

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE



BUMM IN

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The Food Pantry Turns 20— and Doubles the Mitzvah!

New Santa Monica Location to Open in September

In the fall of 1988, a group of dedicated congregants met, and with the support of the Board of Trustees, the clergy and the administration, began a weekly Sunday morning food pantry, distributing bags of food to men, women and children in need. Our newly founded pantry (one of six in the Wilshire Center) also helped form Hope-Net, an interfaith effort to eliminate hunger and homelessness in Los Angeles by providing food, shelter and self-help assistance to families and individuals. Year after year, Temple volunteers ages 4 to 94 have come every Sunday morning to fill the bags and give them to our clients. Thousands of congregants have given *tzedakah* to our Food Pantry Fund; your contributions make it possible to keep the pantry always able to handle that one extra request for a bag.

Now, as we reach a 20-year mile-

stone, there's no better way to mark the occasion than to announce the Temple's doubling of this commitment by opening a food pantry in Santa Monica, at the Ocean Park Community Center Access Center. OPCC (www.opcc.net) is arguably West Los Angeles' most necessary human—and humane—needs care organization. Addressing the manifold challenges of the homeless, abused women and children, the mentally ill, runaway youth—even a program linking troubled teens with rescuing and sheltering abandoned pets!—OPCC does so much, but as with any organization, cannot do it all.

Currently, there's no place in Santa Monica (a major center of homelessness)



where those who are most in need can get free food on Sunday. Now, thanks to our ever-more dedicated community, Wilshire Boulevard Temple will “step up to the plate,” distributing “lunch bags plus” every Sunday morning, beginning September 7.

Want to volunteer? Want to contribute? Want more info? Contact Phyl Wallace at pwallace@wbtl.org or (213) 388-2401.

The Talmud teaches and we have learned: *mitzvah goreret mitzvah*—doing one sacred deed leads to doing more.

■ *Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein*

In This Issue



**A Mountaintop View—
From the Ground Up**



**A Camp Picture
Says 1,000 Words**



**Senator
Pryor
Learns
About
Interfaith
Work**



The idea of Jew killing Jew is shocking. Most of us think it never happens. But it does. In this week's Torah portion, an outraged Pinchas spears both a Midianite prostitute and her Jewish customer.

It happened when the Macabees saw a Jew publicly bowing down to a statue of Zeus. It happened during the American Civil War, World War I and when Israel was founded. Most of us painfully recall when Yigal Amir, a young, deranged Orthodox Jew, assassinated then Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Ironically, some extremist Jews used this week's Torah portion and the character of Pinchas to justify the assassination.

After all, doesn't God reward Pinchas for his zealotry? Isn't Pinchas granted God's *Brit Shalom*—covenant of peace? Yes, he is. But to my mind, it's not that God rewards Pinchas, but that God cures him. God tempers Pinchas' fanaticism so that he will never kill again.

IF WE ARE TO BE FANATICAL
ABOUT ANYTHING, LET US BE
FANATICAL ABOUT SECURITY,
LIFE AND PEACE—THE
HIGHEST JEWISH VALUES.

PARASHAT PINCHAS

(NUMBERS 25:10 - 30:1)

After Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, Shimon Peres had the best response to fanatics who would kill an innocent human being for their cause. He addressed the assassin Yigal Amir directly and said: "The Jewish people spit you out."

Although I believe there is ample proof from the Torah to modern Zionist theory of our right to settle the West Bank and Gaza, settlement is not the highest Jewish value we are commanded to uphold in the scope of Jewish tradition.

Life itself has higher value. The well-being of Israeli society has higher value. If we are to be fanatical about anything, let us be fanatical about security, life and peace—the highest Jewish values. The way of Pinchas is the way of madness. The Jewish people ought to spit it out.

■ *Rabbi Steven Leder*



A Mountaintop View— From the Ground Up



Last month Rabbi Stein and I attended a leadership training seminar sponsored by One LA, the organizing institution we're working with on our new social justice program. Meeting at Mount St. Mary's College in Brentwood, we were treated to sublime views of the city and the ocean, and were engaged with lofty goals and ideals morning, noon and night for two and a half days.

