I am leading another Temple trip to India because my last trip there changed my life, and this one will change yours. On the last trip, one day stood out above the rest. We were in a tiny forest village three hours’ drive on mud roads from the remote city of Bhubaneswar. The villagers welcomed us with drums and cymbals, chants and a red dot painted on each of our foreheads as we walked through a sea of dark brown faces swathed in saris of purple, crimson, gold and green. It was the village that time forgot—goats wandering the street, lentils and turmeric drying in the sun.

The villagers asked me to explain who we were and why we were there. What could I say to that collage of the darkest, most beautiful chocolate eyes peering at me beneath the sweltering Indian sun? How could I tell them who we were and why we cared? “My father was a rag picker,” I said, and waited for the translator to speak. The children in India who make their living salvaging garbage from vast landfills in their slums are called rag pickers. It’s true. My father was a rag picker. Dad and Uncle Mort picked tin cans out of the garbage dump near their home and brought them to the junkyard to help buy food for their family. “My father was a rag picker,” the brown faces nodded. “I come from an ancient 4,000 year old tribe like all of you.” Again, they nodded. “A tribe called the Jews. And we have a holy book like your Gita. It is called the Torah. It was written by wise men in a village like yours long, long ago. And our holy book, the Torah, commands us to love others as we love ourselves. It commands us to leave the world better than we found it.”

“The mission of the Jews,” Elie Weisel reminds us, “has never been to make the world more Jewish but to make it more human.” So come with me to India. Bring your teenage children too. Change the world and change your life for the better.

**The mission of the Jews has never been to make the world more Jewish but to make it more human.**

- Elie Weisel

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Visit www.wbtla.org/events/item/487/adult_events for more details.
If you read the Bulletin regularly, you probably read our announcement of a new website coming soon, and are wondering when we’ll actually launch. Well truth be told, we have been working on four websites: the Temple (wbtl.org), Camps (wbtcamps.org) and both Brawerman East and West (brawerman.org). We are excited to be in the final stages, and have approved the designs for all four. Our next step is to load our content onto the sites, test and go live this summer. We can’t wait to send you an official eblast inviting you to visit our new sites. Until then, please enjoy these small screenshots of what’s to come...

Four New Websites... Coming Soon

There is an old folk tradition many use to remember something that’s important: tie a string around your finger. A memory tactic, we see the string and are reminded of what we were thinking in the moment that we tied it. There is even science that teaches that small nerve endings in your fingertips have a direct connection to more areas of the brain than any other part of your body, and that stimulating these has proven to increase brain activity and circulation, thus improving memory function.

In Torah, Numbers 15:38 (June 16) we are commanded to wear special knotted threads—tzitzit—on the four corners of our garments. Their strings and knots totaled together are a physical representation of the Torah’s do’s and don’ts. These tactile and visual reminders of the mitzvot are wisely directed, signposts for our Jewish obligations.

While sacred memory is a keystone for Jews, these holy threads serve as more than simply cause for remembrance. According to Carl Jung, symbols are words, objects or acts of behavior that suggest some deeper level of meaning. Our encounter with an object or experience evokes something deeper in us, in a way that mere words cannot describe. The power of the symbol of tzitzit, these delicate fringes, is that as Jewish adults when we see them, touch them and wrap their threads gently around our fingers, we take into our hearts and our lives the collective Jewish past, present and future.

As summer approaches and we pine for a few unfettered moments, Judaism provides the sacred threads to ‘tie around our finger’ each and every day, to always remember and have at our fingertips what is most dear to us.

Cantor Susan Caro

Forget Me Knots

Sh’lach L’cha (Numbers 15:38)

Please note: These website screenshots are still in draft form. The images that are used are not the images that will be used when the websites go live.
Taking Initiative

It’s late on a Tuesday afternoon when Marissa comes into my office to talk about her tikkun olam project for her upcoming bat mitzvah. She’s struggling to find something personally meaningful to her. I make a few suggestions, but none seem to speak to her. I promise to keep thinking and suggest we talk again in a few days. Forty-eight hours later Marissa tells me about Pencils of Promise, an organization that builds schools in areas around the world with high educational infrastructure needs. She wants to raise money to build schools, programs and supportive, global communities for children in the developing world. “Can I do it at Big Sunday?” she asks. “Of course!” I reply. Overwhelmed and impressed by her initiative.

