

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

Online Edition
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BURDEN

Volume 96, Number 7 • April 1, 2009

**BIG
SUNDAY**
'09

THERE'S ONLY ONE BIG SUNDAY!

MAY 3, 2009

Every *tikkun olam* event at Wilshire Boulevard Temple is special. Whether we're feeding the hungry each Sunday, assembling Thanksgiving baskets for a hunger-free holiday or organizing our congregation around a nation in need like Darfur, the Temple's commitment to healing the world is truly magnificent. It makes us proud to be a part of Wilshire Boulevard Temple. One congregant said to me last week, "I know we're giving a lot, but I feel like we're the ones receiving the greater gift." Sentiments like this are what make our *tikkun olam* programming thrive, and drive us to build a better community.

It is in this spirit we are increasing our involvement in BIG SUNDAY (www.bigsunday.org); partnering with the Center for Learning and Engagement, this will be the biggest Big Sunday yet!

Don't miss out on the morning of Sunday, May 3, as every one of our 2,500 families will have a chance, either at the Temple Campus or the Irmas Campus, to engage in a myriad of mitzvot to touch the hearts of the young and the young at heart!

Don't miss:

- ✓ Habitat for Humanity playhouses
- ✓ Art project for new Habitat homeowners
- ✓ Bloodmobile (at Irmas Campus only)
- ✓ PATH outreach kits for the homeless
- ✓ Cooking for the needy
- ✓ Special once-a-year Bagel Café!
- ✓ Book drive to benefit underprivileged elementary schools
- ✓ Jumps & Hoops for Darfur
- ✓ E-waste donation opportunity

We'll not only fulfill the mitzvah of *kehillah* (community), we'll be joining more than 50,000 Southern Californians, all of whom are working to make their neighborhoods better and their residents happier, safe, clothed and fed. It's the "Mother of all mitzvot!"

■ Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein

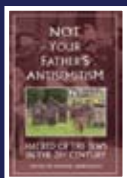


DO BIG SUNDAY!

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. • Temple and Irmas Campuses

(213) 388-2401 x269 • pwallace@wbtda.org • www.wbtda.org/events/item/295/tikkun_events

In This Issue



Berenbaum
Explores Realities of
Anti-Semitism
in the 21st Century

A Decade of Blessings

PURIMland



PESACH: GETTING READY

This year, to help you and your family better prepare for Pesach and the seder we have created a digital resource center we're calling "The Pesach Project." It's full of ideas, activities and recipes designed to make your celebration as memorable and meaningful as it can be! Visit www.wbtl.org/pages/pesach.

On "The Pesach Project" you can find....

- 1) Haggadah Recommendations
- 2) Pesach Music
- 3) Seder Supplements
- 4) Livening Up Your Seder
- 5) Pesach Recipes

Preparation for Pesach begins around Purim, six weeks before the first seder. I start wondering...what's in the refrigerator and pantry that we can use up before Pesach? What cereals, crackers, pasta and chips are we never going to eat? We finish what we can and give away the rest.

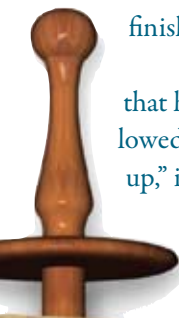
Why? We Jews rid our homes of *chameitz*, any food that has been made with grain and water that has been allowed to rise. We rid ourselves of that which has been "puffed up," including aspects of our hearts and souls. *Chameitz* is a symbol of pride, which leads to an exaggerated sense of self. In the context of the Passover story, it reminds us that Pharaoh thought of himself as a god, and that

we are not God. Getting rid of *chameitz* is an attempt to quiet self-absorption and see anew, with unfettered clarity.

