

Shana Tova! Let's Meet in 5773



I am delighted to say *shalom aleiheim* to you as we approach the New Year and prepare to celebrate Rosh Hashanah 5773 together.

When I was invited to become the next rabbi at Congregation Or Zarua, many people had wonderful stories to share with me about the Or Zarua approach, the commitment to Jewish learning here, and the many Jewish experiences they have had at this Congregation. Before I started, I heard tales of how the community became a home for people seeking a traditional, participatory, and egalitarian synagogue on the Upper East Side. "There's an intellectual and spiritual engagement there," said one friend. "Tradition, culture, and arts all play important roles."

Several people recalled being here for adult education or how they were comforted

by being welcomed into the morning minyan to say kaddish. People found services inspiring, and many mentioned the religious school, Purim Spiel, Talmud learning, book clubs, arts, and gallery showings—as well as a healthy, multigenerational community of serious, interested, and modernly traditional Jewish people. They are proud of Or Zarua's commitment to tzedakah and giving back to the community.

Such a diverse crowd of people means that we have many different types of interests and members in our Congregational family. It would be my honor and privilege to meet with each of you outside the framework of any one service or program. Come individually or with your family, with a partner or friend, so that we can make a personal connection and get to know one another. Please feel free to make an appointment with me directly, or reach out to Deborah Wenger in the office, who keeps my calendar. Even if the first time we meet is through a need for support at a time of sickness or sadness, I am available and interested in forming a relationship.

Of course, one way of getting to know one another is to do so at our religious services. I have been inspired on Shabbat mornings, at our morning minyanim, and especially on Friday nights. Our Kabbalat Shabbat service is an engaging way to make the transition from a busy work week to the sense of Shabbat peace that too often escapes us in our fast-paced world. With a few words of inspiration and spirited singing, the Friday night service lasts about an hour. I encourage each of you to attend the services that you find most meaningful.

During this month of Elul, I pray that each of us finds a way to prepare for the

approaching Days of Awe. We are blessed to be able to live in a time that is American, global, and Jewish. Soon we will be able to gather as one community in the sacred space that we will create in Wallace Hall, on the lower level of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, for the Yamim Noraim. We are fortunate to have gracious neighbors who are helping us make the space suitable for our Congregation during our High Holy Days. We will also have Tashlikh together and gather for afternoon and evening services in our beautiful Or Zarua synagogue. From the High Holy Days to the chag of Sukkot—I am looking forward to a sukkah on the roof—when we are reminded that joy and family time are enhanced by Jewish ritual, I eagerly anticipate celebrating with everyone.

My family and I sincerely appreciate the welcome we continue to receive as we meet members of the community and become part of this dynamic family.

L'shalom and warm regards,
Rabbi Scott N. Bolton

SELIHOT

Saturday, September 8

8:15 p.m.

Dessert Reception

Join us for an evening of community as we usher in the Days of Awe with a dessert reception.

9:15 p.m.

Study Session

Rabbi Bolton will address the topic "Sorry," "Excuse me," or "I did it"—*What are we really saying when we confess with Vidui (confessional)?*

10:00 p.m.

Selichot Services

WELCOME BACK KIDDUSH LUNCH

Saturday, September 8

Welcome the month of Elul by feeding your body and your soul! On September 8, Or Zarua will sponsor a Kiddush lunch after Shabbat services to greet new and prospective members, as well as Congregants returning from their summer travels. Please invite friends who may be interested in joining Or Zarua. No reservations are required.



A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE
FOUNDED 1989

127 East 82nd Street
New York, NY 10028
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www.orzarua.org

SCOTT N. BOLTON, *Rabbi*
DR. HARLAN J. WECHSLER, *Rabbi Emeritus*
DIANE OKRENT, *President*
HENRY GLANTERNIK, *Treasurer*
HARVEY M. BRENNER, FTA, *Executive Director*
ILANA BURGESS, *Youth Education Director*
CHARLES SPIELHOLZ, *Newsletter Editor*

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AESTHETICS	Aaron Shelden
ART GALLERY	Bobbi Coller
BOOK DISCUSSION	Reed Schneider
BUILDING	Benjamin Marcus
CEMETERY	Aliza Kaplan Mort Schwartz
DEVELOPMENT	Andrew Plevin
HESED	Richard Stadin
HEVRA KADISHA	Vera Silver Gerry Solomon
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PUBLIC RELATIONS	Aaron Shelden
PURIM SPIEL	Arthur Rosenbloom Bonnie Maslin Tibor Feldman Barbara Sassoon
SCHOOL	Betsy Dizengoff
TORAH/HAFTARAH	Marc Ashley Jay Palmer
WEBMASTER	Jay Palmer

If you are interested in serving on a synagogue committee, please contact the office for the committee chair's email address.

President's Message

by Diane Okrent



Recently at Or Zarua there has been a lot of talk about “transition.” After all, we are in a “transition” year. We have a new rabbi and a Transition Team in place to smooth the way for him and his family into the Or Zarua community. Rabbi Bolton is already deeply involved in every aspect of the Congregation, from leading services to visiting the sick to meeting with current and prospective members to playing Frisbee with young families on Shabbat afternoons in Central Park. And, of course, he is immersed in preparations for his first High Holy Days at Or Zarua.

Rabbi Bolton has already met many members and looks forward to meeting many more in the coming weeks and months. Throughout the upcoming holidays, there will be many opportunities to meet him. And we are planning “Meet the Rabbi” get-togethers in the next few months. This transition at OZ will continue.

