

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

Online Edition
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Volume 95, Number 9 • May 1, 2008

The Results Are In: It's Time for Change

In late January we sent a survey home to all Temple members to rate our adult programming and communication efforts. We're happy to report that more than 650 responded to the survey, either online or in print—thank you! Here's a brief overview of the results.

ADULT PROGRAMMING

You had a wide variety of suggestions for new adult programming, from family-oriented events to book clubs to programs for young professionals. Interest was highest in political issues and Jewish history. We're taking these suggestions into consideration as we plan for next year. We're also reevaluating Shabbat service times and event locations.

Events geared toward young professionals or members without children were also highly requested. We're actively moving forward on this and look forward to including these types of events on our schedule soon.

COMMUNICATIONS

We were glad to hear almost all our members read the Temple Bulletin at least sometimes (91%), especially since we recently

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE SURVEY
January 2008
Help us strengthen programming and communications to our members
Please select **one** of the options below to complete the survey:
Take the survey ONLINE: Go to www.wbtla.org/pages/survey or click the link below. (Please call us if you are not on our email list and wish to be added.)
Complete the front and back of this form and return it in the enclosed envelope (stamped or drop it off at any Wilshire Boulevard Temple office.)

Rate your INTEREST in the following areas:

	1	2	3	4	5
Jewish history	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Joining a chavurah	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Israel history/culture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Holocaust	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interfaith topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social action topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Book/author events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Political issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Various socializing opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Major political speakers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Major entertainment speakers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Classical music concerts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jazz concerts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theatrical events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Israeli dancing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Meditation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Yoga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletic events (i.e. basketball)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please rate your WILLINGNESS TO DRIVE to the TEMPLE CAMPUS at these times:
(1 = least interest; 5 = greatest interest)

	1	2	3	4	5
Mon - Fri morning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mon - Fri lunchtime	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mon - Fri evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Saturday evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday morning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday afternoon	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please rate your WILLINGNESS TO DRIVE to the IRMAS CAMPUS at these times:
(1 = least interest; 5 = greatest interest)

	1	2	3	4	5
Mon - Fri morning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mon - Fri lunchtime	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mon - Fri evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Saturday evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday morning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday afternoon	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday evening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

upgraded its design and content. We've added an online version to our website and e-blasts so members can download a copy.

Just over a third of you visit our website at least sometimes—and we'll be working to increase that number. Remember, all of our events are listed online, and most are available for online registration.

In the survey, we learned that a third of our members prefer e-mail and the website, another third like to be contacted via printed materials and the last third like both methods.

Over the next several months, we'll be using the survey results to help develop a new Temple communications plan. We

want to deliver information you want in a method you can use at a frequency that's convenient for you.

As Rabbi Leder said in the survey cover letter, it was time for the Temple staff to "shut up and listen." We listened, learned and are ready to take action by making vital improvements. Thanks to each of you who responded. Please keep telling us what's on your mind. We're listening.

■ Jessica Accamando
Director of Communications



A more in-depth version of this article can be found online at www.wbtla.org

In This Issue

Shalom,
L'Hitraot,
Shalom

Knesset Comes
to Campus

GOT
QUESTIONS?



KEDOSHIM

This section of our Torah contains the Holiness Codes. *Kadosh* means holy, separate or distinct. The Holiness Codes are a yardstick by which we can measure our ethical behavior. These words are so central to us as a community that they are inscribed on the wall of our chapel at the Audrey and Sydney Irmis Campus. Our Torah and our wall tell us “You will be holy because I, *Adonai* your God, am Holy.” We each can manifest holiness in a number of different ways: don’t bear a grudge, love your fellow as yourself, treat strangers with kindness, be honest in your weights and measures, honor your parents, don’t steal, pay your laborers on time, don’t put a stumbling block before the blind. The list goes on and on, and there is something for everyone.

We
will read from the
words of *Kedoshim*:
**“LEAVE THE CORNERS OF
YOUR FIELD FOR THE POOR
AND THE STRANGER.”**

This year, 13 Brawerman students will take these lessons on the road for a first-time-ever student delegation to our Twin school in Tel Aviv. We will hear these Holiness Codes during Shabbat services on Masada. We will read from the words of *Kedoshim*: “Leave the corners of your field for the poor and the stranger.” During the week we will go into the fields in our beautiful homeland and pick fruit for the poor. We will sing the words of our favorite song: “Blessed are you, *Adonai* our God, who keeps *us* holy, who gives *us* the chance to repair our world.” Two days later, we will join with Jews from around the world and celebrate Israel’s 60 years, ever grateful for the opportunity to embrace the teachings of our Torah and feel holy in our Promised Land.