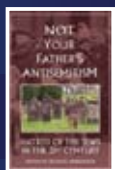
Ultimately the story we re-enact through the Pesach seder is a story of change. The power of Egypt is humbled; we Jewish slaves emerge as free people, facing the open desert of possibility. May we continue to leave behind the *chameitz* of our hearts and souls and experience the possibilities of change

Passover begins with the first seder on Wednesday, April 8, and concludes on April 16. Yizkor services will be at the Irmas campus on April 16 at 9:00 a.m. To make a seder at home, visit www.urj.org/holidays/pesach/. Chag Sameach!

■ Rabbi Karen L. Fox



Adult Opportunities



Berenbaum Explores Realities of Anti-Semitism in the 21st Century

When Michael Berenbaum laughs out loud with his young children, no one would know that for more than 35 years, his work has focused on the Holocaust. A scholar, professor, writer and filmmaker who specializes in the memorialization of the Holocaust, he is well known for his work as the Project Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Berenbaum also coproduced *One Survivor Remembers: The Gerta Weissman Klein Story*, a film that was recognized with an Academy Award, an Emmy Award and a Cable Ace Award. His life is full of study and activism as well as schmoozing and love.

Berenbaum brings that love of life—and Jewish life—to his studies of anti-Semitism. His new book, *Not Your Father's Anti-Semitism*, explores realities of the 21st century. The anti-Semitism we witness today in France and in Islamic countries is different from previous hatred of the Jewish people, and requires a different response. The presence of Israel in the world engen-

ders an anti-Zionism, which is another form of anti-Semitism. Learn what it is and how to respond. Engage with Berenbaum and digest the new realities. Raise questions, challenge his words and be part of a vision that is hopeful, despite current, ugly situations. The best way to memorialize Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) and those loved ones who vanished is by living fully and vigorously as proud Jews.

Meet Berenbaum on Sunday, April 19 at 5 P.M. at the Audrey and Sydney Irmas Campus and continue a challenging conversation about *Not Your Father's Anti-Semitism*.

■ Rabbi Karen L. Fox



NOT YOUR FATHER'S ANTI-SEMITISM
The Anne and Nathan Spilberg
Memorial Lecture on Jewish Life
Sunday, April 19, 2009, 5:00 p.m.
www.wbtl.org/events/item/292/adult_events



A Decade of Blessings

Brawerman Elementary School celebrated A Decade of Blessings on March 14, 2009. Chairperson Lauryn Harris and her committee planned an outstanding event that provided funds for student scholarships and fun for the school community. Family, friends and faculty gathered for an evening of music, delicious food (provided by our own John Bard), well-deserved appreciation for our founders and leaders, and an original film festival that was written, directed and produced by Brawerman parents. Acknowledging the vision and support of Geri and Richard Brawerman, Robin and Elliott Broidy, and Rabbi Harvey and Sybil Fields, Head of School Nadine Breuer spoke from her heart, expressing her gratitude and that of all those whose lives have been touched by our very special school. Happy 10th Anniversary Brawerman Elementary School!



Rabbi Harvey Fields, Rabbi Steven Leder & Geri Brawerman



Lauryn Harris, Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim, Nadine Breuer, Nancy Laurie



Robin and Elliott Broidy



PURIMland: The Happiest Place on Earth

On Sunday, March 8, members of the Wilshire Boulevard Temple early childhood, elementary and religious schools, as well as administrative staff and families, showed up in huge numbers for our Purim celebration. Queen Esther would have been proud to see so many babies, children, teenagers, parents and grandparents present, happy and entertained. We appreciate all of the efforts of our new Mayor of PURIMland, Eric Nicastro, and his dedicated council of CLE staffers, Shira Brown and David Green, who, with incredible support from Advisory Board co-chairs Peggy Davis and Lisa Kugler and our amazing committee members, made the day a wonderful experience for all.

We especially want to thank our sponsors, who made it all possible through their generous support of the Center for Learning and Engagement's only fundraiser. Thank you all for a great day! You made the difference!

Find a list of our donors on the contributions page of this bulletin...





