DECEMBER 10
Temple-wide Chanukah Lighting

DECEMBER 11
Koleinu Drive-in

DECEMBER 12
Chanukah Havdalah with WBT Religious School

DECEMBER 13
Light Up the Night: Chanukah Concert and In-Person Candle Lighting
  Online Candle Lighting and Movie Screening with Rabbi Susan Nanus

DECEMBER 14
The Rabbi and the Preacher Talk About Religious Freedom

DECEMBER 15
Women of Wilshire and Men of Wilshire Chanukah Celebration

DECEMBER 16
Community Game Night

For more Chanukah resources, check out wbtla.org/wbtathome/chanukah

CHANUKAH
Were the Sages Right to Change the Story?
Rabbi Steve Leder Discusses with Rabbi Beau Shapiro

Eight Crazy Quarantined Nights
Celebrate Chanukah with WBT

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Chanukah, Were the Sages Right to Change the Story?

For three years the Maccabees fight for their freedom and finally reclaim the temple in Jerusalem. They search for oil to light the menorah but can find only enough to keep the flames burning for one night. Yet somehow, miraculously, that tiny bit of oil burned for eight days. The thing is—it never happened. About 1,700 years ago, the rabbis of the Talmud changed the story.

Living under the nose of the Roman emperor, the sages were right to downplay the story of a rebellious Jewish uprising that overthrew their rulers and layer a new narrative onto the story. They chose to minimize the miracle of a military victory and create a miracle of light.

It’s fitting because Chanukah falls at the darkest time of the year. The days leading up to the winter solstice are short. Each year, we kindle our chanukkyiot, adding one candle to them each night, to bring more light into our world, which so desperately needs it. So, yes, the rabbis changed the story, and a millennium and a half later, it seems to have worked out pretty well.

Rabbi Beau Shapiro

The sages made up the story of the oil lasting eight days because they were uncomfortable lauding the successful exercise of Jewish power for the sake of our faith.

In May 1981, a group of young American Jewish leaders asked Prime Minister Menachim Begin what he thought were the lessons of the Holocaust. He answered: “…if an enemy of our people says he seeks to destroy us, believe him…. When a Jew anywhere is threatened…do all in your power to come to his aid…. The world will never pity slaughtered Jews. The world may not necessarily like the fighting Jew, but the world will have to take account of him.”

Sure, kids love the Chanukah story about the oil lasting eight days, and the story has stuck. Kids love the Tooth Fairy, Santa Clause, and unicorns, too. But does that mean we should pretend they actually exist? Or is it better to tell children (and adults) the truth in age-appropriate ways? I for one believe deeply in the importance of Jewish power and am proud of upholding it as a value every Jew should know and cherish.

Rabbi Steve Leder

Return-to-Campus Success!

After many weeks of planning, our Early Childhood Centers opened their doors to on-campus learning in mid-August. Many children had been home for months, and the transition back to school could not have been smoother. The first few weeks of school were very successful, and to hear the joy in each child’s voice as they reunited with their friends made all of the planning worthwhile. The Glazer and Mann Family faculty have been able to collaborate and share curriculum ideas over Zoom, which has brought the staff closer and given them the opportunity to learn from each other.

Children spend the day in outdoor classrooms with learning centers and hands-on explorations promoting a greater familiarity and appreciation of nature. The blessing of being outside has opened up opportunities to study the way the sun moves, properties of wind, outdoor sounds, life cycle of plants and the world of bugs. The ECC values the outdoor environment which provides an abundance of experiences and a variety of physical activity with opportunities for social-emotional growth and cognitive development.

The feedback from parents has been extremely positive. Parents use the Brightwheel app to check their child in and out each day, communicate with teachers, and parents receive real-time photos and updates to stay connected.

Additionally, we have offered a virtual synchronous learning program for families who are not yet ready to return to campus. This program has been highly successful in engaging our at-home learners and keeping them connected to the community.

The children are thriving on campus and at home. The ECC, in partnership with the parents, continues to enrich the lives of the youngest members of Wilshire Boulevard Temple.
Focusing on Gratitude

Ein Meleem! Two words we hear often in Hebrew conversation to describe something—from the mundane to the extraordinary. The two words translate to “no words”; there are simply no words to describe the journey we have all been on together during these past eight months! Ein meleem!