■ *Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim*



Adult Opportunities

Our congregation holds an annual meeting where we honor and thank those who have given their time, energy and wisdom in service to our Board of Trustees. In addition to monthly board meetings, our trustees chair and serve on a variety of committees, from Early Childhood Programs to Religious School, Camps, Budget, Investments, Buildings and Grounds, Israel Programs and more. In addition to their service, they are always available to answer calls and respond to countless e-mails, sharing their expertise and helping those of us on the professional staff charged with running the Temple on a daily basis. At the annual meeting we

say thank you, shalom and *l’hitraot*—so long, until we meet again—to Bill Ehrlich and Jay Wintrob, whose terms of service are complete. We say *l’hitraot* because we know we will meet again at future programs, services, life-cycle events and perhaps even more committee meetings, because completing a term as a trustee doesn’t mean an end to involvement.

And we say shalom—hello—to our incoming trustees, congregants who have answered the call to step up and help guide our magnificent congregation.

This year we also say shalom and *l’hitraot* to Rabbi Laurie Phillips, who has provided such great warmth and inspiration to our religious school community, a center for for learning and engagement. We wish her the best as she moves to be closer to family who needs her.

Please join us as we celebrate our Temple’s good fortune on Friday, May 16 at 6 P.M. at the Temple campus with our annual meeting, Soul Sounds Shabbat and Center for Learning & Engagement graduation.

■ *Howard Kaplan*

Shalom, *L’Hitraot*, Shalom





Knesset Comes to Campus

Brawerman students had an incredible opportunity for a living civics lesson, adding one more link to our growing Israel connection.

The Hebrew/Judaic program, integrated curriculum, Israel study, Twinning program with the Ussishkin School in Tel Aviv and an outstanding faculty were just a few of the reasons that the school was selected to host a delegation of five Knesset members visiting Los Angeles. Students reflected on Israel connections, prepared questions and acted as guides for our distinguished guests. The afternoon ended with a heartfelt rendition of “Hatikvah” and a promise to meet with our sixth graders when they visit Israel at the end of April.



Visit our website at
www.brawerman.org



Got Questions? We are Always Searching for Answers!

It's been great to visit our many Center for Learning and Engagement groups over the past several weeks as they've explored the myriad facets of our age-old celebration and remembrance of Pesach. We've seen wanderers in the “desert” of the Irmas campus lawn, searching for meaning as well as the *afikoman*. We've seen Tamar participants and their families making matzah and learning that it really can be baked in less than 18 minutes. We've heard modern interpretations of the four sons, who are still wise, wicked, curious and unsure of even how to ask, let alone behave! Our halls have been filled with voices chanting the Four Questions as our mouths have been filled with matzah, *maror*, *charoset* and grape juice.

Each year, our educators wonder how they can put a new spin on Passover, and they always surpass everyone's expectations. This year, we watched high

school members of our Beit Midrash tell the *maggid*, the whole story, in less than a minute in ways they had never imagined—one person gave the top 10 details, another added flourishes to the telling, a third mimed the basics and yet another sat at the piano and revealed the truths of Pesach through music. Erez third and fourth graders taught us a great mnemonic way to remember the 10 plagues, and the Eshel kids told us about the items that belong on our seder plates and why. The Human Passover Board Game instructed a new generation of Zayyit participants about teamwork and seder technicalities.

Wherever we looked, whenever we listened, we discover newer plagues, deeper connections to each other and reasons to continue our Jewish journey together as we work toward the miracle of all of God's people living free.

■ Vinny Green
Associate Director
Center for Learning & Engagement



Our Temple Family

Welcome to new Temple members...

Dr. Daniel and Shantel Behroozan and their son, Adam...Ayala Elnekave and her sons, Luca and Mateo...Kevin and Carol Gelbard and their son, Jackson...Barry and Victoria Gleiberman and their children, Jake, Max and Sydney...Eric and Deanna Kripke and their son, Jack...Stefan and Tana Litt and their daughter, Sydney...Jeremy and Tamara Miller and their sons, Jackson and Graham...Scott and Alison Myers and their children, Carly and William...Arthur Ochoa and Daniele Worth-Ochoa and their daughters, Madeleine and Eloise...Dr. Harel Seidenwerg...Charles Lee and Soror Sinay...

