Happy and healthy New Year, everyone!

I want to use this space to celebrate Howard Kaplan, our Executive Director, who has been at the heart of the Temple for the last 23 years. At the end of this month, Howard leaves us to become General Manager at Sinai Memorial Parks. We’re going to miss him.

Running two camps with a thousand campers and hundreds of staff is a tremendous responsibility. Moving on to run arguably the most complex synagogue in the country is no less of a feat. What Howard has done is remarkable, but how he has done it is what I admire most. No matter the amount of pressure and responsibility Howard shouldered, he was always a mensch. He acted with integrity and with the Temple’s mission in his heart every day of the 23 years I have known him.

As camp director, “Howard had a tough act to follow,” remembered Steve Sauer, an active Temple member and camp alumnus who led the search committee that hired Howard. “Camp was a special place for so many of us growing up, and entrusting our legacy and love of camp was beyond important.”

With an undergraduate degree in Outdoor Education & Wilderness Studies from UC San Diego’s John Muir College and an MBA from USC Marshall School of Business, Howard has the perfect combination of passion for outdoor life and business know-how. He was the rare person who could be entrusted with preserving Camp’s unique essence while building its future. As Steve Breuer, who served as both Camp Director and Executive Director of Wilshire Boulevard Temple before Howard said, “I am proud to have recruited Howard to serve as camp director. He successfully put the camp administratively, physically, and programmatically in good order.”

As camp director, Howard emphasized the significance of non-parental adult role models for emerging young adults. He viewed his job as empowering the young people who served as counselors and specialists. Although he stepped in when necessary, he preferred to stay in the background as

Howard Kaplan, Executive Director

On the temple construction site with Bill Ehrlich, former board member.

continued on page 2
much as possible and let the staff both accept the day-to-day responsibilities and enjoy the limelight. Campers and staff will tell you how much fun they had and how much they learned from him. “Howard has been incredibly supportive and a true mentor to me,” said Doug Lynn, who became camp director when Howard moved on to the role of executive director. “He taught me about construction, finance, management, and so much more.” Howard’s greatest satisfaction was to see his staff and campers gain confidence and succeed, and it’s apparent how alumni continue to enjoy his company and seek out his opinion.

Howard brought a similar strategy to his broad-ranging responsibilities as executive director, which he took over from Steve Breuer. He considered himself the producer-director behind the “talent”—camp clergy, faculty, and staff—and continued mentoring young staffers as supportive supervisor and colleague.

Possibly his most significant role was representing the Temple on the architecture-and-construction team that oversaw the renovation of the Sanctuary at the Glazer Campus. This was a second full-time job for Howard. “The land acquisition, the renovation of the Sanctuary and the school buildings, the building of the new parking structure, and Karsh Center and more all required enormous time and effort,” said Rabbi Leder. “The results were on time, on budget, and staggeringly beautiful.”

“Howard always represented the Temple’s best interests and took his fiscal responsibility seriously,” said Bill Ehrlich, a longtime Temple member and Trustee who served as Chair of the Temple Campus Redevelopment Committee. “He had to balance our constant push for design excellence with the budget. He was a fantastic partner to the construction and design teams.”

“Howard should take great pride in ensuring the future of Wilshire Boulevard Temple,” concurred Brenda Levin, the Temple member and architect who led the project. “I was truly honored to be part of the team that oversaw the redevelopment of the Glazer Campus and the renovation of our historic Sanctuary,” said Howard. “However, my biggest joy has been to see and interact with the families and children of our campuses and camps. Creating community is what our camps and Temple are about, and seeing that vision fulfilled has brought the greatest meaning to my work.”

On behalf of the entire Wilshire Boulevard Temple community, I thank Howard and wish him well in his future adventures.