Three years ago, Shari Perlstein brought us an incredibly simple, yet amazing project—no-sew blankets. With a few cuts and knots, a beautiful blanket is made that can bring warmth to someone in need. Three years later, we have made over 500 no-sew blankets that have been distributed to homeless teens, infants, battered women and the elderly. Thanks to Shari, no-sew blankets have become one of our most popular projects at Big Sunday.

Marissa and Shari each started with an idea, one that they shared with us and that grew into something much larger. So many of the projects we participate in on Big Sunday are the result of amazing ideas you’ve brought to us—thank you for taking the initiative. Keep it up!

Rabbi M. Beaumont Shapiro

Our Jewish Ideas Festival

If you’ve never heard of the Aspen Ideas Festival, it’s worth checking out. Once a year, some of the most interesting thinkers from around the world gather together to discuss their work and the issues that inspire them. Their goal? To define what constitutes “a good society.” Some of their topics include:

- Exploring Our Values: What Do We Believe In?
- The Psychology of Happiness
- The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion

2000 years ago, our Jewish sages conducted an ongoing “Ideas Festival.” At academies in Jerusalem and Babylon, the greatest Jewish minds grappled with how to define righteous behavior and how to create a just society. Many times, they came up with brilliant answers. Rabbinic responses to the above questions might be:

- “On three things does the world stand—on truth, justice and peace.”
- “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I?”
- “Let the honor of your fellow be precious to you. Do not be easily provoked to anger.”

In the coming months, we plan to bring speakers, panels and classes to our congregation so that we, too, can contend with important topics that concern us. It has always been a part of Jewish practice to learn, listen, debate and question what we can do to make our world a better place; and in the process, make ourselves better as well.

Susan Numan,
Director of Adult Programs

Visit our website www.wbtlao.org for upcoming events
As we commemorate a milestone year for Brawerman Elementary School, we proudly celebrate our seventh graduation of sixth graders to be held on June 14, 2012. These students will take their place as part of the inspirational continuum of accomplishment that began just thirteen years ago. The ten kindergartners of the Brawerman West charter class will enter college in the fall, the eighteen kindergartners of the Brawerman East charter class will move on to first grade and the 33 graduates of 2012 will matriculate to secondary schools. We are proud of their growth and achievement both academically and personally. This year’s school theme, Yad B’Yad (Hand in Hand) reminds us of how our community has worked together to reach this special moment. Kol HaKavod Brawerman graduates! May you go from strength to strength.

Our 2012 graduates will be attending Brentwood, Crossroads, Harvard Westlake, Lincoln Middle School, Marlborough, Milken Community Middle School, New West Charter, Paul Revere Middle School, Westmark and

Our 2012 graduates: Eli Park Adler, Jenna Helen Ashendauek, Jordan Barkin, Emily Georgia Baytalsky, Yonatan Ben-Naim, Emily Sarah Bragin, Benjamin Bricker, Clarissa Sophie Brock, Jacob Cohn, Madison Rani Daum, Hannah Rose Fogelman, Andrew Friedman, Emily Hadar Gandin, Mia Rhein Gleberman, Eve Leah Melzer Levenson, Emma Bess Levitt, Samuel J. Lewis, Alex Marley, Gabby Nakayama, Benjamin Pimstone, Bianca Simone Pourmussa, Alexander Pritzker, Noah Ramirez, Bello Roth, Alexandra Kenna Sabo, Danielle Rachel Sarraf, Sam Schiff, Jake Schmalz, Emma Lou Sesar, Sara Spillman, Kyle Tenerowicz, Ryan Tenerowicz and Elizabeth Rose Tommey

