In black-and-white footage of a silent film, Austrian Jews are harassed in a public market, physically menaced by thugs in the street, and forced en masse from the country, on foot or by train. Orthodox men in traditional dress carry Torah scrolls. The expulsion of Jews rips mixed-faith families in two.

Familiar though these stories may seem, these scenes are not taken from history. They come from a long-lost film that predates the Nazi period by a decade, *Die Stadt ohne Juden* (The City without Jews). Released in 1924, it was adapted from a satirical novel by Hugo Bettauer, an Austrian Jewish writer and journalist.

At a time when Hitler was still a marginal figure, Bettauer was a vocal proponent of liberal views, including tolerance of homosexuals, education for women, reduced punishments for those who received abortions—and, of course, the condemnation of anti-Semitism. The film portrayed the targeting of Austria’s Jews as a dystopian future.

*The City without Jews* was once considered lost forever, but in 2015 a collector discovered a complete copy of the film at a flea market in Paris, which led to a sudden surge of interest. The Filmarchiv Austria (Austrian Film Archive) led a crowdfunding campaign to cover restoration costs of the much-anticipated footage, declaring it—as an early example of politically engaged film that cannot help but connect the persecution of Jews to present-day persecution of Muslims, refugees, and immigrants—a national treasure.

A unique piece of history, scholars and journalists have hailed the narrative as an oddly prescient window into Austrian Jewish life in the 1920s, though ironically the film ends on a happier note than did actual history.

*The City without Jews* opened in 1924 to enormous demand at all five of Vienna’s major movie theaters. In the past two years, the digitally restored print has been screened across Europe to huge audiences and is now coming to Wilshire Boulevard Temple. Join us on Sunday, October 14, at 4:00 p.m. for an exclusive one-time screening of this fascinating, compelling film, which will be presented in our main Sanctuary on a gigantic screen, accompanied by music from our magnificent Korn Kimball Organ. Tickets are $10 for general admission and $18 for VIP seating and can be purchased on

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**Continued on page 2**
The True Source of Light
Parashat Bereshit

This week we read the story of creation, and for many of us it is a challenge. We wonder, if the Torah was true, wouldn’t it explain creation accurately—the way we learned it in school? Where is the big bang and evolution?

To me, this is a great underestimation of how sophisticated our ancestors really were. Consider just one clue in the story: the fact that light was created the first day, but the sun wasn’t created until the fourth day. Were the authors of Torah just careless or were they saying to us “Do not be fooled. The sun is not the true source of light. It receives its energy from a deeper Power behind all of existence?”

If you don’t agree that such a force exists, consider the thoughts of the late biologist Lewis Thomas: “If you want to be amazed,” he wrote, “consider that you start out as a single cell derived from the coupling of a sperm and an egg, and at a certain stage there emerges a single cell which will have as all its progeny the human brain. One cell is switched on to become the whole trillion-cell, massive apparatus for thinking and imagining. It is not known how the switching occurs. It could be that the special quality of brainness is simply switched on. But it could be that every other potential property of that cell is switched off, so that this most specialized of all cells no longer has the option of being a thyroid or a liver or whatever, it can only become a brain. No one has the ghost of an idea how this works, and nothing else in life can ever be so puzzling.”

Sure, our creation story contradicts everything we learned in school. But we haven’t learned all that much, have we? So we journey back each year to our ancient Torah to ponder the mighty, cosmic force pulsing through all things great and small. We return to the profound and simple truth that—in the beginning and so too now—God.

Rabbi Steve Leder

If each one helps one, we can guarantee a Jewish future for all!

With the New Year in full swing, we are looking forward to an amazing year with our Wilshire Boulevard Temple family. The Temple has so much to offer—from meaningful programs and quality Jewish education to historic facilities and inspirational clergy. None of this would be possible without you!

One of the ways that you can help us maintain and strengthen the Temple is through our annual campaign, Each One Help One. Every motive for giving is a personal one, and so we encourage you to support our community at any level through the Each One Help One annual campaign.