Rick Powell
A Man of Action

Parashat Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

Moses and Miriam lead the Israelites in song and dance following the crossing of the Red Sea during their escape from Egypt. Their song, one of the oldest extended poems in the Hebrew Bible, dates back to the tenth century BC. A lyrical outpouring of emotion by the men, women, and children who had experienced the great events of the Exodus, it is a song of gratitude and joy from people who, until that point, had led lives of unrelenting misery.

It is commonly believed that the parting of the sea and the destruction of the Egyptians presented the kind of miracle that Jews had long prayed for—divine intervention to rescue them from their suffering. However, both the Talmud and the midrash indicate that it was more complicated than that:

It is written that as the Israelites fled Egypt, they faced before them the impassable sea and behind them the pursuing Egyptian army. Terrified, they turned to Moses and cried, "Why did you bring us here to perish?"

Rabbi Judah says: "When the Israelites stood at the sea, one said: 'I don't want to go down to the sea first.' Another said: 'I don't want to go down first either.'

While they were standing there, and while Moses was praying to God to save them, Nahshon son of Amminadab jumped up, went down, and fell into the waves."

What does this mean? First, that Moses's prayers were insufficient to convince God to split the sea. Only when Nahshon took initiative and jumped into the waters did God respond. His "leap" was a significant turning point in the Israelite experience. His willingness to take history into his own hands became a fundamental tenet of Jewish religious activism and a defining element in our Jewish character. Without Nahshon's courage to take that first step, perhaps we all would still be slaves in Egypt.

Prayer, though often a powerful catalyst and inspiration, is not enough. We must also take action in order for miracles to occur in our lives, for misery and oppression to be halted, for freedom to flourish. We need to speak up, show up, have the courage to wade into troubled waters. Like Nahshon, we must take that leap of faith and step into the fray, having faith and trust that in doing what is right, we will receive God's blessing and the blessings of those we are fighting for.

Rabbi Susan Nanus

New Leadership Transition

As was the case when Steve Breuer retired and Howard Kaplan became Executive Director, our congregation continues to be blessed with strong leaders ready and prepared to manage the operations of Wilshire Boulevard Temple. I am pleased to announce the leadership structure that will carry us forward:

Donna Nadel, who has so ably served as our Executive Chief of Staff since 2014, becomes our next Executive Director. As congregant, committee co-chair, and former member of the Board of Trustees, Donna brings professional experience and personal passion to her role at the Temple, our schools, and our camps.

Doug Lynn, Director of Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps, takes on expanded management responsibilities as Associate Executive Director. In addition to his work for our camps, Doug is responsible for the Steve Breuer Conference Center in Malibu, year-round camps programming and rentals, and the Temple’s food and beverage services.

Cory Wenter, Director of Safety and Security, will add to his portfolio some oversight with our Facilities. His additional responsibilities will be a natural extension of his constant effort across all of our campuses - Glazer, Irma, and Camps - to keep us safe and secure.

I am confident that with these three outstanding individuals and the support of our talented staff, the transition from one great leader to another will be a smooth one as your Temple continues to build on its distinguished history in its advance into the future.

Rick Powell

Sunday Morning Torah Study and New Nefesh Saturday Shabbat Announced

Rabbi Goldberg leads the study series that begins on Sunday, January 7 from 9-10:15 a.m. at Glazer and will continue on first Sundays of each month. We are also introducing a new Nefesh Shabbat morning service beginning on Saturday, January 20. For more information, visit wbcla.org/nefesh-torah-study and wbcla.org/nefesh-shabbat-morning

Thank you Howard Kaplan
Twice a year, Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps opens the Camp Hess Kramer and Gindling Hilltop Camp gates to Camp Harmony, a program of United in Harmony, a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization established in 1989 as a response to homelessness and poverty facing children in our community. United in Harmony’s mission is to provide impoverished children with hope and opportunities, and its overnight-camp program (Camp Harmony) is designed to help children develop positive self-esteem, thereby inspiring and empowering them for their future endeavors. Camp Harmony is the foremost United in Harmony program.