Life itself is all about transition. We, and our circumstances, are constantly changing—evolving from one stage to another. As Gail Sheehy wrote in *Passages*, “Changes are not only possible and predictable, but to deny them is to be an accomplice to one’s own unnecessary vegetation.” We must change—transition, if you will—or we will stagnate. Just as each individual grows and matures physically, intellectually, and spiritually, so has Or Zarua grown and matured. We have always been in transition.

Elul, the last month in the Jewish civil calendar, is a time of transition. We are conscious of moving from our routine existence toward Rosh Hashanah. Each weekday morning, the shofar is blown and we read Psalm 27, “The Lord is my light and my help. Whom shall I fear?” The shofar blasts are intended to awaken us to search our

hearts and draw close to God in preparation for the coming Day of Judgment (Rosh Hashanah) and the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). We are expected to get out of the doldrums and get moving toward repentance and renewal. In the words of Maimonides, the message of the shofar is, “Awake you sleepers from your sleep, and you that are in slumber, rouse yourselves. Consider your ways, remember God, turn unto Him.”

Tishri, the first month in the Jewish civil calendar, begins with Rosh Hashanah and includes Yom Kippur and Sukkot. It is an intense but wonderful month! We will usher in Tishri together with Rabbi Bolton at Erev Rosh Hashanah services on Sunday, September 16, in the Or Zarua Sanctuary. Each evening of Rosh Hashanah, we will daven together at Or Zarua (September 16, 17, and 18). Each day of Rosh Hashanah and on Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur, we will daven together at Wallace Hall—a beautiful space in our neighborhood at Park Avenue, between 83rd and 84th Streets.

Immediately after Yom Kippur, we will build our beautiful rooftop Sukkah at Or Zarua so we can fulfill the mitzvah, *lei-sheiv ba-sukkah*. We will have delicious meals together in the Sukkah.

As the summer draws to a close, we transition from a more relaxed lifestyle to a more intense work schedule, school, and the whirlwind cultural agenda that defines New York. It always seems that life begins again in September! At Or Zarua, our programming year will begin as well. Join us on September 8 for our Welcome Back Kiddush, Dessert Reception and Selihot. Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, join us on September 19, when Rabbi David Silber will lecture on a topic related to the Days of Awe.

I look forward to greeting you soon and often during this year of transition. Please renew your membership so that you can join us for the High Holy Days.

L'Shana Tova U'metuka!

EDITOR'S NOTE If you have an idea or article that is appropriate for publication in the *OZ Newsletter*, please contact Charlie Spielholz at cssrs@earthlink.net. All copy for the November/December 2012 issue should be received by Monday, October 15.

VISIT WWW.ORZARUA.ORG

Explore Or Zarua's past, present, and future



Have you missed an Or Zarua lecture, class, or discussion? Would you like to hear a presentation a second time? Or Zarua's website, www.orzarua.org, contains recordings of many of the presentations given by guest speakers and teachers at the synagogue.

By clicking on the drop-down menu titled "Learning" and choosing "Adult Study," followed by "Recorded Talks," you can also access lectures by Professors Ruth R. Wisse, David Roskies, and James Kugel, and Rabbis David Silber and Harlan J. Wechsler. You can

even listen to the Or Zarua Klezmer Band.

There are many other resources on the Or Zarua website—upcoming events, service schedules, current art gallery shows, minyan sign-up, and much more. So take a moment to explore www.orzarua.org and see what has been, is currently, and will be happening at OZ!

OZ CRAFTS CLUB

The next meeting of the Or Zarua Crafts Club will be on Sunday, October 21, at 10:15 a.m. in the OZ library. Remember, no experience is necessary to join the Crafts Club, and older children and nonmembers are also welcome to attend.

SIMHAT TORAH KIDDUSH LUNCH

Tuesday, October 9
Immediately following services

Please join us as we approach the end of a meaningful holiday season.

No reservation is required.

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OZ Cemetery

Gravesites for members

The Or Zarua section of Beth El Cemetery is located in Washington Township (Bergen County), New Jersey, just 10 miles away from the George Washington Bridge. Beth El Cemetery is well maintained and landscaped with trees and shrubs. The cemetery's design provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the values and aesthetics of Congregation Or Zarua. Gravesites within the Or Zarua section are available for sale solely to members of our Congregation. Burial is limited to persons of the Jewish faith. If you are interested in buying gravesites in the Or Zarua section, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext. 14.



A view of the Or Zarua cemetery section.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Or Zarua office is closed Saturday and Sunday, as well as on Jewish and federal holidays.

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES 5773/2012

Sunday, September 16

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Evening 6:15 p.m.–7:15 p.m.
Congregation Or Zarua

Monday, September 17

First Day Rosh Hashanah

Morning 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Wallace Hall

Tashlikh 5:45 p.m.–6:15 p.m.
Central Park, south end of Reservoir

Evening 6:45 p.m.–7:45 p.m.
Congregation Or Zarua

Tuesday, September 18

Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Morning 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Wallace Hall

Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:45 p.m.–7:45 p.m.
Congregation Or Zarua

Saturday, September 22

Shabbat Shuvah

Shaharit 9:00 a.m.
Congregation Or Zarua

Tuesday, September 25

Erev Yom Kippur

Minhah 1:20 p.m.–1:45 p.m.
Congregation Or Zarua

Kol Nidre 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Wallace Hall

Wednesday, September 26

Yom Kippur/Yizkor

Services 9:00 a.m.–7:28 p.m.
Wallace Hall

• **Service Locations** •

Congregation Or Zarua
 127 East 82nd Street
 between Lexington and Park Avenues

Wallace Hall
 on west side of Park Avenue
 between 83rd and 84th Streets

Tickets are required for all services.