Every gift will make a difference and help our Temple family thrive and grow. This year we hope to once again reach our goal of providing Temple membership to more than 800 families who otherwise could not afford to be part of our generous community. So, when you ask yourself, “Why should I give?” think about the lives you will touch and the community you will inspire by giving.

For more information, contact Alison Gettleson at agettleson@wbtla.org or (213) 835-2153.
Cycling for Camp Scholarship Funds

Each year Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps raises much needed scholarship funds to enable more children to attend our camps and enjoy a life-changing summer that wouldn't be possible without the event participation and donations we receive throughout the year.

Once again the WBT Camps team will ride in the annual Tour de Summer Camps cycling event on Sunday, October 28, which is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. The brainchild of Temple member Rodney Freeman seven years ago, the event has been so successful that it is now also held in New Jersey, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

Cyclists will depart from the starting line at Camp Alonim in Simi Valley for their 18-mile, 36-mile, 62-mile (Metric Century), or 100-mile (Century) ride. Our WBT Camps team, composed of Temple members, camp alumni, and camp parents, will take on the challenge of riding and raising scholarship funds to send kids to overnight Jewish camps in Southern California. Carolyn and Craig Enenstein (who met at camp!) will be joined on the ride by camp director Douglas Lynn, former camp committee chair Dan Wolf, and Century ride winner and Temple member Rob Radoff. Join the WBT Camps team and ride for the Jewish future!

After you've recovered from your ride, begin sharpening your poker skills for our 6th Annual “All-In” Poker Tournament on Thursday, March 21. Look for more information soon to come about this exciting event that combines poker, prizes, and fun—and raises scholarship dollars to send more kids to camp!

Brawerman Elementary School

Reflections

In August our students returned to school energized and ready to play. I write play, because so much learning comes from both free and guided play. During my first few weeks of school, I was able to visit many classrooms, including those of our specialists. In science, students had recently learned about the structure of the brain and the functionality of the prefrontal cortex, cerebrum, cerebellum, hippocampus, and the amygdala. On my visit, they were in groups, designing, creating, and imagining 3-D brains. Next, I sat in on a Hebrew lesson—though you wouldn't know that the kids were fully immersed in Hebrew; they were dancing, calling on one another, and moving around the room.

One of the very first things I noticed about Brawerman Elementary was the intentionality of the daily/weekly schedule. Grade level instruction provides a highly academic curriculum, including math, science, reading, writing, social studies, and Hebrew. In addition, there is innovation, art and library. Guided play is woven into all disciplines. Free play is a guarantee! During recess each morning, students are led up to the play structure or to the lower yard for play. At lunch, students have designated time to eat and then to play. Many find space in the play structure to enact games, while others kick balls around or shoot baskets. Furthermore, the teachers are trained in Responsive Classroom, which means that the social-emotional growth of the child and academic gains are valued equally. The American Association of Pediatrics reports that whole child readiness (social-emotional, cognitive, attentional) is crucial for academic success.

Imagination, concentration, sociability, and confidence stem from the play that our students engage in throughout their day. The evolutionary advantage of play is well-recognized: research shows that “play promotes brain development as well as sociability and adaptability and that learning occurs best when children are mentally active, engaged, and socially interactive and building meaningful connections.”

What kind of play goes on in your home? How do you provide unstructured time so that your child has time to play, create, and imagine?

Dr. Tamara Miller, Principal, Brawerman East
Two words: reimagined and reinvigorated. After spending the summer assessing our teen programming, we are very excited about the many ways in which teens can get involved at Wilshire Boulevard Temple. More than ever before, we have exciting, challenging, and fun programming that speaks to a wide variety of interests. Whether working in our Madrichim program, engaging in the stimulating topics during Wednesday Night Program at the Irmas Campus, Beit Midrash at the Glazer Campus, or participating in the other dynamic, unique special programs, participants will walk away feeling a meaningful, and relevant, connection to their friends, to Temple, and to their Jewish identity. We can’t wait to get under way!