5TH ANNUAL MUSLIM-JEWISH SEDER

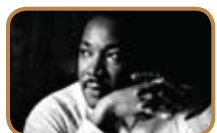
Saturday, April 11, 2009
6:00 p.m.
Temple Campus



Our evening of recalling the Exodus through the words of the Qur'an, blending with all the wondrous Jewish elements of a Pesach Seder, are nationally renowned for innovation and bridging cultural and interfaith communities.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/290/worship_events

AFRICAN-AMERICAN/JEWISH SEDER

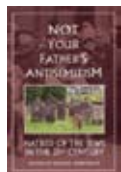


Tuesday, April 14, 2009
6:00 p.m.
Temple Campus

The African-American experience is one with deep resonance in the Exodus tale; now celebrate it as we weave the poetry and songs of black America with that of our own Jewish Seder tradition.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/291/worship_events

"NOT YOUR FATHER'S ANTI-SEMITISM": HATRED OF THE JEWS IN THE 21ST CENTURY THE ANNE AND NATHAN SPILBERG LECTURE ON JEWISH LIFE



Sunday, April 19, 2009
5:00 p.m.
Irmas Campus

Michael Berenbaum, Ph.D., argues that contemporary hatred of the Jews is not a throwback to the 1930s, but a unique manifestation of 21st-century humanity and the post-modernist crisis. Berenbaum is currently director of the Sigi Ziering Institute and a professor of Jewish Studies at the American Jewish University. He is the former director of the United States Holocaust Research Institute of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/292/adult_events

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION; AN ISRAEL BONDS EVENT

THE RABBI ALFRED WOLF MEMORIAL LECTURE



Thursday, April 30, 2009
7:00 p.m.
Irmas Campus

Wilshire Boulevard Temple and State of Israel Bonds invite you to commemorate Israel Independence Day with Ambassador Martin Indyk.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/225/adult_events



BIG SUNDAY

Sunday, May 3, 2009
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Temple Campus
Irmas Campus

Instead of training for a marathon, flex your mitzvah muscles at the CLE for a day of making a difference!

At each of our campuses, participants and parents will help build part of someone's new home, donate blood for a local blood drive, create baskets of hominess for those who are homeless and bake goodies for those who aren't lucky enough to have an oven. We will have many different types of mitzvot you can perform that will help heal our city and our world by thinking beyond ourselves.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/295/tikkun_events

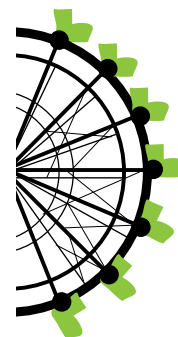
SANTA MONICA PIER FAMILY "FUN-RAISER"

Tuesday, May 12, 2009
4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier

Brawerman Elementary School and Mann Family and Erika J. Glazer Early Childhood Centers will hold their annual Santa Monica Pier Family "Fun-raiser" at Pacific Park, located on the Santa Monica Pier.

Bring your kids and enjoy rides, games and more. Pacific Park will be closed to the general public during the event.

www.wbtla.org/events/item/296/youth_events





Our Temple Family

Welcome to new Temple members...

Brent A. Kramer...Alejandro Lara...David and Natalie Sarraf and their daughters, Danielle and Desiree...Scott and Kimberly Shane and their daughter, Lila...Adam Stotsky and Georgeann Carras and their sons, Maxwell and Daniel...David and Corinne Weitzman and their son, Justin...

Congratulations to...