High Holy Days 5773/2012

The same, but different, at Wallace Hall

Each year, the summer months are a busy time at Or Zarua

as we focus on the many details involved in planning for the High Holy Days. Last year we were fortunate to have secured space at the New York Academy of Medicine on very short notice. While the building served our needs well, and its staff was extremely accommodating and helpful, the location was inconvenient for a significant number of Congregants. Following Sukkot, we undertook an exploration of our immediate neighborhood to find a more geographically suitable High Holy Day location. Wallace Hall, the event space on the lower level of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, has been selected from the very few possibilities available.

Wallace Hall is located on the west side of Park Avenue between 83rd and 84th Streets. There are two entrances, one at the corner of 84th Street and one midway between 83rd and 84th Streets. The large, attractive space will hold all of us comfortably. Children through the age of 6 will have their services in the same building, while those ages 7–12 will have theirs in the Or Zarua building, at 127 East 82nd Street.

Evening services for Rosh Hashanah will be held at Or Zarua, 127 East 82nd Street, on Sunday, September 16, from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., and on Monday, September 17, from 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Rosh Hashanah morning services, Monday, September 17, and Tuesday, September 18, will be at Wallace Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Children's services will be from 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at both locations. As usual, Tashlikh will take place on the first day of Rosh Hashanah



Many of Or Zarua's High Holy Day services for 5773 will be held at Wallace Hall, located on Park Avenue between 83rd and 84th Streets.

at the Central Park Reservoir from 5:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

Minhah for Erev Yom Kippur, Tuesday, September 25, will be at Or Zarua, 127 East 82nd Street, from 1:20 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Kol Nidre that evening will take place at Wallace Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Yom Kippur services, Wednesday, September 26, will be held at Wallace Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m. Children's services will be held from 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at both

Wallace Hall and Or Zarua for the appropriate age-groups.

All dates, times, and locations will be printed on the reverse of each High Holy Day ticket. The seating arrangement at Wallace Hall will be according to our long-established practice—a central bimah with seating on three sides—and seats are unassigned.

Tickets have been mailed to all members in good standing. Please call the synagogue office with any questions or concerns you may have in connection with dues payment. Note that all children through the age of 22 are included in family membership. Children ages 23 and above are required to have guest tickets; any inquiries in this regard should be directed to the synagogue office as well.

So, what remains the same? While the venue has changed, the mahzor, style, and conduct of the services are as they have been. We will, as we always have done, welcome longstanding and newer Congregants to join together as a community to reflect on the year ending and to pray for a *shanah tovah*, a year of all that is good. And we will welcome Rabbi Scott Bolton, Rabbi Amy Bolton, and their children into our embrace as they share the High Holy Days with us for the first time.

Rabbi David Silber Lecture

Wednesday, September 19, 8:00 p.m.



Our annual study session with Rabbi David Silber will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 19.

Presentations by Rabbi Silber, founder and dean of the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, have become a staple part of Or Zarua's schedule of events in connection with the High Holy Days. His lectures enrich our understanding of the High Holy Day services. Past topics have included "Yom Kippur and Purim," "The Shofar: Rejoice in Trembling," "Echoes of the Akedah," "The Redemption of Sarah," "The Book of Jonah," "The First Day of Rosh Hashanah: Hagar and Ishmael," and "The Story of Hannah."

From these past talks, we can count on an interesting and thought-provoking presentation that will enrich our understanding of a key part of the Rosh Hashanah service.

The Drisha Institute, founded in 1979, offers an advanced program of Jewish studies for women, providing women full access to classical texts of the Jewish tradition and preparing women for leadership positions in Jewish education. A number of Or Zarua members have studied at Drisha. For the past several years, Drisha has also provided increasing opportunities for men.

Rabbi Silber lectures and teaches in other venues.

We hope to see everyone at Rabbi Silber's presentation.

OR ZARUA YOUTH HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES 5773/2012

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 17 (First Day)
10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Tuesday, September 18 (Second Day)
10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Ages 2–6: *Wallace Hall*
(Children ages 2–4 must be accompanied by no more than one adult)
Ages 7–12: *Or Zarua*

Kol Nidre

Tuesday, September 25
6:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Ages 5–12: *Wallace Hall*
Post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah: *Wallace Hall*
(main service)

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 26
10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Ages 2–6: *Wallace Hall*
(Children ages 2–4 must be accompanied by no more than one adult)
Ages 7–12: *Or Zarua*

• Service Locations •

Congregation Or Zarua
127 East 82nd Street
between Lexington and Park Avenues

Wallace Hall
on west side of Park Avenue
between 83rd and 84th Streets

Tickets are required for all services.

All children should attend the youth services. Teenagers in 9th grade and above are encouraged to attend the main service.

Torah Reading Class

by Mark Somerstein

As in past years, I will be teaching a course in Torah reading. The class will meet on Mondays at 8:00 p.m., beginning October 22, in a classroom on the seventh floor of the synagogue.

My aim is to expand the participation of members of our Congregation in the reading of Torah on the Shabbat, the centerpiece of Or Zarua's service, as well as other times the Torah is read. This aim is consistent with Or Zarua's definition of being a participatory synagogue.

I would like people to be able to read any piece of Torah confidently, using the

trope system with understanding. I would like to increase the number of people who enjoy the Torah reading, and appreciate its aesthetic and nuances. This is something I love and have been doing for more than 50 years. I am happy to have others share the benefits of that experience in no more than ten sessions. I feel I will be honoring those who taught me, either directly or by example. Although this course has been advertised as for beginners, all levels are welcome.

If you are interested, please contact me at 646-303-1076 or the synagogue office at 212-452-2310.