Rather than spell out all of our challenges, accomplishments, roadblocks, joys, wins, and losses as a religious school, we will focus on the gratitude, chesed and rachamim (kindness and compassion) we have given and received as we approach this Thanksgiving holiday. To the administrative team and our staff and teachers—whether you are teaching virtually or in a pod, joining us as clergy weekly or once in a while—you have gone above and beyond. To the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Board, your continued belief in us and all that we try to do for our families has proven unwavering, and we are beyond grateful to you. To our parents, who realized that this was not the time to take a year off but instead to fully engage and believe that we would do everything possible to be a force for positive engagement with your children, we applaud and thank you. As we stated at the start of the year, the Jewish people have never taken a year off from adversity, plagues, war, and strife. We need our community and one another more than ever during such times.

Thanksgiving will look different this year—that is certain. Ein meleem. But our gratitude jar as a religious school is overflowing. Whether you have heard us salute you as a religious-school rock star at our weekly Sunday morning RSTV T’filah Live or not, ein meleem for the gratitude we feel for you, our supporters, and the WBT family.

Until we can be together again, as always we send each of you wishes for strength, joy, laughter, health, and the understanding that we are here for you.

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BRAWERMAN ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DANI ROSENBACH, CLASS OF 2007

After being part of Brawerman West’s second graduating class, Dani Rosenbach attended Windward School, graduating in 2013. She then received a dual degree in Communications and Judaic Studies from the University of Michigan, before joining Teach for America in 2017 and teaching Special Education to middle school students in the South Side of Chicago. While teaching, Dani also enrolled in the Relay Graduate School of Education and earned a Master’s in Special Education. Outside of work, she enjoys quality time with friends, cooking, working out, and traveling. We are thrilled to welcome Dani back home to Brawerman as a Lead Teacher for the 2020-21 school year!

Q: What is your favorite memory from your days at Brawerman?
Dani Rosenbach: Although difficult to pick just one favorite memory, something that particularly stands out was making the game-winning free throw during a Brawerman Blaze basketball game in 2005. I nervously stepped up to the line, closed my eyes, and proceeded to recite the Sh’mi, Judaism’s most important prayer, before swishing the shot. I’ll never forget Coach Barry’s face when the ball went through the basket. Brawerman instilled within me a love and passion for Judaism so deep that it still permeates my everyday life and informs my identity. I am so grateful to Brawerman for cultivating, growing, and strengthening that love that is always within me.

Q: How did Brawerman help prepare you for what you are doing now?
Dani: Through encouraging innovative thinking and leadership, Brawerman helped prepare me to become a successful Special Education teacher both in and out of my classroom. Brawerman also taught me to always dig deeper into myself and give everything my all, which I do with my students every day. Most importantly, Brawerman showed me the value of having a nurturing education and inspired me to pursue education as a career. I hope that my students are able to take away from their education the same drive and motivation that I carry into our classroom each day.

Q: What values did you learn at Brawerman that have impacted your life as an adult?
Dani: I learned many important values at Brawerman that have impacted my life as an adult, but I think the most important ones are responsibility and tikkun olam. Not only did I learn to take ownership and responsibility for my actions, but I also realized that I cannot sit idly by and expect other people to fix the world’s problems. Rather, I have a responsibility toward something larger than myself, which is why I chose education as my career. I am determined to make a difference every day in my classroom and instill these same values in my students. There is much work to be done to solve the challenges in education, and my journey is just getting started.
Brawerman ReZOOMs with BES@home 2.0

From the time between our virtual and drive-through graduations to the start of the 2020–21 school year, much has changed—and yet stayed the same. We are overjoyed to have welcomed Kindergarten and Grade 1 back on campus! We are continuing to build on this to bring more students back for in-person instruction.

The summer months provided a separation from distance learning and an opportunity for families and faculty to slow down and reconnect with loved ones and energize themselves for the upcoming school year. But June, July, and August brought a wave of hope followed by a trough of uncertainty to our local and global communities due to the paralyzing effects of Covid-19.

During this period, Brawerman administrators, teachers, and IT and facilities staff continued working behind the scenes. A typical school year begins with staff orientation; this year administrators asked teachers to start several days early to begin planning for the unique year ahead. Teachers enthusiastically answered the call, realizing that their extra efforts would pay dividends in the success of their students come fall.

Day 1 began with an address from Rabbi Steve Leder that offered support, guidance, appreciation, and inspiration. That afternoon, staff members had the opportunity to strengthen their connections with one another by participating in a competitive and fun team-building experience facilitated by an organization utilized the year before. On Day 2 the real work began. Following a keynote address, teachers dove into training sessions that their extra efforts would pay dividends in the success of their students come fall.