Religious School

Dedication and Gratitude

Thank you to the 2011-2012 Religious School Advisory Committee for a year filled with activities that support our Religious School. The committee is comprised of parent representatives from both the Irmas and Temple Campuses. Committee Chairs Nancy Lovett and Nancy Madwin lead a dedicated team whose members are Dena Bloom, Peggy Davis, Lisa Kalin, Dete Meserve, Jenni Werndorf, Lisa Small, Cydney Kirschbaum, Gail Benun-O’Byrne, Debbie Babbush, Stephanie Schneider and Julie Banks. Our successes this year included PURIMland, continued support for the Illustrated Torah Project, support for various Religious School projects and programs like Chanukah Fun Day, Tu BiSh’vat and Big Sunday.

In addition to supporting activities, the committee also meets once a month to discuss and advise the Religious School team on issues important to our Religious School families. We thank these amazing committee members for their dedication to the continued advancement of our Religious School programs, and for giving our parents a forum to voice their opinions.

From left to right: Cydney Kirschbaum, Lisa Small, Gail Benun-O’Byrne, Julie Banks, Nancy Lovett, Jenni Werndorf, Stephanie Schneider, Nancy Madwin, Debbie Babbush, Dena Bloom and Lisa Kalin; Not pictured: Peggy Davis and Dete Meserve
Mazal tov to our graduating Kadima classes! We are so proud to send you on your next journey, knowing all you have learned and the love you received at our Early Childhood Centers. Our connection will last a lifetime. Kadima!

A Great Day... A Great Cause

With the sun shining on flawlessly manicured greens, golfers were called to their carts by Rabbi David Eshel blowing his shofar on May 7 at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps’ 9th Annual Golf Classic at El Caballero Country Club.

This year’s tournament, honoring Susan Adler Jannol and Marty Jannol, raised over $74,000 for the Camps’ Israel Scholarship Fund and camperships for children to attend Camp Hess Kramer and Gindling Hilltop Camp.

Chaired for the third year by Drew Kugler, the committee, comprised of David Babbush, Tony Behrstock, Jason Berk, Barry Forman, Elliot Mahn, Russ Richker, Rabbi Beau Shapiro, Lee Weissmann and Ronald Ziff worked tirelessly for nine months to put together the event. It began with a putting contest and barbecue lunch provided by Cornucopia Catering, on-course contests and an exciting raffle. The evening reception concluded with contest and tournament awards, a live auction and well-deserved recognition of Susan and Marty by Rabbi Steve Leder.

Cheri Lauterbach
Camp Alumni & Development Director
You can help the Temple and you can help another Temple family that desperately wants to remain a part of our great congregation. More than 900 families could not belong to the Temple without the assistance we provide to them. In addition to subsidizing membership for families in need, there are school scholarships, our food pantries and tikkun olam efforts; security, facility maintenance, clergy and program staff; musicians, adult programs, worship services and so much more that needs to be continued and enhanced in order for us to bring the joy, the meaning and the comfort of being a Jew to the thousands we serve.

The fact is Temple dues cover only a fraction of what it takes to make Wilshire Boulevard Temple what it should be. In order to guarantee a bright and powerful future for the Temple we all love, we are evolving our popular Donor Circle program—where members voluntarily donate above their regular membership contribution—into a new membership opportunity: Each One Help One.

With Each One Help One, every contribution level comes with special benefits, such as premium parking, invitation to an annual dinner or a Jewish book-of-the-year. Most importantly, Each One Help One will provide funds to: to help congregants in need with membership assistance; provide counseling to families on parenting, marriage, bereavement and more; improve programming and increase accessibility of programming for congregants; support continuing professional development for staff; increase and improve security and much, much more.

Just for us to subsidize the more than 900 families in need of assistance in the coming year, Each One Help One needs to raise roughly one million dollars. Please take a look at the menu of options for participating at www.wbtl.org. We hope to hear back from you. If not, we will call you in the next few weeks to encourage your participation. If each one helps one, together we can guarantee the Jewish future—for all.

