gladys Ginsberg

## ANN AND SAM BERNSTEIN CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Ann Bernstein by Lori, Robert & Max Baker

## TIKKUN OLAM SOCIAL ACTION FUND FOOD PANTRY

Jeanne Gerson  
Marjorie & David Lee  
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust

*In Honor Of:*

Fifty two wonderful years together by Pat & Carl Feldstein

*In Loving Memory Of:*

David Abrahamson by Keri Levitus  
Frances Broidy by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Broidy  
Beloved mother & grandmother, Mig Freudenthal by Jean Cohen & Family  
Louis Kanner by Helen Samples  
Preston Kline by Lucille Epstein & Family  
Husband, Preston Kline by Gertrude Kline & Family  
William Kline by Gertrude Kline & Family  
David Samples by Helen Samples

## AUDREY AND SYDNEY IRMAS CAMPUS

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Our beloved husband, father & grandfather Sydney Irmas by Audrey Irmas & Family  
Dear mother & grandmother, Pauline Menein by Audrey Irmas & Family

## PRAYER BOOK DEDICATION FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Preston Kline by Marian & Stanley Brown & Family

## GERI AND RICHARD BRAWERMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*In Honor Of:*

Marcia Mankoff's Birthday by Patti & Dan Stein

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Ida Siegel by Patti & Dan Stein

## RABBI HARVEY J. AND SYBIL FIELDS EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Rabbi Harvey Fields's Birthday by Relba Imerman

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Phillip Silver by Randee & Jon Turtle

## WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE CAMPS

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Murray Loeterman by Doris & Sam Engelman

## RABBI ALFRED WOLF CAMP FUND

Lois & Samuel Jacobs

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Bertha Arkush by William Spector  
Barbara Isaacs by Donna Garber  
Bobbie Isaacs by Marc Seltzer  
Bobbie Isaacs by Ruth & Willard Marmelzat  
Our good friend, Bobbie Isaacs by Joy & George Dell  
Barbara "Bobbie" Isaacs by Leah & Samuel Fischer  
Bobbie Isaacs by Janice & Arthur Gerry  
Edith Leveson by Linda & Larry Wolf  
Murray Loeterman by Ilene & Donald Ball & Family  
Murray Loeterman by France & Patty Goodman  
Lester Okum & Mitchell Okum by Shirley & Maurice Okum  
Dr. Jordan Phillips by Nadine & Stephen Breuer  
Herta Roberts by Marilyn & Eric Roberts  
Ida Siegel by Chester Widom

## EVELYN K. KRAMER MEMORIAL CAMP FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Anthony Bosco by Harriet Burton

## CHARLES BENDIT CAMBERSHIP FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Charles Bendit by Nadine & Stephen Breuer  
Sarah Kohn by Merle, Arnie & Sharon Weiner

## MARK GREENSTEIN CAMP FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Murray Loeterman by Nadine & Stephen Breuer

## FRIENDS OF CAMP FUND

*In Honor Of:*

Rabbi David Eshel by Alyce & Philip de Toledo  
Cheri Lauterbach by Alyce & Philip de Toledo

## SLUTSKE CAMBERSHIP FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Ida Siegel by Donna & Howard Kaplan

## RICHARD ALAN BARASCH BARBEQUE AND PICNIC AREA FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Lewis Stock by Shirley Barasch Varon

## DARFUR PROJECT

Michael Grossman & Ilene Slavick

*In Honor Of:*

Max & Tom Moss's B'nei Mitzvah by Linda Peck & Barry Friedman

## BIKUR CHOLIM FUND

*In Loving Memory Of:*

Ida Holzer by Mr. & Mrs. Yasuyuki Ishizuka and Mr. & Mrs. Eric Stahl

## FOOD PANTRY

Sunday, September 7, 2008  
Underwritten by  
David and Marjorie Lee and  
Banky LaRocque Foundation



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.

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



WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

# September 2008

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## High Holy Days

Please note that all High Holy Day events and services are included on a separate calendar that you will receive next week in our SPECIAL EDITION High Holy Day Bulletin. This calendar is for all other events not related to the High Holy Days.



For a COMPLETE calendar with ALL events, visit [www.wbfla.org/events](http://www.wbfla.org/events)

Come hear the *Shofar* in all services in Elul!



1

Labor Day  
Rosh Chodesh

8

Santa Monica Food Pantry Opens!  
Food Pantry  
Food Pantry (Santa Monica)

15

Parenting Centers:  
Classes Start

22

Vote for Books!

29

Food Pantry  
Food Pantry (Santa Monica)

Erev Rosh HaShanah

Rosh HaShanah

3

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

10

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

17

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

24

Vote for Books!  
CRI: Thomas Jefferson's Bible

4

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

11

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

18

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours

25

Historic Wilshire Boulevard Temple Tours  
Vote for Books!

5

Torah & Lunch with Rabbi Leder (Century City)  
Women's Torah Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Fox  
Soul Sounds Shabbat  
Shabbat Services

12

Torah & Lunch with Rabbi Leder (Downtown)  
Shabbat Services

19

Women's Torah Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Fox  
Soul Sounds Shabbat (Shofar)  
Shabbat Services

26

Vote for Books!  
Shabbat Services  
Adult Choir Performance

6

Torah Study  
Shabbat Service

13

Torah Study  
Shabbat Morning Minyan  
Shabbat Services

20

Torah Study  
Shabbat Services  
(See HHD Bulletin for special HHD events)  
S'lichot

27

Torah Study  
Shabbat Services

28

Food Pantry  
Food Pantry (Santa Monica)

Temple Campus  
Irmias Campus

Service time different than usual - please check online



# Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

### Erev Shabbat Services

Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Caro  
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

### Soul Sounds Shabbat

Rabbi Fox, Cantor Gurney and the Band  
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

### Torah Study

DEUTERONOMY Schoftim 16:18-21:9  
Avi Cohen  
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m.

### Shabbat Services

Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney  
Temple Campus - 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Fox and Cantor Caro  
Irmas Campus - 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist  
Marshall Voit  
Camp Hess Kramer - 10:30 a.m.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

### Erev Shabbat Services

Rabbi Leder and Cantor Caro  
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney  
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

### Torah Study

DEUTERONOMY Ki Teitzei 21:10 - 25:19  
Rabbinic Intern Erin Mason  
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m.

### Shabbat Morning Minyan

Rabbi Fox and Cantor Caro  
Irmas Campus - 9:15 a.m.

### Shabbat Services

Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney  
Temple Campus - 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist  
Ellen Sugeran

Irmas Campus - 10:30 a.m.

*Come hear the Shofar at all  
services during the month of  
September.*



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

**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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