Wednesday Night Program, which begins October 3 on the Irmas Campus, and Beit Midrash, which meets sundays on the Glazer Campus, are creative ways for Grade 8–12 students to engage in Jewish content that directly impacts their lives. Teens have the opportunity to explore contemporary issues through a Jewish lens in an open, accepting, and inclusive environment. Each week focuses on a different topic, selected in response to surveys and conversations with participating teens. The topics are active, fun, challenging, and relevant—without feeling like you’re in school!

The Love and Relationships: Teen Empowerment Retreat is a unique weekend experience centering around open and honest discussions concerning relationship dynamics, sex, and physical and emotional safety. Dr. Charles and Amy Miron lead the life-changing event, held this year November 2–4. For the very first time we’ll be taking a Teen Day Trip that will lay the foundation for next year’s Social Justice trip to the South. Grade 9–12 students will spend a day geographically exploring L.A.’s roots, walking one of the city’s oldest and most storied areas, Olvera Street (including experiencing the interactive exhibits at LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes), before arriving at Homeboy Industries, where they’ll enjoy lunch at the Homegirl Café and tour the facilities. (This inaugural trip will take place either on Saturday, January 12, or Saturday, March 16. Look for more information to come soon.)

We’re eager to share all of this amazing content with you and your children. Stay tuned for updates and highlights as the year progresses!

Save the Date: November 18—It’s the Annual Big Give!

“That Give WAS BIG!” read the cover headline on the Bulletin ten years ago. Our congregation had just organized the first Big Give, and from year one, it has been evident that this event is something special. The cover story shared that “hundreds of congregants heard the call: We needed to reach out to the less fortunate among us, especially in these difficult times.” That inaugural Big Give celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Temple’s food pantry and the recent launching of efforts to feed the homeless in Santa Monica. Volunteers took the Thanksgiving bags they assembled to Skid Row, where “Wilshire Boulevard Temple did as we always do when it comes to acts of tikkun olam—we made a big difference, not just for the 1,000 recipients of Thanksgiving dinner baskets but also for ourselves, reaching out hand to hand and heart to heart.

As we proudly prepare for the 10th anniversary Big Give, it’s remarkable to look at the ways in which this favorite annual event has both grown and stayed true to its initial goals: We still bring meals to the Central City Community Church on Skid Row, but we also now serve nearly 800 of our neighbors right here in Koreatown. The food pantry has grown into the Leanse Ratner Food Pantry, an anchor of the Karsh Family Social Service Center. The partnership with the Santa Monica pantry has evolved into The People Concern food-prep kitchen, where Temple members help feed more than 200 hungry people every Sunday. While our Thanksgiving-in-a-bag remains a centerpiece, the Big Give also now includes a blood drive, the assembly of no-sew blankets for local families, and spaces for Karsh Center collaborators to promote their services.

With all of this growth, the core focus of the Big Give is unwavering: a unique and critical opportunity for hundreds of members of our congregation to reach out to the less fortunate among us, still “hand to hand and heart to heart.” Please keep an eye on your inbox in the coming weeks for a link to donate and to sign up as a volunteer—and, most importantly, save November 18 for the 10th Annual Big Give!