Condolences to...

Gary and Colleen Bub on the death of his father, Jeff Bub and to grandchildren, Sydney, Ryan and Dylan...Helen Samples on the death of her cousin, Rose Kanner...Dr. Paul and Laurie Kelson on the death of his mother, Helen Kelson and to granddaughter, Amanda Kelson and Nicole Ryan and to granddaughter, Deborah and Elliot...Dr. Fred Kuyt and Melissa Kuyt on the death of his father, Bob Kuyt...Donald and Lynn Moger on the death of his mother, Charlotte Moger and to grandchildren, Travis and Lauren...Mickey Rosen and Rabbi Karen Fox on the death of his father, Joseph David Rosen and to grandchildren, Avi and Benjy...Diane and Mark Rudolph on the death of her mother, Betty Strawgate and to grandchildren, David and Rachel...Janice Weil on the death of her husband, Leonard Weil...

And to all immediate and extended family.



Contributions

RABBI EDGAR F. MAGNIN FUND

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Sophie Binenfeld's Bat Mitzvah by Christina & Mark Siegel

Laura Grover's 50th Birthday by Martin Grover

Rabbi Leder for officiating at the service of Mitchell Dresser by Diane & Lawrence Dresser

Rabbi Leder's Torah Study by Walter Dishell, M.D.

Rabbi Stein for officiating at the funeral service of Richard Weissman by Susan Okum

In Loving Memory Of:

Barbara Caplan by Richard Caplan

Regina Fleischer by Miriam & Lee Green

Senta Fox by Donna & Paul Nadel and Family

Senta Fox by Israel Bonds

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Jeanne Gerson

In Loving Memory Of:

Father, Marshall Beckman by Joanne & Robert Schwarz

Beloved grandson, Mitchell Dresser by Florence Kulwin

My beloved mother, Irma D'ull by Ann Labe

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In Loving Memory Of:

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Buddie Shrier by Tiffany Shrier & Scott Howard

Erwin Shrier by Tiffany Shrier & Scott Howard

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Beloved cousin, Susan Srere by Betty & Benson Srere

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Cantor Don Gurney by Naomi Witt

Cantor Susan Caro for officiating at the funeral of Beverly Brukman, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, by the Jakl Family

In Loving Memory Of:

John Clark Beck, Jr. by Nancy & Hal Daum

Senta Fox and Joseph Rosen by William Beck

Joseph Rosen by Nancy & Hal Daum

THE DARFUR PROJECT

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Kathryn & David Cohen

Marni & Ron Eshel

Debbie Schneider & Michael Friedman

Jeffrey Graubart

Lisa Greer

Janet Gross

Nancy & Don Gurney

Chareen & Andrew Kossoff

Marjorie & David Lee

Ally & Ben Lefkowitz

Debra & Meir Levy and Family

Gina Lobaco

Donna & Ronald Nasch

Marcy & Rita Norton

Polly & Monty Preston

Michelle & Marc Rosenbach

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Andrew Snett

Neda & Daniel Soferian

Sindy & Andrew Spivak

Ruth Stoch

Bonnie Tucker

Leslie & David Wimmer

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In Loving Memory Of:

Senta Fox by Susan & Tom Casamassima

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE CAMPS

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Lawrence Goldmark's retirement by Beth & Jan Goren

In Loving Memory Of:

Dear father, Milton Agay by Arline & Richard Agay

Dear father, Milton Blumer by Arline & Richard Agay

Mitchell Dresser by Lisa Agay

Mitchell Dresser by Donna & Marty Rosenbush and Family

Ann Epstein by Donna & Paul Nadel and Family

Senta Fox by Arline & Richard Agay

Our cousin, Debbie Kaufman by Helen & Gary Mayer

Helen Kelson by Janni & Mark Lieberman

Jay Krupp by Aline & Gary Baer

Beloved mother, Helen Levy by Virginia & Fred Kulberg

Our Oma, Augusta Marx by Helen & Gary Mayer

Our father, Kurt Seelman by Helen & Gary Mayer

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Bernie Lowe by Rhoda Goodman

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Senta Fox by Robin & Robert Sills

Max Knell by Robin & Robert Sills

Joseph Rosen by Robin & Robert Sills

MARK GREENSTEIN CAMPERSHIP FUND

In Loving Memory Of:

My son, Mark Greenstein by Pauline Greenstein

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



Upcoming Events



A CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, May 4, 2008
5:30 p.m.
Irmas Campus