One LA is a broad-based coalition of some 80 institutions—religious, educational and social-service—dedicated to improving the quality of life in our beloved city, using the leveraged power of thousands of people who are building themselves into a community for change from the ground up, person by person, group by group. As each of us—drawn into this community by a deep interest in achieving necessary or desirable social change in areas such as health care, homelessness, education, traffic, elder care and the environment—becomes a new unit in this coalition, we will, as One LA's experience has shown, become part of a diverse and effective force for negotiating change in the civic culture. Piece by piece, one doable project to another, we can *get things done*.

We were fascinated and inspired by the concepts to which we were exposed, the analysis of power structures, the negotiating postures that we gained and the tools for building community that we practiced. Now our task, warmly embraced at Wilshire Boulevard Temple under the leadership of Rabbi Stein, is to come down from the mountaintop to the city we love, and come together so we can work together with other like-minded organizations to be agents of change in this wonderful but imperfect city.

I eagerly look forward to sharing this task with you.

■ *Bob Wunsch*



Glazer to Hold Their **FIRST** Nursery School Meeting

In anticipation of the opening of the Erika J. Glazer Nursery School this fall at Wilshire Boulevard Temple's historic downtown site, pioneer families of the new program will convene for their first Parents' Meeting on Thursday, July 31, at a Hancock Park home.

The meeting will be both an informational orientation and a get-to-know-you opportunity for the families and administration of the new school. Speakers will include Early Childhood Director Carol Bovill, Associate Director Fredda Loewenstein,

Erika J. Glazer Nursery School Site Director Leslie Cerruti, Wilshire Boulevard Temple Parenting Center Site Director Beth Weisman, Wilshire Boulevard Temple Executive Director Howard Kaplan and Security Manager Cory Wenter.

Applications are currently being accepted for this fall. Anyone interested in information about this new early childhood program for their child, grandchild or friends should contact Fredda Loewenstein at (213) 388-2401, x130.



Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps

"Camp is a place to express yourself and feel safe."

-Syd, TEC Specialist

"No matter how different everyone is, Shabbat always brings us together."

-Rachel F. and Hannah B., Cabin Moriah

"Having the best time of their lives."

-Adam R., Cabin Metzada

"Home sweet home."

-Brandon T., Cabin Yam Suf

A Gindling Hilltop Camp Picture Says 1,000 Words

"A point when you're having too much fun and you can't handle it anymore"

-Josh S., Cabin Yericho

"Crazy fun unification. Everyone can be themselves on any day but especially on Shabbat."

-Howie B., Cabin Sinai



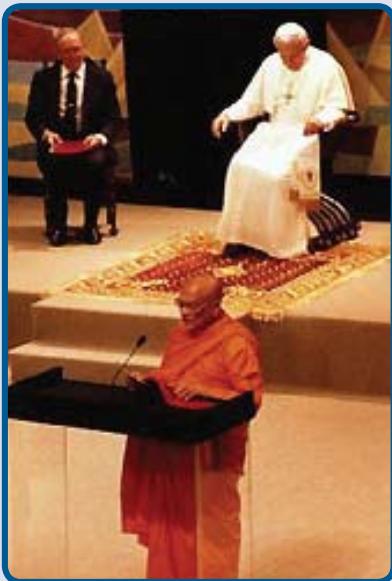


U.S. Senator Mark Pryor Learns About Temple's Interfaith Work

In late June, Wilshire Boulevard Temple welcomed a special visitor who came to learn about the Los Angeles Jewish community and our congregation's special history. U.S. Senator Mark Pryor, who represents the state of Arkansas, was the guest of congregant Chad Brownstein, who arranged the visit for the senator during a recent trip to the West Coast.