Nicole and Aner Ben-Artzi on the naming of their daughter, Ayelet Iris Ben-Artzi...Kate and Matt Benay on the birth of their daughter, Sydney Austin Benay and to grandparents, Jane and David Lewine, aunt Liz Lewine, great aunt and uncle, Barbie and Marshall Zolla and cousins, Debbie Zolla and Jeff Imerman...Lisa and Stephen Chorna on the naming of their granddaughter, Robin Elizabeth Chorna...Susan and Carter Cohn on the birth of their daughter, Willow and to big brothers, Noah and Gabriel and to grandparents, Dayle and Abram Zukor and aunt and uncle, Marina and Adam Cohn and cousins, David, Charles and Aerin...Megan McGowan Epstein and Alan Epstein on the birth of their daughter, Aela Rose Epstein and to big brother and sisters, Joshua, Eden and Matteson...Rebecca Kaufman and Jordan Fishman on the adoption of their son, Yohannes Solomon Fishman and to sisters, Li Ahn and Mei Ahn and to grandparents, Susan and Richard Fishman and great grandmother, Jeanette Pastor...Ann and Bernd Givon on the naming of their grandson, Finley Allen Horner...Sharon and Boris Shimanovsky on the birth of their son, Baron Shimanovsky and to big brother, Miles...

Condolences to...

Polly and Monty Preston on the death of her cousin, Nancy Colton... Marcia Harrow on the death of her mother, Minna Grodin...Mitch Heskell and Marci Kislin Heskell on the death of his father, Dr. Milton Heskell and to grandchildren, Joshua and Marina...Laurie and Dr. Steven Kend on the death of her father, Dr. Milton Rowen and to grandchildren, Scott Kend and Brian and Shoshana Kend...Susan and Bruce Levin on the death of her father, Nathan Spilberg and to grandsons, Ryan Levin; Brandon and Claudia Levin and to great grandchildren, Gabriel and Sophia Levin...Michael Field on the death of his wife, Dr. Marsha Weltman and to daughter, Jennifer Field...

And to all immediate and extended family.



Contributions continued

PURIMland SPONSORSHIPS

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Law Offices of Susan R. Wasserman
The Pritzker Family

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The Rosin Family
The Zweig Family
David Pekelney





Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Shabbat Service

Rabbi Stein Eshel and Cantor Caro
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Soul Sounds Shabbat

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Torah Study and Service Combined

LEVITICUS Tzav 6:1 - 8:36
Rabbi Fox and Cantor Caro
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat

Rabbinic Intern Erin Mason
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m.

No service at the Irmas Campus

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

1st Day Passover Service

Rabbi Stein and Cantor Caro
Irmas Campus - 9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Shabbat Services

Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist
Marshall Voit
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Eshel and Cantorial Soloist

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Chol Hamoed Passover

Torah Study and Service Combined

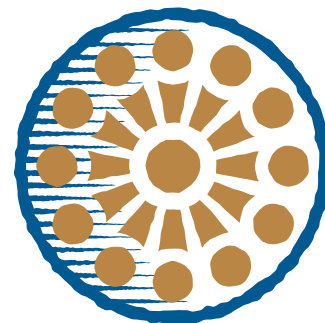
EXODUS 33:12 - 34:26
Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist
Lonee Frailich
Temple Campus - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

No service at the Irmas Campus

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

Yizkor/Last Day Passover Service

Rabbi Leder and Cantor Caro
Irmas Campus - 9:00 a.m.



WILSHIRE
BOULEVARD
TEMPLE

Clergy

Rabbi Steven Z. Leder, *Pritzker Chair of Senior Rabbis*
Rabbi Karen L. Fox, M.F.T.
Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim
Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein
Rabbi David Eshel
Cantor Don Gurney
Rabbi Harvey J. Fields, Ph.D., *Emeritus*

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In Honor Of:

Granddaughter, Robin Elizabeth Chorna's baby naming by Lisa & Stephen Chorna
Relba Imerman for a speedy recovery by Margery Altman

In Loving Memory Of:

Tova Ben-Eshai by Adi & Jerry Greenberg
Jeffery Bub by Gary Bub
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Pearl Serber by The Geibelson Family
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Philip Warsaw by Elaine & Ernest Warsaw

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In Honor Of:

Edward & Nancy Phillips by Mount Sinai Memorial Park and Mortuaries
Efim Rudin for a speedy recovery by Zoya Rudin

In Loving Memory Of:

Jack Arnel by Merle Galindo
Senta Fox by Women's Torah Study Group
Joseph Kurtsman by Zoya Rudin