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To further this engagement, teachers began building grade-level-specific student crates. Each crate included materials relating to core subject areas, supplies, and equipment from our array of specialists, as well as an iPad or laptop to ensure that every student has the ability to access our curriculum. The IT department worked diligently to download necessary apps and assisted in creating a streamlined user experience for students and parents alike.

And so on the Friday before school began, families drove through a crate pickup line. The excitement was palpable. But the real appreciation for the dedicated efforts of our entire Brawerman faculty came on the first day of school and throughout that first week. Immediately students and parents noticed the elevated level of intentionality delivered through BES@home 2.0. Parent emails professing exuberant levels of gratitude began to fill the inboxes of administrators and faculty. This year’s bar was set to a higher level of expectation, and from the Honey Aleph ceremony on, everyone sensed what a sweet and meaningful year awaits us all.

This year our theme is ḥīvṭ, or hope. We chose this theme because hope is an active word. This hope informs our intentions, decisions, and actions. This hope moves our teachers to deliver, daily, on our mission to furnish an unparalleled education for our students, even in the most uncertain times. This hope brightens the minds and hearts of our students, a hope that tomorrow is a new day full of promise and possibility. Hope that reminds our parents that this too shall pass, but Brawerman will remain—providing shelter amid the storm, as the center of our sacred community and the bond that partners us until we see this year through…together.

BRAWERMAN ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: RACHEL LURIE, CLASS OF 2008

Q: What is your favorite memory from your days at Brawerman?
Rachel Lurie: When I started in kindergarten at Brawerman, the entire school, which then only had three grades, fit in a circle around the courtyard. My favorite memory is standing in that circle on Friday afternoons and singing Hashkiveinu. I think something that will always make Brawerman special is the sense of community, and those were moments when I really felt it.

Q: How did Brawerman help prepare you for what you are doing now?
Rachel: At Brawerman, learning about Judaism gave me a love of exploring and debating difficult questions. This helped prepare me to think creatively and engage with different points of view, which is something I do often at PRINCO when participating in investment decisions.

Q: What values did you learn at Brawerman that have impacted your life as an adult?
Rachel: Brawerman instilled in me the value of tikvah, or hope. This theme has the ability to access our curriculum. The IT department worked diligently to download necessary apps and assisted in creating a streamlining user experience for students and parents alike.

Q: What values did you learn at Brawerman that have impacted your life as an adult?
Rachel: Brawerman instilled in me the value of tikvah, or hope. This theme

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Rachel: At Brawerman, learning about Judaism gave me a love of exploring and debating difficult questions. This helped prepare me to think creatively and engage with different points of view, which is something I do often at PRINCO when participating in investment decisions.

Q: What values did you learn at Brawerman that have impacted your life as an adult?
Rachel: Brawerman instilled in me the value of tikvah, or hope. I think this impacted how I think about my career. Part of the reason I joined PRINCO was because I knew my work would help pay for financial aid and research at Princeton. With each step in my career, I will continue to think about how I can make a positive impact and help others.
This summer was a summer of many firsts for our camp community. It was our first summer not being together in person in more than 65 years, our first summer after visiting Cal State Channel Islands, and our first virtual summer. While our current campers created memories in Virtual Camp through online talent shows, song sessions, and cabin bonding, we were also able to offer virtual gatherings for alumni who celebrated milestone anniversary years.

The summer of 2020 was the 50th anniversary of Leadership 1970 and the 25th Anniversary of Leadership and Mitzvah 1995. When we began planning these virtual reunions, our goal was to reach as many alumni as possible, including those who normally couldn’t attend our summer gatherings because of timing or distance. We’re thankful to L’70’s Beth Pollock Goren and Janet Greenberg Kupcheck; L’95’s Rebecca Sills Nudel and Jake Glucksman; and M’97’s Darren Schwartz, who helped us create and promote three separate virtual reunions. The Leadership ‘95 reunion group toasted to 25 years of friendship. Former camp director Howard Kaplan joined the Zoom call to share memories of camp days, including the Leadership Hike and the “good trouble” he remembers getting into with friends. The Mitzvah ’95 reunion was filled with smiling faces, shared photos, and alumni who still call each other by their camp nicknames. (That night we were reintroduced to beloved campers Goose, Joker, Moses, and Slinky.) Meanwhile, the 50th anniversary reunion for Leadership ’70 brought together more than 15 alums to join with Steve and Nadine Breuer for an event that was filled with laughter and smiles. Each participant shared what they were up to, how many children and grandchildren they have, and where they’re living now. All were endlessly grateful to reconnect to those near and far after so many years.