Noting that his state has only a small Jewish population, concentrated largely in Little Rock, the senator was particularly interested in the role that Wilshire Boulevard Temple and its congregants have played in the life of the city. With Rabbi Steve Leder guiding him on a personal tour of the sanctuary, Senator Pryor learned the fascinating history of our Temple and our clergy, who have served as ambassadors of the Jewish point of view to the non-Jewish world for more than a century, advocating for equality and



understanding. Rabbi Edgar Magnin, and then Rabbi Harvey Fields, invited clerics from all faiths—from Catholic cardinals to the Dalai Lama—to stand alongside them on our bimah to participate in dialogue and interfaith observance. Native Americans have performed their sacred dance rituals, and a muezzin has called the faithful to the Qur'an from our choir loft.

In fact, the Temple's second sanctuary was dedicated in 1893 with an interfaith ceremony, as was the dedication of our historic sanctuary in 1929. At a time when anti-Semitism was still socially acceptable, Rabbi Magnin became known as the "Chief Rabbi of California," and was a guide and an inspiration to millions across the country who listened to his popular radio and television broadcasts.

Rabbi Alfred Wolf was the president of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission during the devastating Watts riots in the 1960s. He formalized an interfaith exchange

among local clergy and seminary students, and broadened the Temple's interfaith outreach beyond Christian-Jewish dialogue to encompass non-Western faith traditions, including Islam and Buddhism.

Rabbi Fields was a Founding Chair of the Interfaith Coalition to Heal Los Angeles in the aftermath of civil unrest in Los Angeles following the verdict in the Rodney King beating trial. He also served as the co-chair of the Black-Jewish Clergy Alliance of L.A. and president of the Interreligious Council of Southern California.

Most recently, the Temple has sponsored the West Coast Center for Religious Inquiry (CRI), under the direction of Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein, which annually offers the Muslim-Jewish Seder, interfaith pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and dozens of classes and public forums on issues relating to various religious traditions and their views on controversial social issues.

Senator Pryor, Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness of the Homeland Security Committee, was very impressed by the Temple's broad outreach. Rabbi Leder explained that Torah repeatedly tells us to treat the "stranger" among us with kindness, decency, compassion and fairness. Isaiah commands us to be "a light among nations," a command that Wilshire Boulevard Temple has taken to heart from its earliest days. As Rabbi Leder noted, "Nothing makes our country safer than understanding among people of different faiths and backgrounds—and few places promote understanding as well as Wilshire Boulevard Temple."

■ *Gina Lobaco*
Director of Development





Upcoming Events

TRAVEL WITH RABBI LEDER AND AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE TO INDIA!

November 10 - 19, 2008*

Visit New Delhi, Mumbai and the Eastern state of Orissa for an unforgettable and rare exchange with communities on the margins of Indian society. Meet community activists and leaders supported by AJWS who are providing hope and promoting change across gender, caste and educational lines. Tour Moghul monuments in Delhi, shop in Bombay and admire the Sun Temple in Orissa.

The AJWS Study Tour will provide unique insight into India's history, culture and politics through conversations with the country's leading politicians, journalists, academics and elected officials. This promises to be an extraordinary journey!

www.wbtl.org/pages/israel_trips



It's **ALL** online at www.wbtl.org/events. Check it out!



Summer Announcements

PUBLIC TOURS OF HISTORIC WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE TO BEGIN THIS SUMMER

Tuesdays & Thursdays (closed on holidays)
July 10 - September 25
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Our historic sanctuary constantly draws visitors who wish to view one of L.A.'s historic landmarks. Now that the City of Los Angeles has installed an "Angels Walk" stanchion outside the Wilshire Boulevard monument as part of its "Self-Guided Historic Trails" program, the Temple is seeing an increase in visitors. Located between two subway stops on the LA Metro's Purple Line, the Temple is also easily accessible by public transportation.

So back by popular demand, the Temple is reintroducing guided tours beginning this summer. Learn all about "The Synagogue That Hollywood Built" including the beautiful art glass windows and the famous Warner Murals. These tours are free and open to the public.

Tours will resume again after High Holy Days. Check the Temple website for future updates.

Reservations are encouraged. Call Jennifer Levitt - (213) 388-2401.

NOTE: Congregants may also sign up for a special "members-only" Temple Tour & Nosh with Rabbi Steve Leder on two Sundays, September 14 and November 2, at 10 a.m.