CALL FOR SHOFAR BLOWERS

Or Zarua needs shofar blowers for each morning minyan during the month of Elul through Sunday, September 16. If you would like to learn to blow the shofar, Or Zarua will teach you. If you can play a brass or woodwind instrument, you have a great start. If not, blowing the shofar is easy to learn. Please contact Richard Stadin at stadin1@aol.com or 212-879-0448.

ADDITIONAL HIGH HOLY DAY TICKETS

are \$360 each. To order, contact Luisa Paulino at lpaulino@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, extension 10.

Eating in the Sukkah

Reserved dinner, free kiddush lunches, and “bring your own” events

It is a mitzvah to eat in the sukkah during the Festival of Sukkot. Or Zarua is offering Congregants several opportunities to have lunch or dinner in the sukkah on the roof of our building.

Dinner on Erev Sukkot

Sunday, September 30
7:15 p.m. promptly

This meal requires reservations.

\$40 for adults,
\$20 for children ages 5–12,
no charge for children under 5.
RSVP by Monday, September 24.

Three Free Kiddush Lunches

Monday, October 1
Tuesday, October 2
Saturday, October 6

Immediately after services
No reservation required for free lunches.

“Bring Your Own” Dinner

You bring dinner and all service items, including beverages, plates, cups, napkins, and utensils. For Shabbat dinner on Friday, October 5, Or Zarua will provide challah and dessert. All food brought to the sukkah must be kosher. Congregants are asked to call the Or Zarua office in advance if they plan to eat in the sukkah. Please include the number of people in your group when you make the reservation for “Bring Your Own” Dinner.

If you wish to dine in the sukkah at times other than those listed above, please notify the synagogue office. We ask that you conclude your evening meal by 9:00 p.m. To make reservations for any event, call the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, extension 39, or email Deborah Wenger at dwenger@orzarua.org.

ETROGIM AND LULAVIM FOR SUKKOT

The joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Sunday evening, September 30. Congregation Or Zarua will again arrange for the purchase of etrogim and lulavim. All orders are delivered in complete sets: etrog in a box, lulav with hadassim and aravot in a bag.

Three different sets, each certified for use on Sukkot, are available:

- Special Sets (Aleph), \$75.00 each
- Choice Sets (Bet), \$65.00 each
- Standard Sets (Gimmel), \$55.00 each
- Extra set of Hoshanot-Hadassim-Aravot, \$7.50 each

If you wish to purchase a set, contact Deborah Wenger at 212-452-2310, extension 12, or dwenger@orzarua.org by noon on Friday, September 7. We cannot accept any orders without payment.

Sets will be available for pickup between Yom Kippur and Sukkot on a date to be determined.

SLEEP IN THE SUKKAH

Saturday, October 6

All Or Zarua children are invited to participate in the mitzvah of sleeping in the sukkah starting after Shabbat at 7:30 p.m. A pizza dinner will be served, followed by a “make your own ice cream sundae” for dessert. There will also be Ping-Pong, pool, foosball, board games, and a movie.

RSVP to Ilana Burgess at iburgess@orzarua.org by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 3.

SUKKOT SERVICES 5773/2012

Sunday, September 30

Erev Sukkot

Evening 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 1

First Day Sukkot

Morning 9:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Evening 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 2

Second Day Sukkot

Morning 9:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Evening 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 6

Shabbat Hol Hamoed

Shaharit 8:45 a.m.

Sunday, October 7

Hoshana Rabbah

Morning 8:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Erev Shemini Atzeret

Evening 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 8

Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor

Morning 9:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Erev Simhat Torah

Evening 6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9

Simhat Torah

Morning 9:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

DINNER IN THE OZ SUKKAH

**Erev Sukkot,
Sunday, September 30**

Services begin at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner promptly at 7:15 p.m.

Please make dinner reservations by 5:00 p.m. on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

at 212-452-2310, extension 39
or www.orzarua.org

**\$40 adults; \$20 children ages 5–12;
No charge for children under 5.**

Sushi in the Sukkah

OZ's young members to gather on Sunday, October 7, 3:00 p.m.

Kugels, briskets, and harvest vegetables might be a more familiar menu at a traditional Sukkot meal, but convention has been shaken since Or Zarua began hosting its annual "Sushi in the Sukkah" event. Young members and their friends gather in the rooftop sukkah on a Sunday afternoon to enjoy pleasant conversation and munch on various culinary treats while lounging in the shade of the schach.

"Sushi in the Sukkah" attracts young families, couples, and singles. Although the majority of participants are Or Zarua members, many attendees are first-time visitors to the synagogue who later join our community for other events and holiday celebrations. In this way, we hope to make Congregation Or Zarua known as a vibrant center among the young Jewish



Young families, couples, and singles socialized on a beautiful Hol Hamoad Sunday in Or Zarua's rooftop sukkah.

professionals of the Upper East Side.

We are looking forward to our third annual "Sushi in the Sukkah" event on Sunday, October 7, at 3:00 p.m. Please spread the word and help us make this year's event another success.

Family and Youth Activities

September 2012

Monday, September 10 • 4:00 p.m.

FIRST DAY OF HEBREW SCHOOL

Sunday, September 30 • after services

DINNER IN THE OZ SUKKAH

RSVP required. See page 6 for details.

All other nights of Sukkot, you may bring your own dinner. See page 6 for details.

October 2012

Monday, October 1 • 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 2 • 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 6 • 12:30 p.m.

FREE KIDDUSH LUNCH IN THE SUKKAH
See page 6 for details.

Friday, October 5 • 4:30 p.m.

PJ LIBRARY IN THE OZ SUKKAH
with Rabbi Bolton

See page 13 for details.

Saturday, October 6 • 7:30 p.m.