For more information on Each One Help One, visit www.wbtl.org or contact Membership Director, Cheryl Garland at (213) 835-2167
TORAH AND LUNCH WITH RABBI LEDER

Friday, June 1, 2012, Century City, 12:00 p.m.
Friday, June 8, 2012, Downtown, 12:00 p.m.

The rabbis said: Torah is the best business.
Why not mix business and Torah over lunch a few times a year? Join Rabbi Leder for lunch and Torah study on eight Fridays throughout the year. You bring your lunch; Rabbi Leder brings the wisdom of our ancestors. No prior knowledge of Torah or Hebrew is necessary.

Nan Brostoff, nan@wbtla.org, (213) 835-2121
www.wbtla.org/events/item/219/adult_events

HOLY-WOOD BOWL SOUL SOUNDS SHABBAT

Friday, June 1, 2012
6:00 p.m.

Sing along with Cantor Gurney at a jazzy, jubilant folk/rock Shabbat under the stars.
Guitars, tambourines, drums! Lift your hearts and raise your voices in joyful music and song....and welcome Shabbat as the sun sets and the stars begin to shimmer.
Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner or buy a Shabbat meal at a gourmet food truck.

Phil Wallace, pwallace@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932
www.wbtla.org/events/item/484/worship_events

CAMP 60TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES

Sunday, June 10, 2012
Camp Hess Kramer, 10:30 a.m.

A day of ruach and reconnecting for alumni, families and friends at camp.

Cheri Lauterbach, cheri@wbtcamps.org, (213) 835-2135
www.wbtcamps.org/anniversary.asp

WILSHIRE READERS

Thursday, July 19, 2012
7:30 p.m.

Join our Book Club and explore, consider and discuss four distinct novels that have achieved critical acclaim, received nationally recognized literary prizes and stimulated great popular interest. This month’s book is All Other Nights by Dara Horn.

Phil Wallace, pwallace@wbtla.org, (424) 208-8932
www.wbtla.org/events/item/271/adult_events

SHABBAT ON THE FLY WITH RABBI LEDER

August 9–12, 2012
Lodge at Palisades Creek, Idaho

We are going to take over the Lodge at Palisades Creek for three days of fishing, with a little Torah and Shabbat thrown in for good measure and good luck.

Nan Brostoff, nan@wbtla.org, (213) 835-2121
www.wbtla.org/events/item/400/events

INDIA WITH RABBI LEDER

Sunday, December 23, 2012 – Friday, January 4, 2013
Wilshire Boulevard Temple and American Jewish World Service invite your family on a journey of a lifetime. Visit Mumbai, Lucknow, Dehli and Jaipur with Rabbi Leder.

Nan Brostoff, nan@wbtla.org, (213) 835-2121
www.wbtla.org/events/item/487/adult_events

For a full calendar of events and services, please visit www.wbtla.org/events
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For more information, including time and location, on all of the events in this calendar, visit [www.wbtlao.org](http://www.wbtlao.org)
We appreciate your generous donations. An $18 minimum donation is required for each acknowledgment card.
JACQUELINE ARIEL HAUSER  
June 2, 2012  
Jacqueline is the daughter of Irena and Michael Hauser; the granddaughter of Ilya Shif and the late Mira Shif; the late Harriet and Henry V. Hauser.  
Tikkun Olam Project: Jackie has been collecting blankets and towels for donations to various dog shelters as well as for individuals in underprivileged communities to provide their pets with warmth and bedding. Jackie has also volunteered with dog training clinics at local parks to help assist elderly participants with mastering basic obedience training for their pets.

MARISSA ROSE KUGLER  
June 2, 2012  
Marissa is the daughter of Lisa Kalin and Drew Kugler; the granddaughter of Anna Silver and the late Alfred S. Silver; Ruth and Marvin Kalin; the Hon. Manuel Kugler and the late Adele Kugler.  
Family Welcomers: Alexandra Kugler, sister; Mia Kalin, Ryan Kalin and Gabrielle DePesa, cousins  
Tikkun Olam Project: Marissa is raising funds and awareness for Pencils of Promise, a charity that builds educational opportunities for children around the world. She is doing this through presentations at her school and volunteering at Big Sunday. She is also donating a portion of her Bat Mitzvah gifts to Pencils of Promise.