At Camp Harmony, children grow through interacting with teenage and adult role models while experiencing nature and exploring arts, sports, and an array of other enriching activities. It offers children a break from the tension of their daily lives—and, most importantly, a place to play freely. It also affords them opportunities to discover new talents while learning to trust. At both the five-night summer camp and the mini, two-night winter sleepaway camp, the children build relationships and self-esteem while rejoicing in the beauty of nature surrounding them, engaging in arts and athletic activities, and proudly taking on personal challenges. Many counselors at both the five-night and the two-night camp sessions are former Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps campers and counselors.

Opening Up to Camp Harmony

One of our activities that helps build Jewish identity and establish connections to our Judaic values is Torah Talk, which occurs weekly with a member of the clergy. The children listen to Torah stories that lead to contemplation about God, doing mitzvot, and thinking about how we contribute to our larger Jewish community. As the children build understanding about who they are as individuals, they are further developing a sense of themselves as members of a larger community. This is accomplished in many ways, from the day-to-day sharing of school materials to donating canned goods and making Snack Bags for the Karsh Family Social Service Center.

Additionally, the eldest of our children reach out to members of the Jewish community beyond Temple walls: at the Beverly Hills Carmel Senior Living Center and the Freda Mohr Senior Center. On their visits, the children very much enjoy meeting and making new friends with the residents and teaching them how to play their favorite games. One child said, “We went because they don’t get lots of visitors.” Another replied, “Well, they are people too.” This comment led to much thoughtful discussion.

These experiences are impactful for the teachers and parents who attend the trips as well as for the children. “After being there, I got in my car and cried,” said one teacher. “Life is a full circle. One man had Alzheimer’s and was working on how to write his name. This paralleled what our children are learning. As he wrote, the children looked on empathetically. It was a reminder for us to slow down, live each day to the fullest, and not take things for granted.”

Exposing children to the differences between generations furthers their understanding of the varied members of our community—and why it is so important to reach out to them.

Community Connections

The children engage with the residents at the Senior Living Centers.
Projects of Purpose

What makes a Jewish day school Jewish? In practice, it might be the Hebrew-language instruction, the rabbis on campus, and/or the weekly Shabbat services. But what does it mean to be a Jewish school in purpose as well as practice? Brawerman’s approach to Jewish education is rooted in 19 years of its faculty’s collective notions about what it means to raise “menschie” students. As Head of School Brandon Cohen put it to teachers at a recent faculty orientation, Brawerman’s mission is bigger than report cards and standardized test scores; it is a matter of “educating not just the mind but the whole person.” This is exemplified in the enthusiasm with which Brawerman students embrace the spirit of tikkun olam. No matter the cause, whether it involves a class, the entire school, or just a singularly motivated student, there is palpable kinetic energy at Brawerman associated with being a positive force in the world.

At Brawerman West, each grade has its own community service project, including visiting residents at a local senior living center and packing lunches for homeless individuals and families. Grade 5’s tikkun olam project is directly connected to curriculum, inspired by the novel Wonder. Students work with the organization Shane’s Inspiration, which develops accessible parks and supports inclusive play for children of all abilities. Later this year, our students will meet with disabled children to discuss their experiences and enjoy one of the parks together.

Tikkun olam at Brawerman East looks a little different from the program at West. Instead of grade-level projects, students participate in a weekly problem-solving program in which they identify community service projects they are passionate about and work in mixed-grade groups to take steps toward positive change. Recycling, animal-welfare, and graffiti-removal were a few of last year’s projects. At the end of the school year, East holds its Problem-Solving Fair, at which each group highlights its project.

Religious School

Graduates Give Back and Stay Connected

There is a story of a man, Choni the Circle Maker, who came upon an old woman planting seeds. When he asked her why she bothered planting trees she would never live to enjoy, the woman replied: Just as my parents planted for me, I too am planting for my children. This belief can be applied to Religious School. We plant seeds, share our love for Judaism and our passion for mitzvot and tikkun olam and hope that they will take root in our students. We can easily see their excitement and pride when working on service learning projects, classroom activities, and while speaking at their b’nei mitzvah ceremonies. However, when they leave our halls, we sometimes are left to wonder.