Attendees of these three memorable reunions were based in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., Colorado, Nevada, and Northern and Southern California. They shared memories of childhood banquet dates and hikes, and many exchanged phone numbers and contact information while “chatting” because they just couldn’t wait until we sent out the roster. During this time of social distancing, these reunions provided a much needed chance to spread joy. Attendees relished reconnecting with former campers and remembering their time at camp, as we all long to gather again in person.
Welcome to new Temple members...
Tatyana Acosta and her daughter, Emilia...Hillary Barnes and Benjamin Asoulin...Deborah Hiller and Ran Ben-Tour and their children, Lily and Adam...Naomi and Kenzo Bergeron and their son, Coyne...Henderson Blumer and Susanne Juskow...Dawn Urbont and Matt Corman and their children, James and Sebastian...Emily Levine and Daniel Epstein...Mariano and Alex Farber and their children, Ollin, Lucas, and Martina...Mariana and Yoel Flior and their children, Eliana and Joshua...Marley and Beau Flynn and their children, West and Ruby...Charlotte and Gary Gilbert and their children, Eli, Lily, and Stella...Jocelyn Wippern and Joshua Glass and their son, Jacob...Stacey and Sam Grey...Deborah and Joshua Heald and their children, Oliver, Adam, and Marlowe...Susan Siegel and Frank Heller...Chase Hirschman...Tamara Eve Hirsch...Kaaaylan Jones...Lit and Ryan Mirkin and their daughter, Celine...Phyllis and Warren Oster...Jessica Cowley and Daniel Rootman and their children, Eden and Ira...Abby and Ben Rosenzweig and their son, Brooks...Rachel and Charles Schwartz...Alissa and Max Swedlow and their daughter, Mae...Limor and David Vidor and their children, Emma and Maya...

Congratulations to...
Jennie Wilkes and Michael Ehrlich on their recent marriage...Alejandra Amarilla and Bobby Saraf on their recent marriage...Jane Rissman and Richard Sonheimer on the recent marriage of their daughter, Jillian Rissman-Sherr and Kevin Brody...Diane and Michael Worthington on the recent marriage of their daughter, Laura Worthington & Avi Shay Goren

Congratulations to...
Julia and Glenn Danas on the birth of their daughter, Margaux Isabella Danas, and to brother, MiLo...Jessica Fleischer and Brian DeRose on the birth of their daughter, Sophia DeRose, and to grandmother, Sheryl Fleischer...Sharon Gam, grandmother to Leo Roy Landstrom...Charlotte and Gary Gilbert on the birth of their son, Eli Robbie Gilbert, and to siblings, Stella and Lily...Melanie and David Goldman on the birth of their daughter, Devyn Lee Goldman, and to siblings, Jackson and Elana...Nicole and Scott Heineman on the birth of Chloe Eden Heineman, and to grandmother, Hannah Heineman...Gwen and Greg Lorber on the birth of their daughter, Raquel Sophia Lorber, to brother, Ari, to grandparents, Phyllis and Jay Schapira, and to aunts, Beth and Leslie Schapira...Alexandra and Steven Nelson on the birth of their son, Archer Nelson, and to siblings, Ryder and Winston...Abby and Ben Rosenzweig on the birth of their son, Brooks Gray Rosenzweig, and to grandparents, Linda and Steve Brown...Alissa and Jordan Zachary on the birth of their daughter, Jane Love Zachary, and to siblings, Hank and May...