JANA HALEY SEVIN  
June 9, 2012  
Jana is the daughter of Mardy Wasserman and Richard Sevin; the granddaughter of Shirlee Sevin and the late Marshall Sevin; Rhoda Wadler and Al Wasserman.  
Tikkun Olam Project: Jana with her brother, Scott, volunteers for Daphneyland, a basket hound rescue ranch in Acton. This organization also rescues and takes care of bassets from all around the country who have been abused and/or abandoned. They assisted at fundraising picnics, Big Sunday and several other volunteer days, helping to take the dogs on walks, give them baths, clean the runs, feed them, among many other tasks.

SCOTT MARSHALL SEVIN  
June 9, 2012  
Scott is the son of Mardy Wasserman and Richard Sevin; the grandson of Shirlee Sevin and the late Marshall Sevin; Rhoda Wadler and Al Wasserman.  
Tikkun Olam Project: Scott with his sister, Jana, volunteers for Daphneyland, a basket hound rescue ranch in Acton. This organization also rescues and takes care of bassets from all around the country who have been abused and/or abandoned. They assisted at fundraising picnics, Big Sunday and several other volunteer days, helping to take the dogs on walks, give them baths, clean the runs, feed them, among many other tasks.

ALEX GARRETT MARLEY  
June 16, 2012  
Alex is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School.  
Alex is the son of Leslie and Brett Marley; the grandson of Sandra and Robert Carroll; Buzzy and William Marley.  
Tikkun Olam Project: Alex volunteered for P.A.T.H., Lunches for Bunches Program, a program that helps many homeless stay well-nourished while they work to get back in permanent housing. Alex made and served sack lunches.

BRANDON RAPHAEL SOUFER  
June 23, 2012  
Brandon is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School.  
Brandon is the son of Ilana and Siamak Soufer; the grandson of Yaffa and the late Eskandar Chadorchi; Farideh and Jahangir Soufer.  
Family Welcomer: Chloe Soufer, sister  
Tikkun Olam Project: Brandon organized and carried out a toy drive for the children at the UCLA Mattel Children’s Hospital.
Welcome to new Temple members...

Chad and Jill Arthur and their children, Zoe and Hudson...Arie and Rebecka Belldegrun...Alexander Benckendorff and Kathryn Lubow and their daughter, Anya...Brian Bulman and Eleanor Curry and their children, Walter and Isla...Mark and Caroline Kuperstock and their son, Evan...Matthew Libman and Jennifer Grayson and daughter Isobel...Dwayne and Avril Love and their children, Naomi and Joshua...David and Sandy Pirnazar and daughter, Naomi...David and Michelle Podemski and son, Aaron...Norman and Jennifer Reiss and children, Delilah, Shane and Cole...Brad and Kara Slater and son, Brady and Jackson...Howie Tanenbaum and Lian Teicher...Marc and Erika Wilson and son, Max...Adam and Jacqueline Winnick and son, Jacob...

Congratulations to...

Laurie and Paul Kelson on the birth of their grandson, Adam Robert Brown and to auntie, Amanda Kelson...

Congratulations to...

Kimberly Merin and David Sivak on their recent marriage and to parents, Barbara and Robert Merin...

Congratulations to...

Angela Blatteis, who will be honored with the 2012 Trailblazer Award by Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles for his work at Camp Max Straus.

Condolences to...

Allyne Winderman and Glenn Wasserman on the death of her step-father, Nicky Engelman...Harriet Finebaum on the death of her husband, Murray Finebaum and to daughter Elizabeth and grandson Andrew and to son Bruce Finebaum...Lauren and Gilly Rojany on the death of her mother, Sharon Joffe and grandchildren, Ryan and Natasha...Orit and Nadav Ravid on the death of her cousin, Shirley Levy and to cousins, Netana and Shylee...Friends and family of Elaine Lipton...Joanne and Robert Schwarz on the death of her mother, Sarene Beckman Mazer...Andrea Pflug and Barry Forman on the death of her mother, Marcia Pflug and to granddaughter, Emma...Robert and Catherine Seligman on the death of his father, Lawrence Seligman...