So we are excited to share stories of post–b’nei mitzvah students having wonderfully rich Jewish experiences, including coming back to help out in our classrooms and camps, teaching religious school in other cities, joining Jewish fraternities and sororities, and continuing their Jewish educations at higher levels. The seeds we planted, nurtured by family and community, are growing strong. This year there are 38 high school students serving as Madrichim (classroom aides) every Sunday morning. Alexandra Kugler (currently at Tulane University) teaches Grade 7 at New Orleans’s historic Touro Synagogue’s Religious School; Tal Weiss (USC) is a regular sub at our Glazer campus; and Scott Senior (UCLA), who works at our Irma campus every Sunday as a Hebrew Specialist, is also a Cantorial Soloist serving the WBT community at Shabbat services and holiday celebrations throughout the year.

As is our tradition, this year the funds we raise for our Purim celebration, Purim with a Purpose, will help the Religious School plant future seeds in the form of scholarship dollars, enabling us to give every family with the desire to engage in Religious School programming the opportunity to do so.

Thank you Howard Kaplan
The Big Give Delivers!

On Sunday, November 19, we welcomed 479 volunteers at the Big Give, and we’d like to extend a huge thank-you to all who helped make the event a big success—Early Childhood Center, Brawerman Elementary School, and Religious School students and staff, campers and their families representing Camp Hess Kramer and Gindling Hilltop, new and lifelong congregants, and friends of Wilshire Boulevard Temple and the Karsh Family Social Service Center. The energy was truly palpable.

Throughout the day, 1,000 Thanksgiving bags were distributed: 540 went to clients who had received tickets from our collaborators and friends of the Karsh Center, 250 were driven downtown to Skid Row, 30 went to our Mobile Food Pantry site, and 180 were given to clients who did not have tickets for the event.

In addition to the meals passed out, Temple trustee Reagan and daughter Rome Silber put together toiletry kits that were added to each bag, as were special Thanksgiving cards and beaded napkin rings, thanks to our younger volunteers. As clients stood in line, snacks and drinks were handed out. Additionally, seven Karsh Collaborators—KHEIR Clinic, Jewish Free Loan Association, Southern California Counseling Center, Pathways, Inner City Law Center, Koreatown Youth & Community Center, and the Olympic Division through the P.A.L. program—were in attendance, and the Resource Fair successfully disseminated valuable information about Karsh services and programs. The donation of 44 pints of blood at the Cedars-Sinai Blood Mobile set a Big Give record! And we’re thrilled to share that a total of 185 sponsorships were brought in this year.

A thousand families enjoyed their Thanksgiving dinners thanks to our volunteers’ time and commitment to the Big Give 2017.

Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Madrich Program

Congregant Kirsten Richter knew she had life experience that could be used to benefit others. She had been through a divorce and come out the other side stronger; and she knew she could help others do the same. This was the seed of an idea that she brought to the Caring Community/Chaver program. After putting in long hours figuring out how to develop her idea into something concrete, Kirsten recruited fellow congregants with giving hearts who were willing to be there for the Wilshire community. The result: the Peer-to-Peer Madrich program.

It all started with six volunteers who came to Temple for multiple in-depth Sunday trainings, fine women who pledged to be there for emotional support when fellow community members needed a little hand-holding. Though they are not trained as therapists, they have been taught, as lay volunteers, how to most effectively listen, reflect, and support fellow congregants facing life challenges. (In some cases, when the problem is too significant for volunteer support to handle, a more formal therapeutic option is recommended.) Peers are generally referred to these volunteers by members of the clergy, so if you feel like you need a little extra support, please don’t hesitate to reach out to a clergy member who can put you in touch with Kirsten.