SLEEP IN THE SUKKAH

RSVP required. See page 6 for details.

Tuesday, October 9 • 12:30 p.m.

SIMCHAT TORAH KIDDUSH LUNCH

See page 3 for details.

ANNOUNCING A NEW CLASS

KEVA AND KAVANNA:

Our Fixed Prayers and Windows of Inspiration

Explore the history of our prayer book, the meaning of the prayers, Jewish law, and teachings in a new class led by Rabbi Bolton on Thursday mornings, following minyan. Classes will begin after the holidays. Additional details to follow.

TALMUD CLASS

**Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
in the OZ Library**

Talmud class will resume after Simhat Torah. Details will appear in the weekly news announcements sent by email.

No prior knowledge of Talmud, Hebrew or Aramaic is required.

LIFE EVENTS

at Congregation Or Zarua

A community such as ours shares good times and bad with its members. When something good happens in your family—birth, graduation, engagement, or marriage—let us share your joy. When something bad happens—illness, hospitalization, or a death in your family—let us share your burden.

Sometimes people are reluctant to communicate these issues on their own. If you know of a member who is coping with illness or loss, please contact the OZ office at 212-452-2310, extension 12 or 14, so that Rabbi Bolton can be informed.

TORAH READERS NEEDED

If you are able to read Torah or haftarah and would like to do so on a Shabbat, please contact Marc Ashley (mashley@chadbourn.com) or Jay Palmer (jpalmer@nyc.rr.com). Alternatively, you may sign up online at www.orzarua.org by choosing "Read Torah" under the "Prayer" drop-down menu.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 • 14 Elul 9:00 am Shaharit Ki Tetze 8:03 pm Shabbat ends
2 • 15 8:45 am Minyan	3 • 16 Labor Day 8:45 am Minyan <i>Office closed</i>	4 • 17 7:15 am Minyan	5 • 18 7:15 am Minyan	6 • 19 7:15 am Minyan	7 • 20 7:15 am Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm Candlelighting	8 • 21 9:00 am Shaharit: Ki Tavo Welcome Back Kiddush 8:05 pm Shabbat ends 8:15 pm Dessert Reception 9:15 pm Selihot Study with Rabbi Bolton 10:00 pm Selihot
9 • 22 8:45 am Selihot and Minyan	10 • 23 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan <i>Hebrew School begins</i>	11 • 24 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	12 • 25 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	13 • 26 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	14 • 27 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:48 pm Candlelighting	15 • 28 9:00 am Shaharit Nitzavim 7:53 pm Shabbat ends
16 • 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:45 am Selihot and Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv (<i>Or Zarua</i>) 6:45 pm Candlelighting	17 • 1 Tishri Rosh Hashanah I 8:30 am Shaharit (<i>Wallace Hall</i>) 5:45 pm Tashlikh (<i>Central Park</i>) 6:45 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv (<i>Or Zarua</i>) Light candles after 7:50 pm	18 • 2 Rosh Hashanah II 8:30 am Shaharit (<i>Wallace Hall</i>) 6:45 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv (<i>Or Zarua</i>) 7:48 pm Rosh Hashanah ends	19 • 3 Fast of Gedaliah 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 8:00 pm Rabbi Silber Lecture	20 • 4 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	21 • 5 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:36 pm Candlelighting	22 • 6 Shabbat Shuvah 9:00 am Shaharit Vayelekh 7:41 pm Shabbat ends
23 • 7 8:45 am Selihot and Minyan	24 • 8 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	25 • 9 Erev Yom Kippur 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 1:20 pm Minhah (<i>Or Zarua</i>) 6:30 pm Kol Nidre (<i>Wallace Hall</i>) 6:30 pm Candlelighting	26 • 10 Yom Kippur 9:00 am – 7:28 pm Yom Kippur Services Yizkor (<i>Wallace Hall</i>)	27 • 11 7:15 am Minyan	28 • 12 7:15 am Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:25 pm Candlelighting	29 • 13 9:00 am Shaharit Ha'azinu 7:30 pm Shabbat ends

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 • 14 Tishri Erev Sukkot 8:45 am Minyan 6:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:21 pm Candlelighting 7:15 pm Dinner in Sukkah	1 • 15 Sukkot First Day 9:00 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch 6:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 7:18 pm Candlelighting <i>Office closed</i> <i>Hebrew School closed</i>	2 • 16 Sukkot Second Day 9:00 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch 6:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 7:27 pm Festival ends	3 • 17 Hol Hamoed 7:00 am Minyan	4 • 18 Hol Hamoed 7:00 am Minyan	5 • 19 Hol Hamoed 7:00 am Minyan 4:30 pm PJ Library program 6:00 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:13 pm Candlelighting "Bring Your Own" Dinner	6 • 20 Shabbat Hol Hamoed 9:00 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch 7:18 pm Shabbat ends 7:30 pm Hebrew School Sleep in the Sukkah
7 • 21 Hoshanah Rabbah 8:45 am Minyan 3:00 pm Sushi in the Sukkah Erev Shemini Atzeret 6:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:10 pm Candlelighting	8 • 22 Shemini Atzeret Columbus Day 9:00 am Shaharit Yizkor Erev Simhat Torah 6:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv Light candles after 7:15 pm	9 • 23 Simhat Torah 9:00 am Shaharit Simhat Torah Kiddush Lunch 7:13 pm Festival ends	10 • 24 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	11 • 25 7:15 am Minyan	12 • 26 7:15 am Minyan 6:00 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:02 pm Candlelighting	13 • 27 9:00 am Shaharit Bereshit Bar Mitzvah of Michael Katz 7:07 pm Shabbat ends
14 • 28 8:45 am Minyan	15 • 29 7:15 am Minyan	16 • 30 Rosh Hodesh Heshvan 7:00 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context Seminar: Dr. Kraemer	17 • 1 Heshvan Rosh Hodesh Heshvan 7:00 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	18 • 2 7:15 am Minyan	19 • 3 7:15 am Minyan 5:51 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	20 • 4 9:00 am Shaharit Noah Bat Mitzvah of Mirah Kozodoy 6:56 pm Shabbat ends
21 • 5 8:45 am Minyan 10:15 am Crafts Club	22 • 6 7:15 am Minyan	23 • 7 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context Seminar: Dr. Kraemer	24 • 8 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	25 • 9 7:15 am Minyan	26 • 10 7:15 am Minyan 5:41 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	27 • 11 9:00 am Shaharit Lekh-Lekha Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Ashley 6:46 pm Shabbat ends
28 • 12 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 11:00 am JSAM Cup of Warmth Project 7:30 pm Book Discussion	29 • 13 7:15 am Minyan	30 • 14 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context Seminar: Dr. Kraemer	31 • 15 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class			