And to all immediate and extended family.

NEW

B’nei Mitzvah Continued

ALEXANDER YUKIYOSHI NISHIZAWA
June 30, 2012
Alexander is the son of Helene and William Nishizawa; the grandson of Sylvia and Abe Duban; Yaeko and John Nishizawa.
Family Welcomer: Rebecca Nishizawa
Tikkun Olam Project: Alex volunteered at Midnight Mission. This organization offers a bridge to self-sufficiency for homeless people and a 12 step approach to recovery.

SAMUEL FISHER KOROBKIN
June 30, 2012
Sam is the son of Sharon R. Korobkin and Daniel J. Korobkin; the grandson of Harriet M. Kleinman and Martin S. Kleinman; Marcia Korobkin and Sydney B. Korobkin.
Family Welcomer: Nathan Ari Korobkin
Tikkun Olam Project: Sam volunteers at Venice Family Clinic, a non-profit organization providing health care for people who cannot afford it. Sam helps with children in the child care area and also does administrative work.

ELIZABETH ANN LECHTHOLZ-ZEY
June 30, 2012
Elizabeth is the daughter of Ann Lechtholz and Igor Zey; the granddaughter of Lilia and Abram Lechtholz; Bella Zey and the late Alexander Zey
Family Welcomer: Jacqueline, sister; Arthur and Andrew, brothers
Tikkun Olam Project: Elizabeth volunteered in the California campaign to label genetically engineered food. She collected dozens of signatures for a petition to bring this food safety issue to California voters on the November 2012 ballot. Elizabeth created a PowerPoint presentation about this type of food for her school and was interviewed for the “Right to Know” documentary film.
## Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

**FRIDAY, JUNE 1**
- **Shabbat Service**  
  Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Caro  
  **6:00 p.m.**

- Holy-wood Bowl  
  Soul Sounds Shabbat  
  Rabbi Leder, Cantor Gurney and Band  
  **6:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2**
- **Torah Study**  
  Numbers Naso 4:21–7:89  
  Avi Cohen  
  **9:00 a.m.**

- **Shabbat Services**  
  Bat Mitzvah of Jacqueline Ariel Hauser  
  Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist Rafii  
  **10:30 a.m.**

- **FRIDAY, JUNE 8**
  - **Shabbat Services**  
    Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Caro  
    **6:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9**
- **Torah Study**  
  Numbers Behalotecha 8:1–12:16  
  Avi Cohen  
  **9:00 a.m.**

- **Shabbat Services**  
  Bat Mitzvah of Emily Claire Capouya  
  Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney  
  **10:30 a.m.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 15**
- **Soul Sounds Shabbat**  
  Rabbi Leder, Cantor Gurney and Band  
  **6:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 16**
- **Torah Study**  
  Numbers Shelach 13:1–15:41  
  Avi Cohen  
  **9:00 a.m.**

- **Shabbat Services**  
  Bat Mitzvah of Cate Lawrence Wolfen  
  Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney  
  **10:30 a.m.**

- **FRIDAY, JUNE 22**
  - **Shabbat Services**  
    Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist Sugerman  
    **6:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 23**
- **Torah Study and Service Combined**  
  Numbers Korach 16:1–18:32  
  Cantor Caro  
  **9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 29**
- **Shabbat Services**  
  Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist Sugerman  
  **6:00 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 30**
- **Torah Study**  
  Numbers Chukat 19:1–22:1  
  Avi Cohen  
  **9:00 a.m.**

- **Shabbat Services**  
  Bar Mitzvah of Alex Yukiyoshi Nishizawa  
  Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist Sugerman  
  **10:30 a.m.**

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