Thank you to these wonderful volunteers: Kirsten (program coordinator), Nadine Alexander, Liz Coe, Abby Goshe, Michelle Vogel, and Sue Zaret.

Adult Opportunities

The Big Give Delivers!

Thank you Howard Kaplan
**WOW SECRET STAIR URBAN HIKE IN SANTA MONICA CANYON 🌞**

Thursday, January 4, 8:00 a.m., Santa Monica Canyon

This Women of Wilshire hike is strenuous but beautiful! The hike, which is approximately four miles over two hours, includes climbing up and down more than 500 stairs and begins and ends at the Annenberg Community Beach House parking lot on PCH. Stay after for no-host late breakfast or early lunch. Parking: $8.

- Reesa Rotman, rrotman@wbtl.org, (213) 208-8932
- wbtl.org/wow-hike

**TORAH AND LUNCH WITH RABBI LEDER 🌞**

Friday, January 5, 12:00 p.m., Century City

Why not mix business and Torah over lunch a few times a year? Join Rabbi Leder for lunch and Torah study on seven 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. Come to one, a few, or all of the sessions. Series cost: $36. RSVP required.

- Samantha Rosen, srosen@wbtl.org, (213) 835-2121
- wbtl.org/events

**FIRST FRIDAYS: SHABBA DABBA! 🌞**

Friday, January 5 🌞 6:00 p.m.

**SHABBADABBA** Family and friends are invited to this soulful, monthly participatory musical service. Stay for pizza and potluck; bring your favorite dairy or vegetarian sides to add to the feast.

- Ashley Sullivan, asullivan@wbtl.org, (213) 835-2146
- wbtl.org/shabbadabba

**NEFESH 🌞**

Fridays, January 5 and 19 🌞 7:30 p.m.

Join our warm and welcoming Nefesh service led by Rabbi Goldberg with Nefesh musicians Duvid Swirsky, Sally Dworsky, and Ari Herstand. Come early for drinks and desserts.

- Ashley Sullivan, asullivan@wbtl.org, (213) 835-2146
- wbtl.org/nefesh

**NEFESH TORAH STUDY 🌞**

Sunday, January 7 🌞 9:00 a.m.

We are delighted to return to our Sunday morning adult learning with Rabbi Goldberg. This year we’ll look at the juicy narratives of Torah through a spiritual, psychological, and cultural lens. All are welcome—from experienced Torah studiers to first-timers.

- Ashley Sullivan, asullivan@wbtl.org, (213) 835-2146
- wbtl.org/nefesh-torah-study

**CONVERSATION WITH DR. ROSALIND J. WRIGHT 🌞**

Tuesday, January 16 🌞 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Rosalind J. Wright, Deputy Director of the Children’s Environmental Health Center at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City, presents, “Understanding Environmental Health: How You Can Best Protect Your Family from Toxic Exposures,” hosted by our Early Childhood Centers.

- Fredda Loewenstein, fredda@wbtl.org, (310) 445-1280
- wbtl.org/events

**NEFESH SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE 🌞**

Saturday, January 20 🌞 10:00 a.m.

Spend your Saturday morning at our Shabbat Service, with soulful music and Torah reading and discussion. Come check it out!

- Ashley Sullivan, asullivan@wbtl.org, (213) 835-2146
- wbtl.org/nefesh-shabbat-morning

**WOW DR. BAIREY MERZ SPEAKING EVENT 🌞**

Thursday, January 25 🌞 6:30 p.m.

Pioneering doctor C. Noel Bairey Merz discusses women’s heart health: How and why it’s different than men’s heart health. How women can be proactive in preventing heart problems. Recognizing the signs to which we must pay attention. Cost: $18.

- Reesa Rotman, rrotman@wbtl.org, (213) 208-8932
- wbtl.org/wow-heart-health

---

Events and times subject to change.