Programs and Sponsorship Opportunities

For the year 5573 (2012–2013)

Please consider full or partial sponsorship of our programs. For additional information, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, extension 14.

September 8

WELCOME BACK KIDDUSH, \$3,000

September 8

DESSERT RECEPTION, \$500

September 19

RABBI SILBER'S LECTURE

Sponsored in full

September 30

SUKKAH DINNER, \$4,000

October 1 and 2

SUKKOT KIDDUSH LUNCHES, \$2,000 for each Kiddush

October 7

SUSHI IN THE SUKKAH, \$1,000

October 9

SIMHAT TORAH KIDDUSH LUNCH, \$2,000

November/December

FAMILY AND FRIENDS SHABBAT DINNER

Dates to be determined

\$2,000 each

December/January

SHABBATONS

Dates and topics to be determined

\$5,400 each

January

LUCY S. DAWIDOWICZ LECTURE

Sponsored in full

January

OZ BIRTHDAY KIDDUSH, \$3,000

February 3

SUPER BOWL PARTY, *Sponsored in full*

February 24

PURIM SPIEL, *Sponsored in full*

February/March

ZAYIN ADAR DINNER, \$1,500

March 26

SECOND NIGHT SEDER, \$5,000

April 15

YOM HA'ATZMAUT, \$1,800

May 14

TIKKUN LEYL SHAVUOT PANEL WITH CHEESECAKE AND ICE CREAM, \$1,500

May

ANNUAL MEETING DINNER, \$2,500

June

END-OF-YEAR KIDDUSH LUNCH, \$3,000

Hesed Events and Programs

“The world exists for the sake of kindness.”—Rashi

Cup of Warmth Project

● Met Council's Jewish Social Action Month will take place during the month of Heshvan. Or Zarua will participate in the Cup of Warmth Project, Sunday, October 28, from 11:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. Help make soup mixes and decorate jars for the Or Zarua and Met Council Food Rescue Program. This is a one-time commitment of about two hours at Or Zarua. Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome, but children ages 3–13 need an adult chaperone. For more information, contact volunteer@metcouncil.org or call 212-453-9508.

Salvation Deliverance Church

● “Pre-owned” adult and children's clothing, toys, dolls, games, and related items can be put to good use by the many transitional homeless residents in the South Bronx, including single, jobless mothers and their

children, as well as unemployed men. OZ partners with Salvation Deliverance Church, whose members are housekeepers caring for their own local needy.

Chemotherapy Caps

● Attractive knitted caps in all sizes for children from babies to teenagers residing at Ronald McDonald House while undergoing chemotherapy are welcome donations.

Butterfly Garden

● “Green thumbs” are needed from spring through fall to help care for Ronald McDonald House's 7th Floor Terrace Butterfly Garden.

Home Visit Volunteers

● Volunteer to visit and cheer ill or home-bound Or Zarua Congregants.

Monday Night Pizza at NCS

● Or Zarua Congregants serve pizza, salad, soda, and good cheer to men and

women with a range of mental health and addiction issues at the Neighborhood Coalition Shelter's East 81st Street Residence each Monday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please consider making a \$180 contribution to the Hesed Fund to cover OZ's weekly food costs.

Ronald McDonald House

● Jewish children come from across the U.S. and around the world to undergo serious medical treatment at New York City hospitals. Many reside with their families at Ronald McDonald House and have no local support system of friends or relatives. The chaplain at Ronald McDonald House alerts us when OZ may be of service to families who may require kosher meals, synagogue services, and other assistance.

To participate in any of these Hesed programs, please contact Richard Stadin at stadin1@aol.com or 212-879-0448.

OR ZARUA MINYAN

Contact Sheldon Adler at sadler@skadden.com or choose “Daily Minyan” under the “Prayer” menu on www.orzarua.org to sign up for a day or two each month.

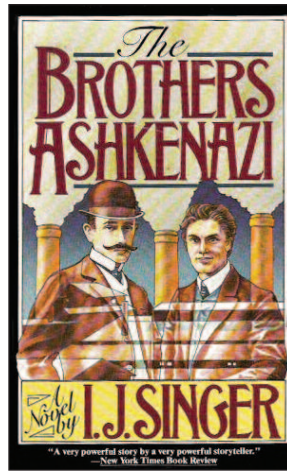
Or Zarua Book Discussions

The Brothers Ashkenazi by Israel Joshua Singer, Sunday, October 28

Please join us for our next Or Zarua book discussion on Sunday, October 28, at 7:30 p.m. in Or Zarua's library. Barry Feldman, fellow Congregant and champion of Yiddish culture, will lead our discussion of this classic novel by Israel Joshua Singer, the acclaimed Yiddish author and older brother of the more famous Isaac Bashevis Singer.