TIKKUN OLAM SOCIAL ACTION FUND FOOD PANTRY

Nancy Berman & Alan Bloch
Jeanne Gerson

In Honor Of:

Steven Jackson's Birthday by Francine Sanders & Family
Judi & Paul Lippe by Francine Sanders

In Loving Memory Of:

Cousin, Don Blivas by Ann Rubin
Beloved mother and grandmother, Bess Epstein by Lucille Epstein & Family
Dear father, George Epstein by Margaret Epstein
Wally Esacove by Judith Esacove
Alvin Galpert by Evon & Jerry Gotlieb
My beloved father, Morris Kanner by Iris Kanner
Anna Klein by Flo & Mayo Stark
My sister, Ila Levy by Shirley Kodmur
Meta Meyers by Florence Kulwin
Meta Meyers by Diane & Lawrence Dresser
Beloved aunt & sister, Josephine Samuels by Lucille Epstein & Family
Dear sister, Josephine Samuels by Marian & Stanley Brown & Family
My friend, Maurice Singer by Stephanie Singer
Nathan Spilberg by Richard Eisendrath & Family

AUDREY AND SYDNEY IRMAS CAMPUS

In Loving Memory Of:

Sara Shaw by Pearl & Joan Borinstein

PRAYER BOOK DEDICATION FUND

Mary Lynn & Howard Gottfried

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In Loving Memory Of:

Jack Becker by Linda & Peter Rhein
William Becker by Linda & Peter Rhein
Frances Fenton by Linda & Peter Rhein
Jack Gard by Linda & Peter Rhein
Etta Gradowitz by Linda & Peter Rhein

ANNE AND NATHAN SPILBERG ANNUAL LECTURE ON JEWISH LIFE

In Loving Memory Of:

Ida Sosnow by Susan & Bruce Levin
Nathan Spilberg by Norma & Earl Bubar & Family
Nathan Spilberg by Toibe & Jack Knight
Uncle, Nate Spilberg by Myra, Jack, Jeffrey, Brooke & Andrew Porter
Nathan Spilberg by Francine Sanders
Nathan Spilberg by The Otis & Zaslavsky Family

RABBI HARVEY J. & SYBIL A. FIELDS EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Eshel for officiating the baby naming of our daughter, Ayelet Iris by Nicole & Aner Ben-Artzi

In Loving Memory Of:

Ilse Clauss by Madison Kiper & Family

ANAT BEN-ISHAI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Loving Memory Of:

Betty Ann Dancer by Robert Dancer
Arthur Nadel by Donna & Paul Nadel

MUSIC PUBLICATION FUND

In Honor Of:

Cantor Gurney on the occasion of our daughter, Mira Goeckner's Bat Mitzvah by Elissa Miller & Jeffrey Goeckner

THE CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS INQUIRY FUND

In Honor Of:

Mildred Love by Dr. Richard Mann

In Loving Memory Of:

Abe Meisler by Dr. Richard Mann

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE CAMPS

In Loving Memory Of:

Richard Barasch by Janine, Steve, Ross & Shawna Barasch
Parents, Mathilda & Arnold Bernstein by Sheila & Donald Bernstein
Mother, Minnette London by Francine Peterman
Sassi Lonner by Janet & David Lonner
Auntie, Dorothy Miller by Lisa Agay
Dr. Milton Rowen by Judy Albert
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Dr. Milton Rowen by Jenny Park
Dr. Milton Rowen by Brett Rubin
Dr. Milton Rowen by Suzy & Gary Rubin
Dr. Milton Rowen by Merla Wilson
Sister, Josephine Samuels by Gertrude Kline
Sarah Schirmer by June Blumkin

RABBI ALFRED WOLF CAMP FUND

In Honor Of:

Mike Robert's 80th Birthday by Linda & Gary Briskman
Mike Robert's 80th Birthday by Judie & Frank Fenton
Mike Robert's 80th Birthday by Miles Lee
Mike Robert's 80th Birthday by Jeanne Reynolds