- GLAZER CAMPUS (EAST)
- IRMAS CAMPUS (WEST)
- THE PEOPLE CONCERN FOOD PANTRY, SANTA MONICA
- CAMP HESS KRAMER
- CALL/EMAIL REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION
- FREE OF CHARGE
## WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
<td>WOW Secret Stair Urban Hike</td>
<td>Torah and Lunch with Rabbi Leder</td>
<td>Wow Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>Shabbat Shacharit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mah Jongg Instruction</td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
<td>Monthly Mah Jongg Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>Shabbat Shacharit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>Shabbat Shacharit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>Shabbat Shacharit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WOW Dr. Bairey Merz Speaking Event</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>Shabbat Shacharit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
<td>Spousal Bereavement Support Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, including time and location, on all of the events in this calendar, visit [wbtla.org/events](http://wbtla.org/events). Events and times subject to change.

- Glazer Campus (Eastside): 3663 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90010
- Irmas Campus (Westside): 11661 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles 90064
- The People Concern Food Pantry, Santa Monica
- Service time different than usual - please check online
We appreciate your generous donations. An $18 minimum donation is required for each acknowledgment card.
MAYA GORDON  January 6, 2018
Maya is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.
Maya is the daughter of Jennifer and Rafi Gordon; the granddaughter of Dr. Roy and Esme Gordon; Carolyn Winer and the late Dr. Malcolm Winer.

Family Welcomer: Cy Gordon, brother.

Tikkun Olam Project: I am participating in the Friendship Circle, working with children with special needs.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? I love making an impact on a child’s day by seeing the smiles on their faces and hearing their laughter.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? After my bat mitzvah, I will continue to participate in the Friendship Circle, because there are so many kids who can use a friend.

MAX AARON BAKER  January 6, 2018
Max is the son of Lori Bernstein and Robert Baker; the grandson of Bunny Wasser and Howard Bernstein; the late Lynn Bernstein; Herbert and Marjorie Baker.

Family Welcomer: Jennifer and David Bernstein, aunt and uncle

Tikkun Olam Project: I volunteered with Go Green.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? It is meaningful because I had the opportunity to better our environment.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to volunteer for Go Green through programs such as trash pickup at the beach and gardening.

KAYLA ARIEL GRAIWER  January 13, 2018
Kayla is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.
Kayla is the daughter of Stuart and Amy Graiwer; the granddaughter of Robert and Jill Freundlich; Carol Graiwer; Manuel and Lucrecia Graiwer.

Family Welcomer: Dylan Graiwer, brother.

Tikkun Olam Project: I am raising money for Make-A-Wish, a foundation that grants wishes to children who are very sick. Some wishes involve going to Disneyland or meeting a favorite athlete. Granting these wishes brings happiness into children’s lives and has even helped some get better.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? I want to help children who are experiencing the unimaginable and yet are so brave despite their extremely difficult situations. Granting these children their personal wishes helps them have a more positive attitude while dealing with their illnesses.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to organize fundraisers for Make-A-Wish. As I get older, I hope to become a volunteer who works directly with the children in making their wishes come true, and also to encourage friends and family to become involved in this organization.

AVA WEINROT  January 13, 2018
Ava is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.
Ava is the daughter of Melanie and Daniel Weinrot; the granddaughter of Irene Weinrot and the late Edwin Weinrot; Mary Sue and Charles R. Hart Jr.

Family Welcomer: Eli Weinrot, brother.

Tikkun Olam Project: I organized a book drive to benefit Access Books (“With literacy and access for all”), and then helped renovate the library at Wilshire Crest Elementary School, organizing new and used books for the school’s classrooms as well as its library. Access Books’ mission is to provide quality, high-interest books to school, classroom, and community libraries.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? I have always had a passion for reading and I wanted to be sure that underprivileged children also have the chance to learn through and enjoy books.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I plan on helping others have a better life through volunteering at organizations and mentoring programs.