I. J. Singer (1893–1944) came to the United States in 1934, and within two years *The Brothers Ashkenazi* was published and became a bestseller at the same time as *Gone With the Wind*.

He brought to Yiddish literature the multilayered plots, large casts of characters, and narrative sweep of the traditional European novel. The essayist Joseph Epstein called *Brothers* "the best Russian novel ever written in Yiddish."



The book depicts the contrasting careers of two brothers attempting to get ahead in Russian-ruled Lodz, Poland, in the era of rapid industrialization and urbanization. The Ashkenazi brothers differed in talent and in temperament. Max (né Simha Meir), the firstborn, is wily, driven by ambition, and greedy to be more successful financially than his brother. Jacob is strong, handsome, charming, but decadent.

The brothers and their families are torn apart by the clashing impulses of old piety and new skepticism, traditional ways and burgeoning appetites, and class and ethnic hatred. Despite their effort to control their destinies, the brothers are caught up by greater forces of history, love, and fate.

Saul Bellow praised *Brothers* as "a wonderful novel." *The Wall Street Journal* wrote: "The book has the grand sweep of Tolstoy...pitch-perfect artistry and pace." *Newsweek* said, "*The Brothers Ashkenazi* rates a place on any shelf devoted to modern works of art."

If you would like more information on Or Zarua book discussions or have a book suggestion, please contact Reed Schneider at 212-860-8611 or Deborah Wenger in the synagogue office at dwenger@orzarua.org.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Oral History committee, chaired by Mimi Alperin, continues to collect materials, such as memories and artifacts, from the early days of Congregation Or Zarua. If you have a submission for the Oral History project, please contact Caroline Golden or Gerry Solomon. Questions should be directed to Meredith Katz at mekatz@jtsa.edu.

WELCOMING GUESTS AT OZ

It is important for us as a community to make guests and new members at our services and kiddushim feel comfortable and welcome. If you are seated next to someone whom you do not know, please reach out and introduce yourself. Making this effort is consistent with our culture and will repay dividends.

Branding Or Zarua

OZ's revised logo

Effective branding has become a greater and greater asset in identifying and promoting organizations as well as products. The president and Board of Or Zarua, recognizing that it is beneficial and important to identify OZ's unique qualities to prospective and current members, formed a marketing committee almost a year ago with the charge to develop and enhance the image, perception, and impression of OZ. Members of the committee are Mechele Flaum, Dara Shapiro, and Aaron Shelden. Each has extensive professional experience in marketing, advertising, and branding. A mandate for the committee was to develop a branding statement illustrating how we distinguish



ourselves. The committee referred to findings from the facilitated discussions conducted last September and recommended that our identity now be represented in our new logo with the words LEARN, PRAY, PARTICIPATE, CONNECT.

In addition, the OZ logo has been revised to have a more modern look. The fruits of the committee's labor are already evident on the masthead of this Newsletter and advertising for OZ in *The Jewish Week*. You will also see the new look incorporated into the OZ website, new member marketing materials, and information packets sent to prospective members. Our thanks to the members of the marketing committee and all involved with creating the updated look for the OZ brand.

Or Zarua Receives Homeland Security Grant

To help upgrade our electronic access and security systems

This year, after several prior unsuccessful attempts to secure a Federal Homeland Security Grant (for nonprofit organizations), Congregation Or Zarua was awarded a grant that will help us upgrade our electronic access and security systems.

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) grant system awarded a total of \$10 million around the country to nonprofit entities that were deemed important religious, social or community sites in need of hardening their facilities. In New York State alone, there were 273 applicants and only 43 recipients (of which we were one); the awards totaled some \$3,120,000 (or roughly 31% of the total federal funds available).

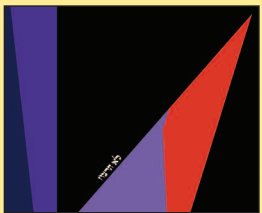
Over the next 12–24 months, you will see various cameras, monitoring, and access equipment upgrades to our facility that will make our premises that much more safe and secure for all our members, guests, and staff.

At the end of the upgrade, we'll have a more modern digital system, which will enable authorized personnel and law enforcement agencies to monitor and record activity in and around our facility, respond more quickly and efficiently to any incidents (in the unlikely event that there is a threat at Or Zarua), and in general better serve everyone who walks through our doors.

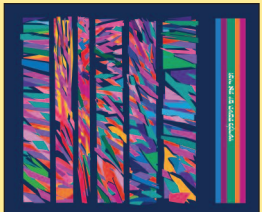
Watch your emails and these pages for future updates and progress reports.

**NOW SHOWING
IN THE OZ GALLERY**

Rudi Wolff's "Our Colorful Bible," on display in the OZ social hall, presents two series of serigraph prints inspired by the Ten Commandments and Bereshit. Both prints pictured below are from the Ten Commandments series.



Thou Shalt Not Murder



Observe the Sabbath Day

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gallery Show: "Today I am..."

Call for materials for the next show in the Or Zarua Gallery

Do you still remember how you practiced every word, picked out a new suit or dress, and posed for pictures? Do you still remember your Bar or Bat Mitzvah?

Or Zarua is interested in featuring you and your Bar or Bat Mitzvah memories in its next Gallery show, "Today I am ..."

Our goal is to reflect on the role Bar and Bat Mitzvah played in our members' lives, and to see how ceremonies and traditions changed over the years.

We are, therefore, asking you for your memorabilia. Do you still have your Bar or Bat Mitzvah invitation? Your Bar or Bat Mitzvah photos? Menu? Yarmulke?