Condolences to...
Stacey and Keith Abrahams on the death of his mother, Pauline Abrahams, and to grandchildren, Brandon, Jared, and Zachary...Foyrin Rosenberg on the death of her grandmother, Lila Aftergood, and to her great-grandsons, Benjamin and Jacob...Linda and Steve Brown and Laurie Brown Craig on the death of their mother, Marilyn Brown, to Ben and Abby Rosenberg, granddaughter, and to Tracie Brown, granddaughter...Judy Wunsch on the death of her sister, Ellen Cohen, to her niece, Maggie Wunsch Scott, to her great-niece, Katherine Scott, and to her great-nephews, Sam and James Scott...Gary and Carin Ezor on the death of her father, Raphael Cohen, to Jessica and Gregory Ezor, grandson, and to great-grandchildren, Benjamin and Daniel...Doris Engelmann on the death of her husband, Samuel Engelmann...Rose Finci on the death of her husband, Al Finci, to son, Joe, and Audrey Finci, to grandchildren, Alexander and Rachel, to daughter, Helen and Jeffrey Rosenberg, and to grandchildren, Suzanne and Zachary...Rachel and Ian Fischler on the death of his father, Mekin Fischler, and to grandchildren, Abigail and Benjamin...Fernanda and Jonathan Flicker on the death of his mother, Margery Zash Flicker, and to grandchildren, Lennox and Logan...Allison Gingold on the death of her husband, Randall “Randy” Gingold, and to his children, Alexis, Blake, Grace, and Zachary...Melissa Zuckerman and Benjamin Goldfarb, on the death of his father, Samuel Goldfarb...Suzanne and John Gordon on the death of his father, Monte Gordon, and to grandchildren, Dean and Otis...Leslie Weisberg and James Hyman and Terri Hammermesh on the death of their stepmother, Sandra Moss Hyman, and to step-grandchildren, Alexander, Gideon, and Tessa...Regina and Stuart Katz on the death of his father, Marshall Katz, and to grandchildren, Max and Noah...J. Lampert and Cynthia Levy on the death of William Lerner...Felicia Rosenfeld and David Linde on the death of his father, Hans Linde, and to grandchildren, Adam and Jess...Denise Magilnick on the death of her husband, Judd Magilnick, to his children, Nathaniel, Rabbi Joshua, Aryeh, and Gabriel and Betsy, and to grandchildren, Ahvuva, Augustus, Binyamin, Ella, Ethan, Helen, Malka, Noah, Sarah, and Shalom...Alison Whalen and Steven Marenberg on the death of his father, Sol Marenberg...Steve and Debbie Ullman on the death of her mother, Lili Markowitz, and to her grandchildren, Jacob and Maggie...Michele and Ari Nadelman on the death of his father, Seymour Nadelman, and to grandson, Elian...Nancy and Edward Phillips on the death of his sister, Margaret Eileen Phillips, to nephews, Aaron and David, and to niece, Rachel...Dr. Jay and Phyllis Schapira on the death of his mother, Ruth Schapira, to grandchildren, Beth, Jamie, Leslie, and Gwen and Gregory Lorber, and to great-grandchildren, Ari and Raquel...Trey and Pamela Heisler on the death of her mother and father, Edna Hazel Stearns and Jack Stearns, to grandchildren, Eli, and Joshua, to Stephanie and Jeremy Heisler, grandson, and to great-grandsons, Benjamin, Ezra, and Jacob...Rick and Jolie Greenwald on the death of her grandmother, Irene Stein, and to great-grandchildren, Zoe and Sadie...Gary and Jill Biren on the death of her father, Bob Whiteman, and to grandchildren, Luc and Alexander...David Rodgers on the death of his parents, Jerry and Leila Zucker...

And to all immediate and extended family.

Wilton 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!

November Anniversaries
60 Years...Mrs. Ethel Ziff
45 Years...Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Saul
40 Years...Mr. and Mrs. Ron Simms
35 Years...Barbara Grushow
20 Years...Jim and Jill Higgins...Marc and Michelle Rosenbach
15 Years...Randy and Daniel Lee
5 Years...Dr. Blake and Mrs. Alexis Alban...Jacyd and Ofer Ambar...Andi and Abby And...Benjamin Christen...Giselle Farrand...Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nussbaum...Mindy and Mark Owens...Elissa and Richard Phillips...Sanaz and Delbert Whetter
December Anniversaries
55 Years...Mr. J. Lampert Levy
30 Years...Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Tuch
25 Years...Joan Borinstein...Mr. Richard Lovett
20 Years...Marc and Kathleen Dauber...Kristen and Brian Shinken
15 Years...Bruce Goldsmith...Jordan Greenhut
10 Years...Anessa Keaney and Stuart Goldstein...Eryn and Ryan Kilday...Erin and Michael Mand...Sabina and David Nathanson
5 Years...Alison and Gil Baron...Dalna Ben-Gen and Samson Low...Ms. Linda Kent...Andrea and Richard Penn-Kraus...Christine and David Peskin...Amy and Judah Wieder...Aaron Wolf

With gratitude to the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles...

We are thankful to the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles for its support and critical funding during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the last several months, the Federation has provided financial support for student scholarships at our Brawerman Elementary School and our Early Childhood Center. The Federation’s CARES Fund Response has bolstered the extraordinary efforts we have put in place to make our campuses safe and accessible. Meanwhile, a Nourishment Fund has supplied Jewish community members funding for food and essentials.

At this extraordinary time, when our community had to come together to support one another, the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles has shown once again that it is present and available with the resources necessary to help those in need. We are grateful that it has supported Wilshire Boulevard Temple in such an impactful way.
Dylan is the son of Amy and Stuart Graiwer; the grandson of Robert and Jill Freundlich; Carol Graiwer; Manuel Graiwer; and step-grandson of Lucrecia Graiwer.