DYLAN MESSANA  January 13, 2018
Dylan is the daughter of Linden and Dereck Messana; the granddaughter of Marilee Greenwald and the late Jim Greenwald; Phil and Jewel Messana.

Family Welcomer: Parker Messana, brother.

Tikkun Olam Project: I collected used blankets and towels from friends and neighbors and donated them to the Adopt & Shop nonprofit in Culver City for its dog and cat kennels. I also helped clean and set up the kennels for the animals.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? I love animals, and want to help! All of the dogs and cats are saved from local kill shelters and brought to Adopt & Shop to be adopted.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? The age to become a regular Adopt & Shop volunteer is 14, so I plan on being a regular volunteer at the Culver City Adopt & Shop location starting next year.

CLAIRE ELIZABETH CONNER  January 20, 2018
Claire is the daughter of Sarah and Lindsay Conner; the granddaughter of Miriam Conner and the late Michael Conner; Rabbi Richard White.

Family Welcomers: Eden Conner, sister; Michael Conner, brother.

Tikkun Olam Project: I cofounded CHANGE in Nepal. We created a kit with a self-teaching curriculum for Nepali children that’s been distributed across Nepal. My second project is raising funds and awareness for the Technion (Israel Institute of Technology) chapter of Engineers without Borders.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? Both of my projects have meaningfully impacted and improved the lives of people in need.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to lead CHANGE in Nepal, expanding its reach to more children. I also plan to support the Technion Engineers without Borders for the rest of my life.

Thank you Howard Kaplan
Welcome to New Temple Members...
Olivia and Keith Pollock and their daughter, Penelope...Brandon and Deborah Shainfeld and their children, Raphaella and Benjamin...Anat and Joseph Simantob and their children, Ethan and Eva...

Congratulations to...
Niki and John Snyder on the birth of their triplets, Ava, Dylan, and Levi Snyder, and to big sister, Chloe...

Condolences to...
Jon Bloom on the death of his mother, Georgette Bloom...Danielle and Alejandro Umanksy on the death of her father, Gary Finkel, and to grandchildren, Chloe and Madeline...Lee and Debra Bogdanoff on the death of his mother, Edy Gordon, and to granddaughter, Lana...Laurie Gregory on the death of her mother, Deborah "Debbie" Gregory...Foud and Sharaona Katan on the death of his mother, Najat Katan, and to grandchildren, Meir and Aria...Claire Landsbaum on the death of her husband, Ellis Landsbaum...Charles and Ellen Perliter on the death of his father, Hal Perliter, and to grandson, William...Cantor Seth Ettinger on the death of step-grandmother, Daisy Toheroff...Ross (Eva), Judi (Randy) Joyce, Donald (Amy), and Jonathan (Penny) on the recent death of their mother, Sylvia Miller, and then subsequent passing of their father Alvin A Miller, MD, and to grandchildren, Jenna (Dom) Crucitti, Sofie, Jamie, Eliot, Jason, Miriam, Madison and Sarah, representing generations of campers, counselors and staff at Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps.

And to all immediate and extended family.

Wilshire Boulevard Temple Anniversary Milestones:
This month, we introduce a new section to highlight and recognize Wilshire Boulevard Temple's membership anniversary milestones. Here are our January honorees:

60 Years...Richard Smooke
55 Years...Arthur Keith
30 Years...David Abel and Brenda Levin-Abel...John N. Levi
25 Years...Michael Renov and Cathy Friedman
20 Years...Michael and Susan Levine
15 Years...Eliott and Jacqueline Kleinberg...Jeff and Susie Stein
10 Years...Ronn and Nicole Davids...Kenny and Natalie Wolfe
5 Years...Kerry and Tanaz Assil...Loren and Pamela Cohen...Mark and Nancy Loeterman...Marshall Peck...Alisha Pedowitz...Avi and Kendra Shalem