If you have Bar/Bat Mitzvah memorabilia, please schedule a time to bring them in so that we can consider including them in the gallery show. You may contact either Joanne Feierman at 212-875-4803 or Bobbi Coller at 212-987-2067 or bcoller@rcn.com.



An invitation to a Bar Mitzvah from the early 1900s.

OR ZARUA GALLERY'S FAME IS SPREADING!

"Bagels, Babka and Balabustas: 100 Years of Jews and Food in America," which was shown in the OZ Gallery from May through October 2011, is currently on exhibition at Congregation Beth El in Fairfield, Connecticut.

HEBREW SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 2012

- Mon 10** Monday classes begin
- Wed 12** Wednesday classes begin
- Mon 17** Rosh Hashanah (*no classes*)
- Wed 19** Classes in session
- Mon 24** Classes in session
- Wed 26** Yom Kippur (*no classes*)

October 2012

- Mon 1** Sukkot (*no classes*)
- Wed 3** Classes in session;
Dinner in the sukkah
- Sat 6** Sukkah Sleepover
- Mon 8** Shemini Atzeret (*no classes*)
- Wed 10** Classes in session
- Mon 15** Classes in session
- Wed 17** Classes in session
- Mon 22** Classes in session
- Wed 24** Classes in session
- Mon 29** Classes in session
- Wed 31** Classes in session

**RABBI WECHSLER
TEACHES ON
SIRIUS XM RADIO**

**Sundays at 5:00 a.m.,
7:00 a.m., and 12:00 p.m.**



Rabbi Wechsler can be heard on SiriusXM Stars Channel three times each Sunday. Subscribers to SiriusXM Satellite Radio can access the program, "Rabbi Wechsler Teaches," on Channel 107. Nonsubscribers can obtain a free, three-day trial at www.siriusxm.com.

PJ Library Returns to Or Zarua

Friday, October 5, 4:30 p.m., in the OZ sukkah



OZ EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Or Zarua will again be hosting the PJ Library program. The next event will take place on Friday, October 5, at 4:30 p.m. in the Or Zarua sukkah. After Rabbi Bolton reads the children a story, they will listen to music, dance, and add decorations to the sukkah. All children ages 1–8 years (and their parents) are invited to participate in the PJ Library program.

PJ Library is a Jewish family engagement program available throughout North America. It mails, on a monthly basis, free, high-quality Jewish children's literature and music to families with children ages 6 months through 8 years. For more detailed information, go to www.PJLibrary.org.

For additional information about youth education activities at Congregation Or Zarua, please contact the Youth Education Director, Ilana Burgess, at iburgess@orzarua.org, or call the OZ office at 212-452-2310, extension 15.



CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

127 East 82nd Street
New York, NY 10028-0807

September/October Checklist

- Remember to bring your tickets to all High Holy Day services. Tickets cannot be held at the door.
- Review all the High Holy Day Services information on page 4.
- Shofar blowers are needed; lessons available (see page 5).
- Lulav and etrog orders for Sukkot must be made by noon on Friday, September 7 (see page 6).
- Selihot services on Saturday, September 8, at 10:00 p.m. will be preceded by a Dessert Reception at 8:00 p.m. and Rabbi Bolton's speaking on "Sorry," "Excuse me" or "I did it"—*What are we really saying when we confess with Vidui (confessional)?* at 9:15 p.m.
- Join other Congregants at our annual Welcome Back Kiddush Lunch after Shabbat services, Saturday, September 8 (see page 1).
- Hebrew school for all Or Zarua students begins on Monday, September 10, including Hebrew and Jewish Studies class for post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah students (see schedule on page 13).
- Rabbi David Silber's annual High Holy Days lecture will be Wednesday, September 19, at 8:00 p.m. (see page 5).
- RSVP by Monday, September 24, for dinner in the sukkah on Erev Sukkot, Sunday, September 30. All other nights of Sukkot, Congregants are invited to bring their own dinner (see page 6).
- Or Zarua children are invited to sleep in the sukkah, Saturday night, October 6. RSVP by Wednesday, October 3 (see page 6).
- PJ Library in the OZ Sukkah with Rabbi Bolton, Friday, October 5, at 4:30 p.m. (see page 13)
- Sushi in the Sukkah for OZ's young members, Sunday, October 7, at 3:00 p.m. (see page 7).
- Three kiddush lunches for all Congregants will be held in our rooftop sukkah, immediately following services, on Monday, October 1; Tuesday, October 2; and Saturday, October 6 (see page 6).
- Kiddush lunch after services on Simhat Torah will be in the OZ social hall, Tuesday, October 9 (see page 3).
- "Keva and Kavanna: Our Fixed Prayers and Windows of Inspiration," a new class led by Rabbi Bolton on Thursday mornings, following minyan, begins after the holidays (see page 7).
- Talmud Class will begin after Simhat Torah (see page 7).
- Or Zarua Book Discussions features *The Brothers Ashkenazi* by I. J. Singer, Sunday, September 28, 7:30 p.m. (see page 11).
- Include your Bar/Bat Mitzvah memorabilia in the next Or Zarua Gallery show, "Today I am..." (see page 12).
- Participate in Or Zarua's Oral History project (see page 11).
- Help out with a Hesed program (see page 10).
- Sign up for the morning minyan.
- Have you seen the OZ Youth Art Calendar (see page 15)?
- Call the Or Zarua office (212-452-2310) if you have questions about or wish to sponsor any OZ program or event.
- Have an idea or article for the OZ newsletter? If so, please contact Charlie Spielholz (cssrs@earthlink.net).