Empowering Teen Involvement

Emily Weisberg, Director of Teen Programs

Religious School
Welcome to new Temple members...
Cassandra and Jason Bergman...Elizabeth and Geoffrey Braiman and their daughters, Eloise and Chloe...Antonia Carlotta...Jennifer and Eliot Cartwright...Ryan and Dylan Cohen...Diana Dinerman...Tova and Austin Douglas and their daughters, Eve and Nora...Sarah Ellenbogen and her children, Max, Sadie, and Sophia...Laura and Joshua Fein...Karen Feinstein-Michaels...Hillary and Jon Feldon and their son, Dashiel...Elizaveta and Alexander Fridman and their children, Daniel and Sophia...Jennifer and Michael Ghozland and their children, Maya, Jonah, and Noa...Jennifer and David Kass and their son, Eliot...Ja-Hong Kim and Marcy Levy and their son, Asher...Claire and Christopher Markus and their daughter, Alice...Robin Neuwirth-Bishop and her children, Ava and Mackey...Nina and Rambo Pekar...Lauren Povitz and Robert Prav and their son, Hayden...Robyn and Gary Raskin and their son, Daniel...Gabbie Reade...Doris Redman...Julia and Ian Rich...and their children, Tanner and Hailey...Eric Rollman and his daughter, Charlotte...Samantha Ring and Matthew Rosen...Elise and Andrew Rosenfield and their son, Sebastian...Patricia Rosenthal...Mele and Jeff Schwartz and their daughters, Jaden and Lia...Allen and Arleen Steiner...James Stevenson...Robyn and Jonathan Weiss and their daughters, Darian and Jayne...

Congratulations to...
Elizabeth Lewinson and Ethan Peter Greene on their recent marriage and to parent, Maxine Keith...Jamie Geller and Todd Slayton on their recent marriage...

Congratulations to...
Kate and Adam Fishbach on the birth of their daughter, Lily Charlotte Fishbach...Jasmin and Austin Hae on the birth of their son, Ashton Jameson Hae, and to big brother and sister, Aidan and Arielle...Nikki and Blake Kemp on the birth of their daughter, Virginia Kemp...Miriam and Miguel Mazas on the birth of their son, Carlos Mazas, and to big sister, Irie...Jenna and Darren Menaker on the birth of their daughter, Chloe Jade Menaker, and to big brother, Carter...

Condolences to...
Nathan and Kimberly Agam on the death of his mother, Debra Fine Agam, and to grandchildren, Ryan, Keller, and Hayden...Sharon and Nadar Ramzi on the death of her father, Ebrahim Araghi...Scott Gamzon and Richard Draughon on the death of his mother, Gloriane Gamzon, and to grandson, Noah...Rocio and Cesar Lona on the death of her brother, Miguel Linan Gomez...Barbara and Sydney Mahler on the death of her mother, Betty Halper, and to granddaughter, Kim...Francine Sanders, Steven and Ellen Jackson, and Sandy and Hal Slan on the death of their mother, Muriel Jackson, and to grandchildren, Sean, Lance, and Jay Jackson; Brooke and Jeffrey Ehrenpreis...Blaine and Aaron Kaplan on the death of his brother, Joe Kaplan, and to nieces and nephew, Blake, Jaiden, and Daylin...Marcy Norton on the death of her mother, Rila Norton...Joyce Powell on the death of her husband, Lawrence "Larry" Powell, to son, Rick and Debra Powell, and to daughters, Linda Blumenfeld and Nancy and Michael Eisenstadt...Patti Rosenthal on the death of her husband, Marc Rosenthal, and to cousin, Marjorie Blatt...Dr. William Shellow on the death of his wife, Barbara Shellow...Aisha Ahal on the death of her grandmother, Ruth Silva...Julie and Robert Edelstein on the death of their grandmother, Gilda Spiegl, and to great-grandchildren, Tyler and Sydney...Gail and Mark Reisman on the death of their aunt, Anita Starkman...Susan Savin, Lauren Savin, and David Howard on the death of their aunt, Dorothy Weinberger...

And to all immediate and extended family.