Family Welcome: Kayla Graiwer, sister.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? It means giving back to those less fortunate and making the world a better place. This is important to me because bringing happiness and support to people in need will help to show my appreciation and understanding that life is not easy for many people in this world.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to write letters of support and encouragement through Operation Gratitude to law enforcement and people who serve in the military. I think this is important because I want to show them how much I respect and admire the sacrifices these people make in order to keep us all safe.

Ruby-Rae is the daughter of Minkle and Doron Atzmon; the granddaughter of Nita and Robin Spiro; the late Victoria and Haim Atzmon.

Family Welcome: Charlie Atzmon, sister.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Originally from London, learning about L.A. and all its many complexities was really interesting—and learning how both globally and individually we can help make a difference. I got so much out of all the various day trips we went on to learn about where and how we can help better the world and Los Angeles specifically.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I want to continue volunteer work, especially with the homeless and underprivileged.

Isaac is the son of Shoshanna Lurie and Jason Thomas; the grandson of Jay Lurie and Judy Shahn; Gale Lurie and Morris Williams; Myra Thomas.

Family Welcome: Jake Thomas, brother.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam to me means helping others and making the world a better place. For my Tikun Olam project I wrote postcards to people of color who weren’t registered to vote—or they had been unknowingly removed from voter files due to voter suppression—encouraging them to register so that everyone will be heard and the president will be an accurate representation of what the whole United States wants.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to keep doing community service and making the world a better place as often as I can, such as volunteering in homeless shelters. I have always tried to help the homeless community, and I will keep helping as much as I can.

Ruby-Rae is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Ruby-Rae is the daughter of Minkle and Doron Atzmon; the granddaughter of Nita and Robin Spiro; the late Victoria and Haim Atzmon.

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Eden is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Eden is the daughter of Doug and Jamie Lynn.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means to protect the Earth and the people on it.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to be respectful of the current public health crisis in an effort to curb the spread so we can all get back to normal.

Annie is the daughter of Margaret and Rob Smith; the granddaughter of Hildi Smith; Martin Smith and Linda V. B. Harris; Doris Bacon and the late James Bacon.

Family Welcome: Benjamin and Hannah Smith, siblings.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means making it a priority to reach out and help others who are not as fortunate as I am.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to reach out and help others who are not as fortunate as I am.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I have chosen to focus on the Trevor Project. The Trevor Project is a hotline for LGBTQ youth in crisis. It helps LGBTQ kids on their journey of acceptance and love. I have been making and selling tie-dye masks and donating 100 percent of the profits to the Trevor Project. Along with raising much-needed funds, I am working hard to educate others on the life-saving importance of this organization and the message to spread love not hate.

Lila is the daughter of Jennifer and Brian Michael; the granddaughter of Bobbie and Jon Gilbert; Jean and Philip Michael.

Family Welcome: Charlie and Anna Michael, siblings.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? That it is meaningful to help out those who are struggling and support people and companies that are helping our community.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to help out my community by staying aware of what is going on with people less fortunate than me.

Ruby-Rae is the daughter of Minkle and Doron Atzmon; the granddaughter of Nita and Robin Spiro; the late Victoria and Haim Atzmon.

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What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means making it a priority to reach out and help others who are not as fortunate as I am.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will continue to reach out and help others who are not as fortunate as I am.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I have chosen to focus on the Trevor Project. The Trevor Project is a hotline for LGBTQ youth in crisis. It helps LGBTQ kids on their journey of acceptance and love. I have been making and selling tie-dye masks and donating 100 percent of the profits to the Trevor Project. Along with raising much-needed funds, I am working hard to educate others on the life-saving importance of this organization and the message to spread love not hate.
Family Welcomer: Allen Feldman.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? It means helping people who are less fortunate than I am. It means being a good person to help others when I can.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I plan to donate to charity and the less fortunate. I plan to use my Jewish values to protect the environment from any further damage.

SAMUEL MILLER FELDMAN
October 17, 2020

Sammy is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Sammy is the son of Jenn and Todd Feldman; the grandson of Kathy and Barry Wolinets; the late Robin and Allen Feldman.

Family Welcomer: Ari Feldman, brother.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? It means helping people less fortunate than I am. It means being a good person to help others when I can.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I plan to donate to charity and the less fortunate. I plan to use my Jewish values to live a life with meaning and purpose.

AARON LIEBMAN
October 17, 2020

Aaron is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School East at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Aaron is the son of Janine Regal and Ian Liebman; the grandson of Debra Regal and the late Edward Regal; the late Gloria Merril and Bill Merril; the late Irwin Liebman and Sirina Liebman.