HENRY WOLFF
6 January 27, 2018
Henry is the son of Jason and Lucy Wolff; Donna and Martin Wolff; Susan and the late David Wild.
Family Welcomer: Olivia Wolff, sister.
Tikkun Olam Project: I hand out food at the Leanse Rater Family Food Pantry at Wilshire Boulevard Temple on Sunday mornings.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? The pantry feeds between 250 and 400 people each Sunday. The thought of not having food for your family is very stressful for me. Seeing the homeless and food-insecure people smile as they receive their packages has given me a reason to wake up early on Sunday mornings.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to volunteer at the food bank and hand out food to the food-insecure and homeless. I believe that people who have a lot need to share with people who don’t.

EMMA FOX
1 January 27, 2018
Emma is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.
Emma is the daughter of Laurie and Ben Fox; the granddaughter of Jana and Neil Freedman; Sylvia Fox.
Family Welcomer: Ruby Fox, sister.

Tikkun Olam Project: I will assemble and distribute toiletry kits to homeless people in Los Angeles.

Why was your Tikkun Olam project meaningful to you? My experiences at OPCC through Brawerman Elementary School introduced me to the needs of the homeless population of Los Angeles.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to be involved by collecting items and making lunches to serve the homeless.

Children’s Health Expert to Speak
Deputy Director of the Children’s Environmental Health Center at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (CEHC) in New York City Dr. Rosalind J. Wright comes to the Irmas Campus to present “Understanding Environmental Health: How You Can Best Protect Your Family from Toxic Exposures.” The free event on Tuesday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. is open to the public and hosted by the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Early Childhood Centers. The CEHC conducts groundbreaking research in the identification of chemical, nutritional, and social risk factors affecting children’s health and development. The findings are translated into solutions that protect children’s health—using research to change public policy and educate families, caregivers, and communities.

Bringing Karsh Home
Carla and Rodney Liber recently hosted seven Temple families for an evening focused on service learning. After a visit to the Karsh Family Social Service Center, Carla wanted to bring her havurah together, so she organized a volunteer project to support the Karsh Center. The families made hygiene kits and the kids decorated holiday cards; the next day, 250 kits were delivered to The People Concern and handed out to clients. It was a wonderful night. Great families. Great kids. Great opportunity to bring the Karsh spirit into the homes of congregants.

Thank you Howard Kaplan
FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
Shabbat Dabba
Rabbi Goldberg
6:00 p.m.
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Leder
6:00 p.m.
Soul Sounds Shabbat
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney
6:00 p.m.
Nefesh
Rabbi Goldberg and the Nefesh Band
7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
Torah Study
Va-etch
Rabbi Karen Fox
9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Services
Bat Mitzvah of Maya Gordon
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney
10:00 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah of Max Baker
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Ettinger
10:00 a.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Ettinger
6:00 p.m.
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Gurney
6:00 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13
Torah Study
Sh’mot
Rabbi Lynne Brody Slome
9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Services
Bat Mitzvah of Kayla Graier
Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Gurney
10:00 a.m.
Bat Mitzvah of Dylan Messana
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Ettinger
10:00 a.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Ettinger
6:00 p.m.
Youth Choir Shabbat
Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Gurney
6:00 p.m.
Nefesh
Rabbi Goldberg and the Nefesh Band
7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
Torah Study
Va-eira
Rabbi Karen Fox
9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Services
Bat Mitzvah of Claire Conner
Rabbi Leder and Cantor Gurney
10:00 a.m.
B’nei Mitzvah of Sam and Stella Goldstein
Rabbi Shapiro Cantor Ettinger
10:00 a.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26
Shabbat Services
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantor Ettinger
6:00 p.m.
Rabbi Nanus and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugarman
9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Services
Bar Mitzvah of Henry Wolff
Rabbi Goldberg and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugarman
10:00 a.m.
Bat Mitzvah of Emma Fox
Rabbi Eshel and Cantor Ettinger
10:00 a.m.