Wilshire Boulevard Temple Anniversary Milestones:
Each month we recognize the milestone anniversaries of Wilshire Boulevard Temple congregants. The years represent adult membership and do not include time as a child under a family membership. Congratulations, and thank you for being part of this community!
65 Years...Arthur L. Gerry
55 Years...Allan Gardner...Robert A. Rosenthal
40 Years...Edwin Hausmann and Adrienne Goldstone...Judith Spigelman
35 Years...Alan and Ellen Kessler
30 Years...Richard and Susan Frankel
25 Years...Nechmad and Anat Ben-Ishai
20 Years...Cydney M. Kirschbaum
10 Years...Robert and Lindsay Grant...Daniel J. Korobkin...Karen L. Lazar
5 Years...Simon Attarson...Michael and Gabrielle Bizar...Todd and Jamie Hasson...Christopher and Jodi Lipes...Gladis Meital and Rebecca Friedman...Josh and Lauren Rothstein...Erwin Stoff and Gisele Hong...Gregg Sulten and Lindsey Schiff-Abrams
DANCIN’ IN THE STREETS: A NEFESHE SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

Monday, October 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Join us for food, drinks, music, and dancing under the stars with the Nefesh Band in the Siegel Courtyard. We will unscroll the Torah and learn to swing dance with professionals.

Hannah Gole, hgole@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932

TORAH AND LUNCH WITH RABBI LEDER 🚀

Friday, October 19, Century City, 12:00 p.m.

Why not mix business and Torah over lunch? You bring your lunch, Rabbi Leder brings the wisdom of our ancestors. Come to one, a few, or all of the sessions, which are held at CAA in Century City. Series cost: $36, and due to security check-in, all who attend must RSVP in advance. (Please note: RSVPs to Samantha Rosen must be made by the Tuesday before each Friday class, no exceptions.)

Samantha Rosen, srosen@wbtla.org, (213) 835-2121

BRAIN BOOT CAMP WITH DR. ERICA FELSENTHAL

Wednesdays, October 17, 24, 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for three sessions filled with games and activities to boost your memory and mental agility with a workout of the mind. Learn physical, emotional, and mental lifestyle strategies and tools to keep your brains vital and healthy. Sessions are lead by Dr. Erica Felsenthal, clinical neuropsychologist and community partner with the UCLA Longevity Center. Cost is $18.

Hannah Gole, hgole@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932

WOMEN’S TORAH STUDY 🌟

Fridays, October 12 and 26 at 12:30 p.m.

Gain a woman’s perspective on the weekly Torah and Haftorah portions through lively discussions and modern interpretations of the text. Bring your own lunch!

Hannah Gole, hgole@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932

CHOOSING JUDAISM 🌟

Begins Friday, October 26

Choosing Judaism is an exciting conversion program that provides a deeply meaningful and immersive pathway to conversion in eight weeks. Following the success of the first Choosing Judaism group, which met this past spring, a second session is now forming for the fall and scheduled to begin on the 26th.

Denise Magilnick, dmagilnick@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8930

ADULT B’NEI MITZVAH 🌟

Begins Tuesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

The Adult B’Nei Mitzvah, a six-month program taught by Rabbi Susan Nanus and Hebrew tutor Dr. Bob Levy, culminates in a beautiful Shabbat afternoon Torah service in our sanctuary. Cost: $360, including books.

Hannah Gole, hgole@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932

WOMEN OF WILSHIRE—BARBER SHOP CHRONICLES 🚀

Thursday, October 18, UCLA (Freud Playhouse), 8:00 p.m.

Women of Wilshire’s next trip to a CAP UCLA Season Performance is for the joyous, funny, and equally poignant Barber Shop Chronicles. The play by Nigerian playwright/poet Inua Ellams invites the audience into a unique environment where the banter may be barbed, but the truth is always telling. Cost: $40 per ticket.

Hannah Gole, hgole@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932

SAVE THE DATE: BOUTIQUE ON THE BOULEVARD 🎉

Tuesday, November 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Why try to fight all the crazy LA traffic to get all of this year’s holiday shopping done? Just grab some friends and head over to the Boutique on the Boulevard on Tuesday, November 6.