Family Welcomer: Daniel Liebman, brother.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Doing the little things every day to clean up the world, like picking up trash when you see it and recycling whenever I can.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to saving water.

Family Welcomer: Sasha Gilbert, sister.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Tikkun Olam means giving to people who are in worse situations than I am.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I will commit to doing my part by paying attention to others in my community.

JOHANNA SEIDMAN
October 17, 2020

Johanna is the daughter of Elissa Konove and Nathan Seidman.

Family Welcomer: Miriam Seidman, sister.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? It means to do your part in your community to make it and the world a better place.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to being accepting of all people of all races and cultures, and to protect the environment from any further damage.

CEZANNE R. SILVERTON
October 17, 2020

Cezanne is the daughter of Sarah K. Silverton and Ron D. Silvertone; the grandson of Hilde and Ronald R. Silvertone; Barbara and Stephen Kurtin.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Tikkun Olam is making the world a better place in any way you can, and it can mean big projects and ambitious goals or just helping little by little. I think if you can make the world better for one person or small community, that counts just as much. You can also make the world a better place by performing mitzvot like cleaning up the beach; it doesn’t have to be something you do for a person, because when you make the world a little brighter, people benefit nonetheless.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bat mitzvah to make the world a better place? I would like to think that I haven’t done less to repair the world because I wasn’t a bat mitzvah, but I also think I can do more as a bat mitzvah. I would like to continue my passion of saving the polar bears and researching how I can reduce my carbon footprint. As a resolution for the Jewish New Year and as a bat mitzvah, I’d like to do more little things as well, like taking much shorter showers and being brave enough to politely ask idling drivers to turn off their engines. I want to work on how I interact with my family as well.

Alek Golubchik
October 24, 2020

Alek is the son of David Golubchik and Rina Welles; the grandson of Mela Golubchik, Boris Golubchik, Nina Golubchik, and the late Arkady Golubchik; Joanna Przystal and the late Wladyslaw Przystal.

Family Welcomer: Leah Golubchik, sister.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? When I think of Tikkun Olam, I think of repairing the world and making it a better place. I talk about all the hate in the world in my speech about Noach, “but for every action, there is an opposite reaction.” So, if something bad or hateful happens, there is always a way to do good and help that problem. There are always going to be people trying to fix our world in many different ways, including me, my family, my friends, and many other people who I know. I know that if enough people do good, our world will be good.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to trying to help the climate-change/pollution problem. I will always make sure that I am using reusable bags and straws, that I try biking to as many places as possible, or if a place is far, to use my dad’s Tesla, which is electric. I will also try to use electricity the least amount possible so I do not waste energy, including taking shorter showers. If anyone is not very educated about this big problem, I will make sure I teach them the things that they did not already know and teach them the devastating things that could happen if we do not try to stop this problem soon enough.

ROBERT JACQUES STAMBOULI
October 24, 2020

Robert is the son of Jacques and Jody Stamboul; the grandson of Robert and Allega Stamboul; the late Susan Hirschhorn; the late Ronald Hirschhorn.

Family Welcomers: Lily and Amélie Stamboul, sisters.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? I think that Tikkun Olam means that we have a responsibility to make the world a better place. For my mitzvah project, I am donating masks and other PPE to those in need at the Karsh Family Social Service Center.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I would like to use my filmmaking skills to make the world a better place, by telling stories and just making people laugh and have fun.

MADELINE SLOAN
November 7, 2020

Madeline is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Madeline is the daughter of Sara and Larry Sloan; the granddaughter of Nancy and Norman Sloan; Sharon Sanders.

Family Welcomer: Brooke Sloan, sister.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Tikkun Olam means giving back to the community.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? After my bar mitzvah, I commit to continuing the WBTHelp program at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, where I will be learning about and engaging in different community service opportunities in our Los Angeles community and beyond.

WILLIAM ROSEN
November 14, 2020

Will is the son of Jacqui and Todd Rosen; the grandson of Judy and Art Hirsch; the late Dorothy and Rene Osman.

Family Welcomers: Richie and Robbie Rosen, brothers.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Helping others.

What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I’d like to help kids who do not have as many advantages as I have.
Tyler is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means giving back to the community, especially to those who are in need. Giving back includes donating food and money to the less fortunate. It also means making the world a better place. Right now, one way of doing that is by wearing a mask so that I protect myself and other people from getting COVID-19. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to being kind to others and using my voice to stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? To me it means doing deeds that help the world. Whether it's volunteering at homeless shelters, playing with disabled children, or collecting trash on the beach. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I am going to volunteer regularly to pick up trash on the beach.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means to help others without getting anything in return. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I hope to find a way to donate my time to a charity that helps the homeless.