Wilshire Boulevard Temple and State of Israel Bonds present a celebration with special guest speaker, Dr. Stephen M. Berk, Professor of History at Union College, New York.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/160/adult_events

HOPE - A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF THE SOUL

Saturday, June 7, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Irmas Campus

H.O.P.E. Unit Foundation, Inc. for Bereavement, Loss and Transition presents a fabulous evening of entertainment honoring Rabbi Karen L. Fox, amongst other individuals.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/177/adult_events



A WILD FAITH: JEWISH WAYS INTO WILDERNESS, WILDERNESS WAYS INTO JUDAISM WITH RABBI MIKE COMINS

Monday, May 12, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Irmas Campus

As an ordained rabbi, Comins felt suffocated by books and buildings until he returned to the source of his first spiritual experience: The Wilderness. He finds God in open spaces and infuses hiking, skiing and kayaking with spiritual openness.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/156/adult_events

SHABBAT ON THE FLY

Thursday, July 31, 2008 -
Sunday, August 3, 2008
Irwin, Idaho

Join Rabbi Leder on our second annual "Shabbat on the Fly" fishing trip at the Lodge at Palisades Creek in Irwin, Idaho. We will share a weekend of fishing, with a little Torah and Shabbat thrown in for good measure and good luck.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/190/adult_events



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Friday, May 16, 2008
6:00 p.m.
Temple Campus

Please join us as we honor our outgoing Board Members and welcome New Board Members.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/191/worship_events



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Wednesday, May 21, 2008
Wednesday, May 28, 2008
Wednesday, June 4, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Temple Campus

Two thousand years ago, exiled Jews dreamed of returning to their ancient homeland and in the late nineteenth century, Theodor Herzl gave birth to the notion that Jews could—and should—live in a land where Judaism can be freely, openly lived.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/152/tikkun_events



For all events, including ongoing events and services, please visit www.wbtla.org/events



WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

May 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Big Sunday '08 ① A Celebration of Israel's 60th Anniversary ①	5 5th Annual Golf Classic ①	6 ①	7 ①	8 Yom HaShoah ①	9 Soul Sounds Shabbat Shabbat Service ① ①	10 Torah Study ① Shabbat Services ① ①
11 ①	12 A Wild Faith: Jewish Ways into Wilderness, Wilderness Ways into Judaism ①	13 ①	14 Yom HaZikaron ①	15 Yom HaAtzma-ut ①	16 Annual Congregational Meeting ① CLE Graduation ① Soul Sounds Shabbat Shabbat Service ①	17 Torah Study ① Tot Shabbat ① Shabbat Morning Minyan ① Shabbat Services ① ①
18 ①	19 ①	20 ①	21 A Short History of the State of Israel ① ①	22 ①	23 Shabbat Services ① ①	24 Torah Study ① Shabbat Services ① ①
25 ①	26 Memorial Day ①	27 ①	28 A Short History of the State of Israel ① ①	29 ①	30 Women's Torah Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Fox ① Shabbat Services ① ①	31 Torah Study ① Shabbat Services ① ①
For more information, including time and location, on all of the events in this calendar, visit www.wbtla.org						

① Temple Campus
② Irmas Campus
③ Service time different than usual - please check online



Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Erev Shabbat

Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugerman
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Soul Sounds Shabbat

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

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Torah Study

LEVITICUS Kedoshim 19:1 – 20:27
Avi Cohen
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services

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

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist
Jacqueline Rafii
Irmas Campus - 10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Women's Torah Study

Rabbi Fox
Irmas Campus - 12:30 p.m.

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist

Jacqueline Rafii
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Eshel, Cantor Gurney and

Youth Choir
Irmas Campus - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Torah Study

LEVITICUS Emor 21:1 – 24:23
Rabbinic Intern Sara Goodman
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m.

Tot Shabbat

Fredda Loewenstein
Irmas Campus - 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Minyan

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

Shabbat Service

Rabbi Stein, Rabbi Phillips and
Cantor Gurney
Temple Campus - 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist

Ellen Sugerman
Irmas Campus - 10:30 a.m.



WILSHIRE
BOULEVARD
TEMPLE

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Rabbi Karen L. Fox, M.F.T.
Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim
Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein
Rabbi Laurie Phillips
Rabbi David Eshel
Cantor Don Gurney
Rabbi Harvey J. Fields, Ph.D., *Emeritus*

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