Felisa Rosenthal, felisa@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8966
# WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 2018**

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<td><strong>Soul Sounds Shabbat 🎵</strong></td>
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For more information, including time and location, on all of the events in this calendar, visit [wbtl.org/events](http://wbtl.org/events)

*Events and times subject to change.*
Since graduating Brawerman in 2014, Lauren Silver and Chloe Sesar have continued their friendship. Spending summers together at Camp Hess Kramer with many other BES alumni just adds another layer to their connection. This past summer, Lauren and Chloe journeyed to Israel on our Camp’s NFTY trip and greatly enjoyed all they learned traveling through our homeland. Upon their return, they took lessons learned at Brawerman into their volunteer work at Camp Harmony, also housed at Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps. Friendships and the Jewish values formed at Brawerman anchor these amazing alumnae—and many of their classmates, who remain connected long after their school days.

**Crown Robinson Foundation**

For Janet Crown and Steve Robinson, the relationship with the Temple began when Janet’s mother, Renee Crown would accompany her parents, who were long-time members, for services and special occasions. As adults and parents, Steve and Janet became members and three of their children celebrated their b’nei mitzvah at the Temple.

The Crown-Robinsons spend much of their time participating in philanthropic endeavors. Steve, a policeman with the Los Angeles and Hawthorne Police Departments, and Janet, a successful business owner, believe giving back is essential.

“Helping kids, law enforcement, and Jewish philanthropy are things we’re passionate about,” they said.

Community Safety Services (CSS), Operation Progress, The Painted Turtle, Jewish Graduate Student Initiative, and Kids & Cops Make a Difference are just a few of the organizations to which they donate much time, money, and love.

“The Temple, with its tradition, heritage, and legacy, is such an essential part of who we are as Jews and people,” they said. “It’s a special place for us.”

Contributing to the Audrey Irmas Pavilion was an easy decision for them.

“We wanted to celebrate Rabbi Leder—the work he has done and the legacy he will leave behind to our children and to the next generations,” they continued. “It’s a great way to show our support and give something back to the Temple.”

For their family, who believe so strongly in community, seeing the artist’s renderings and understanding the project’s vision, cemented their commitment.

“The building itself is art,” they said. “Rem Koolhaas’ design leans away from the traditional synagogue with an intimate contemporary feel. It feels modern yet historic. We are thrilled to be a part of making this dream come true.”

**Brawerman Alumni Spotlight**

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5
Shabbat Dabba
Rabbi Goldberg  6:00 p.m.

Soul Sounds Shabbat
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney  6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6
Torah Study
Bereshit Genesis 1:1-6:8
Rabbi Gellman  9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services
Bar Mitzvah of Olivia Baradaran
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantor Gurney  10:00 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Asher Zlotnick
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Peicott  10:00 a.m.

B’nei Mitzvah of Dylan and Alexa Eskovitz
Rabbi Eshel and Marshall Voit  10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7
Nefesh Torah Study
Rabbi Goldberg  9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantor Peicott  6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney  6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
Torah Study
Noah Genesis 6:9-11:32
Rabbi Fox  9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services
Bat Mitzvah of Ariella Villasenor
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantor Gurney  10:00 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Goldman
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Peicott  10:00 a.m.

B’nei Mitzvah of Jeremy and Madeline Grover
Rabbi Leder and Marshall Voit  10:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist Ellen Sugerman  6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Leder and Cantor Peicott  6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20
Torah Study
Lekh-L’cha Genesis 12:1-17:27
Rabbi Fox  9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services
Bar Mitzvah of Robert Rosen
Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist Ellen Sugerman  10:00 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Chad Plager
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Peicott  10:00 a.m.

Hineni Bat Mitzvah
Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Mellon
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantor Peicott  4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Peicott  6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney  6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
Torah Study
Vayeira Genesis 18:1-22:24
Rabbi Fox  9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services
Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Dematoff
Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Gurney  10:00 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Griffin Feller
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Peicott  10:00 a.m.

Hineni Bar Mitzvah
Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Klein
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney  4:30 p.m.

All Shabbat and worship information can be found online at wbtla.org

(213) 388-2401