To me, it means doing deeds that help the world. Whether it's volunteering at homeless shelters, playing with disabled children, or collecting trash on the beach. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I am going to volunteer regularly to pick up trash on the beach.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means helping in the ongoing fight against global warming. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I want to commit to helping in the ongoing fight against global warming.

Ella is a graduate of Brawerman Elementary School West at Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

What does Tikun Olam mean to you? To me, Tikun Olam means everyone was put in the world for a reason and has a duty to help fix the world. 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 bring others together to be eco-friendly and save the planet. This is very important to me.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Tikkun Olam means helping in the ongoing fight against global warming. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I want to commit to helping in the ongoing fight against global warming.

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To me, Tikun Olam means giving back to the community, especially to those who are in need. Giving back includes donating food and money to the less fortunate. It also means making the world a better place. Right now, one way of doing that is by wearing a mask so that I protect myself and other people from getting COVID-19. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I commit to being kind to others and using my voice to stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves.

What does Tikkun Olam mean to you? Tikun Olam means helping in the ongoing fight against global warming. What do you commit to doing after you become a bar mitzvah to make the world a better place? I want to commit to helping in the ongoing fight against global warming.
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We appreciate your generous donations. An $18 minimum donation is required for each acknowledgment card.
Eight Crazy Quarantined Nights—Celebrate Chanukah with WBT

**TEMPLE-WIDE CHANUKAH LIGHTING**
December 10, 2020, 5:45 p.m. via Zoom
We invite all our families to light their channukiyot together and celebrate with Chanukah themed activities and songs.

**KOLEINU DRIVE-IN SHABBANUKKAH WITH RABBI NICKERSON AND CANTOR PEICOTT**
December 11, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

**CHANUKAH HAVDALAH WITH WBT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**
December 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m. at Irmas Campus
Light a braided candle Chanukah style with our Religious School team.

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT: CHANUKAH CONCERT AND IN-PERSON CANDLE LIGHTING**
December 13, 2020, 3:00 p.m. at Irmas Campus
Join us for a kid-friendly concert and Chanukah cheer.

**ONLINE CANDLE LIGHTING AND MOVIE SCREENING WITH RABBI NANUS**
December 13, 2020, 7:00 p.m. via zoom
Join Rabbi Nanus for the uplifting documentary, Heading Home: The Story of Team Israel.

**ONLINE CANDLE LIGHTING WITH CANTOR GURNEY**
December 14, 2020, 6:45 p.m. via Zoom
A conversation with Rabbi Leder and Bishop Kenneth Ulmer of Faithful Central Bible Church.

**WOMEN OF WILSHIRE: Join us for a night of DIY Chanukah and celebrating with Cantor Peicott.**

**MEN OF WILSHIRE: Join Rabbi Nickerson and Cantor Gurney for schmoozing, toasting, and tales about the ‘true’ story of Chanukah.**

**COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT**
December 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m via Zoom
Join Rabbis Eshel and Shapiro for a night of fun and games along after candle lighting.
PROGRAMS AND EVENTS - STARTING JANUARY 2021

Weekly Programming

MUSIC MATTERS WITH CANTOR GURNEY
Mondays, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

MUSSAR: THE JEWISH PRACTICE OF SELF-IMPROVEMENT WITH RABBI STAN DAVIDS
Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

OUR CLERGY AND THEIR MENTORS: PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN EACH OF OUR CLERGY AND THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON THAT INSPIRED THEM
Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

PIRKEI AVOT: ANCIENT ETHICAL WISDOM FOR MODERN LIFE WITH RABBI NICKERSON
Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

PARSHAT HASHAVUA
Fridays, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

KABBALAT SHABBAT
Fridays, 6:00 p.m.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE
Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

CELEBRATORY BOOK LAUNCH OF RABBI LEDER’S NEW BOOK - THE BEAUTY THAT IS LEFT BEHIND
January 4, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

FILM SERIES: THE DIVERSITY OF JEWS
January 12, 26, February 9, 23, via Zoom

MLK CELEBRATION WEEKEND OF JANUARY 16, via Zoom

AJC’S NEW REPORT ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES
January 24, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

WILSHIREADERS: KADDISH.COM BY NATHAN ENGLANDER
January 26, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

PURIM WORKSHOP
February 17, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

ADULT PURIM CELEBRATION
February 25, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Details and registration for our programs, events, and services can be found at wbtla.org/events