CALL FOR USHERS!

Would you enjoy helping us during the High Holy Days by serving as an usher at one of our services? We need your help! To get information on volunteering for this rewarding experience, contact Elaine Lipton at (213) 388-2401.





Our Temple Family

Welcome to new Temple members...

Mark Burton and Katie Lipsitt and their children, Benjamin and Lucy...Ben and Susie David and their son, Elijah...Jeffrey and Tricia Graup and their daughter, Sophia...Nick and Melissa Harris and their daughter, Noa...Ken and Bari Ramberg and their children, Owen and Quinn...Stanley and Ruth Stalford and their son, Jack...Jacques and Jody Stambouli and their children, Lily and Robert...Mark and Jennifer Werndorf and their sons, Oliver and Maccabee...

Congratulations to...

Giselle and John Farrand on the naming of their daughter, Talei Farrand...Yana and David Matlof on the birth and brit milah of their son, Michael Charles Matlof and to big brother, Jacob...Drs. Diane and Mark Tarica on the birth of their son, Andrew Masami Tarica and to big brother, Matthew and to uncle and aunt, Dr. Samuel and Miryam Tarica and to cousins, Erin, Deborah, Daniel Tarica and Joshua Bobrowsky and extended family... Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein and Stephen Ariel Miller, on their marriage...

Condolences to...

Rochelle Fenton on the death of her husband, Fredric Fenton and to niece, Renee and Jeff Korn and their children, Adam and Joshua and to cousins, Barbara and Seymour Canter and their children, David Canter, Caren and Richard Shectker and their children, Dana and Laura Shectker and to Frances Fenton...Dan and Patti Stein on the death of his grandmother, Henya Freiberg and to great granddaughters, Carli and Lauren...Risa Gertner on the death of her mother, Ruth Gertner and to grandchildren, Jackson and Theo... Friends and family of Dovey Grossman...Phyl Wallace on the death of her aunt, Elizabeth Lilly Hayes...Bonnie and Robert Friedman on the death of her father, Frank Levin and to grandchildren, Grant and Samantha...Nancy and Stephen Levine on the death of her father, Sam L. Levin and to granddaughters, Amy and Andrea...Toni Mindling Schulman and John Schulman on the death of her mother, Ruth Mindling and to grandchildren, Abby and Jessie...Anita First on the death of her father, Irving Ross...

And to all immediate and extended family.



RABBI EDGAR F. MAGNIN FUND

Ida Freeman Family Trust

In Honor Of:

Nicholas Pritzker winning the National Debate Championship by The Wayne Family

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 Loving friend, Marcia Gardner by Rachael & Dr. Norman Hoffman
 Judd Goldfine by Heidi & Charles Steinberg
 Ben Grodsky by Lillian & Joseph Grodsky
 Perry Harris by Adalee Brown
 David Harrow by Marcia Harrow
 My father, Mendel Hass by Rysia Tenzer
 Randy Haves by Hyman H. Haves
 Leta Hilliard by David Hilliard
 Mort Hochman by Jennifer & Noah Shore
 Dear mother, Dora Hoffman by Rachael & Dr. Norman Hoffman
 Rose Joffe by John Thomasson
 Chanita Kabatchnik by Adi & Jerry Greenberg
 Hilda Kaplan by Blaire & Aaron Kaplan
 Dearie Karatz by Bruce Karatz Family Foundation
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 Edward Lee Kozberg by Lindsey Kozberg
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 Paul Maier by Margaret & Gary Maier
 Joseph Mereny by Eric Fine & Carol Krasne
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 Molook Partovi by Soheil Alexander Soleimani
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 Joseph Rosenfield by Ira & Joanne Kirshbaum
 Dearest Mabel Samter by Lola Jameson
 Mendel Samuels by Claire Feiger
 Sidney Schuman by Edith Schuman
 Charles Stein by Natalie Stein
 Jacob Toren by Lili & Jon Bosse

CLERGY FUND

In Honor Of:

Grandson, Dustin Harris's Bar Mitzvah by Celia Farkas

The marriage of Kathy Furst & Brian Kriegler by Ruth & George Furst

Rabbi Leder attending Brit Milah of son, Michael by Yana & David Matlof
 Rabbi Leder officiating at the unveiling of Paul Orland by Laura Adler & Malcolm Orland

In Loving Memory Of:

Ruth Gertner by Jaclyn & Aaron Schatzow;
 Jennifer & Randy Wooster
 Bertha Lewis by Gladys Ginsberg
 Anshel Lewis by Gladys Ginsberg
 Rusty Maltzman by Elliot Maltzman
 Lester Meyer by Gail Hoffman & Richard Meyer
 Susanne Wolf by Bennett Wolf

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Katie Schechter by Morrie Dickman

TIKKUN OLAM SOCIAL ACTION FOOD PANTRY

In Honor Of:

Joshua Bubar's Birthday by Pat & Carl Feldstein
 Jason Barbanell passing the 2008 California Bar Exam by Laurilyn & Harlan Barbanell
 Albert Harris's Special Birthday by Florence & Mayo Stark
 Susan & Fred Kunik's Wedding by Margie & Arthur Schwartz
 The birth of Alexander Jacob Tahl by Jack, Myra, Jeffrey, Brooke & Andrew Porter
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 Jerry Markle by Ellen Pansky
 Pauline Stark by Florence & Mayo Stark

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Rose & Henry Nusbaum's 60th Wedding Anniversary by Cynthia, Joel, Lesley & Danielle Feinstein

In Loving Memory Of:

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MANN FAMILY EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Sandra & Melvin Peters

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 Lucille Green by The Green Family

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Cantor Gurney for officiating at Grace Hasson's funeral by Elaine Robinson

In Loving Memory Of:

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 Ida Leeman by Elaine Robinson

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 Sidney Stern Memorial Trust

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Joseph Feinstein by Elaine Lipton
 Beloved father, Herbert Schirmer by June Blumkin
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Olga Breuer by Jared, Sydnee, Jordan & Samantha Breuer

RABBI ALFRED WOLF CAMP FUND

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 1st & 2nd Grade Religious School at Magnin

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 Beloved mother, Aileen Lindenbaum by Jeanne Gerson
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In Honor Of:

Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein & Stephen Ariel Miller by Aaron Sternberg & William Beck
 Bob Newmark's Bar Mitzvah by Maude Macgillivray, Inc.
 Bob Newmark's Bar Mitzvah by Jeanne Gerson
 Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein by M. Sadegh Namazikhah

In Loving Memory Of:

Beloved niece & cousin, Robin Rose Artiaga by Harriet Borson & Family

.....
Sunday, July 20, 2008
FOOD PANTRY
 Underwritten by
The 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 more.*





Schedule of Shabbat Worship & Study

FRIDAY, JULY 18

Erev Shabbat Services
Rabbi Fox and Cantor Caro
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Leder and Cantorial Soloist
Elisa Waltzman
Irmias Campus - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

Shabbat Service and Torah Study combined
NUMBERS Pinchas 25:10 - 30:1
Rabbi Fox and Cantor Caro
Temple Campus - 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Leder and Cantorial Soloist
Elisa Waltzman
Irmias Campus - 10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

Erev Shabbat Services
Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist
Elisa Waltzman
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Leder and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugerman
Irmias Campus - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Shabbat Service and Torah Study combined
NUMBERS Matot 30:2 - 32:42
Rabbi Leder and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugerman
Temple Campus - 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

No service at the Irmias Campus

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

Erev Shabbat Services
Rabbi Fox and Cantorial Soloist
Ellen Sugerman
Temple Campus - 6:00 p.m.

Soul Sounds Shabbat
Rabbi Stein, Cantor Gurney and the Band
Irmias Campus - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Torah Study
NUMBERS Masei 33:1 - 36:13
Rabbi Sara Goodman
Temple Campus - 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Rabbi Stein and Cantorial Soloist
Rachel Dubois
Temple Campus - 10:30 a.m.

No service at the Irmias Campus



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Rabbi Stephen Julius Stein
Rabbi David Eshel
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