In Loving Memory Of:

Brother, Jerry Bernstein by Sheila & Donald Bernstein
My beloved grandson, Mitchell Dresser by Florence Kulwin
Beloved son, Mitchell Dresser by Diane & Lawrence Dresser
Mitchell Dresser by Donna & Martin Rosenbush & Family
Lillian Ginsburg by Carolyn & Rob Carlson
Dr. Milton Rowen by Linda & Mike Roberts
Nathan & Ann Spilberg by Mike & Linda Roberts;
Susie & Paul Roberts

BEARMAN AND LANCET CAMBERSHIP FUND

In Loving Memory Of:

Harvey Pierce by G. Jane Lancet

CHARLES BENDIT CAMBERSHIP FUND

In Honor Of:

Sharon Weiner and Jason Fisher's Wedding by Arnie & Merle Weiner

In Loving Memory Of:

Nathan Spilberg by Nadine & Stephen Breuer

RICHARD BARASCH BBQ AND PICNIC AREA FUND

In Honor Of:

Nancy Barasch's Birthday by Shirley Barasch Varon

In Loving Memory Of:

Richard Barasch by Shirley Barasch Varon

YONI LICHT CAMBERSHIP FUND

In Loving Memory Of:

Dr. Milton Rowen by Miryam & Sam Tarica
Dr. Milton Rowen by Deborah Tarica

KEHILLAH COMMUNITY CAMP FUND

Michael Koss Charitable Foundation

CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED INSIDE....

FOOD PANTRIES

Sunday, April 5, 2009
Underwritten by
Banky LaRocque Foundation

Thank you to those individuals and families who have chosen either to underwrite (\$1,000) or sponsor (\$500) a week of food. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact Gina Lobaco at (213) 388-2401 or globaco@wbta.org.

Mitzvah goreret mitzvah – doing a mitzvah leads to doing more.





WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

April 2009

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



For more information, including time and location, on all of the events in this calendar, visit www.wbtla.org

5

Food Pantry
Adult B'Nei Mitzvah
Beginning Hebrew

6

12

Food Pantry

13

Passover

19

Food Pantry
"Not Your Father's Anti-Semitism": Hatred of the Jews in the 21st Century

20

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Food Pantry
Adult B'Nei Mitzvah
Beginning Hebrew

27

Coffee with Carol

28

Coffee with Carol



8

First Seder

15

Israeli Dancing

16

Yizkor Service

17

Lunch and Learn Torah Study w/Rabbi Leder (CC) Shabbat Services

18

Torah Study
Shabbat Services



Passover

10

Shabbat Services

11

Torah Study & Service Combined
5th Annual Muslim-Jewish Seder

9

1st Day Passover Service

9

Passover

10

Shabbat Services

11

Torah Study & Service Combined
5th Annual Muslim-Jewish Seder



Passover

9

1st Day Passover Service

10

Shabbat Services

11

Torah Study & Service Combined
5th Annual Muslim-Jewish Seder



Passover

1

Going Deeper
Israeli Dancing

2

Meditation in a Jewish Context

3

Women's Torah Lunch and Learn w/ Rabbi Fox
Shabbat Services
Soul Sounds Shabbat

4

Torah Study & Service Combined
Tot Shabbat

2

Meditation in a Jewish Context

3

Women's Torah Lunch and Learn w/ Rabbi Fox
Shabbat Services
Soul Sounds Shabbat

4

Torah Study & Service Combined
Tot Shabbat

2

Meditation in a Jewish Context

3

Women's Torah Lunch and Learn w/ Rabbi Fox
Shabbat Services
Soul Sounds Shabbat

4

Torah Study & Service Combined
Tot Shabbat

2

Meditation in a Jewish Context

3

Women's Torah Lunch and Learn w/ Rabbi Fox
Shabbat Services
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