A Traditional, Egalitarian and Participatory Conservative Synagogue



HESHVAN/KISLEV/TEVET 5777

NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 29:2

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

# Machlokis, Tzuris & Achdus: Disputes, Troubles, and Unity During the Iconic Period of Jewish Settlement in NYC

Jewish History with Barry Feldman

Four Sundays, November 13 & 20 and December 11 & 18, 10 am-12 noon



r Zarua Congregant Barry Feldman will be leading a four-session ethnographic and historical inquiry into institutions and incidents that shaped

American Jewry during the iconic period of immigration at the turn of the 20th century. Each session will involve discussion; class participation is urged.

• Session 1 (November 13)

You Be the Judge presents cases brought to the Jewish-American Board of Conciliation. The need of the court for a Yiddishspeaking population, the types of cases presented, and how they reflect the changing community will be discussed. Participants will present cases and verdicts.

- Session 2 (November 20)
  An analysis of the **Bintel Brief Letters** sent to the Yiddish *Forward* reveals the changing needs and concerns of letter writers over the years as Jews accommodated to life in America.
- Session 3 (December 11)

  Sholem Aleichem Died: Let's Go to a

  Simcha speaks to the emerging coalescence of New York's Jewish Community in the first quarter of the 20th century. Questions addressed will refer to the reworking of traditional organizations to reflect American sensibilities; the role of the Yiddish press in facilitating accommodation to America:

and the need for competing expressions of Judaism to coalesce and present a united community to New York and to themselves.

• Session 4 (December 18)
The last session will be a tour highlighting selected sites discussed in class and a visit to the Bialystoker Synagogue and a traditional shtibl.

Barry is an urban historian, museum educator, and licensed New York City tour guide. He has created and developed tours of the Jewish Lower East Side covering the late 18th century to the present. In the fall of 2014, he taught a class at OZ about the growth of the Jewish population of New York from the end of 19th to the beginning of the 20th century.

# Printed Matters: The Art of Mark Podwal Opening Sunday, November 6, 6:00 pm



ow do we regard thee, Mark Podwal?
Let us count the ways: renowned
Jewish artist, author, political cartoonist, filmmaker, New York Times op-ed contributor,

set designer, and illustrator of books for adults and children. His art has been acquired and displayed by museums and libraries around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Vatican, Yad Vashem, the Bodleian Library, and numerous other university libraries as well as synagogues.

His subject matter is nothing less than Jewish identity and experience—Jewish tales, the Midrash, Jewish mysticism, and the searing pain of historical events.

This season, Podwal has had a show at

the Gallery of the Eldridge Street Synagogue and was featured in the Berlin Jewish Museum's show on the Golem. A portfolio of Podwal prints — originally displayed in the Czech Republic's Terezin Ghetto Museum — was shown at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College, Podwal's alma mater, last spring.

Several of these prints are included in the OZ Gallery's new exhibition, *Printed Matters*. At the opening, on Sunday evening, November 6th, Podwal is scheduled to speak on the subject "Drawing Is a Form of Prayer." This one-person exhibition coincides with the publication of a beautiful monograph on the artist's work, *Reimagined: 45 Years of Jewish Art*, published by Glitterati Incorporated.

Artist Podwal is also **Dr.** Mark Podwal, a practicing dermatologist, who sees patients

at his office on the Upper East Side. So, which is it: patients or paintings? Which is vocation, and which is avocation? As Podwal told an interviewer for *QUEENS: The Magazine of Queens College*, "Basically I'm a juggler. As a physician I believe in science.

As an artist I believe in legends....
I'm interested in narrative art, art that has some meaning, is not just for decoration."

As a child growing up in Queens, Podwal loved to draw but he never had formal



Irka's Rose. Print.

art training. His father expected him to Continued on Page 11



## A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE FOUNDED 1989

127 East 82nd Street New York, NY 10028 phone: 212-452-2310 fax: 212-452-2103 www.orzarua.org

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

Jay Palmer

WEBMASTER

# President's Message

by Marc D. Ashley



s the great
American
holiday of
Thanksgiving
approaches, it is worth
recalling that there is
nothing more Jewish
than giving thanks. And

at Or Zarua, we should keep in mind—at Thanksgiving and throughout the year—that we truly have much for which to be thankful.

Although, of course, Thanksgiving is not rooted in the Jewish tradition, it might as well be. The spirit and ambience of the day comport comfortably with classical Jewish values. With its focus on the bounty God bestows upon us, boisterous family gatherings, and sumptuous meals (and football for sports fans among us), Thanksgiving has found a natural place on the calendars of most American Jews. With the High Holy Days and Sukkot already in our rearview mirror, and particularly when it falls within MarCheshvan—a Jewish month lamented for its lack of Jewish holidays-Thanksgiving is a welcome milestone on the path towards Hanukkah.

Indeed, Thanksgiving should feel quite familiar to Jews attuned to the traditional rhythms of Jewish living due to its underlying impetus of giving thanks to God. That central feature of Thanksgiving is likely why it has avoided the scorn of most traditionalist Jewish legal authorities, who have repudiated many other secular holidays. We Jews are in the habit of giving thanks for God's bounty; Thanksgiving does not feel foreign to us.

From the moment we get up in the morning to the time we go to sleep, and optimally often in between through various prayers and blessings, we acknowledge the goodness of the world created for our use. We wake up and promptly thank God with the *modeh ani* prayer, recognizing that God has maintained our soul within us during the potentially perilous nighttime. Then before entering that liminal time of sleep in the evening, we again say prayers to remind God of our appreciation for all that we enjoy.

And giving thanks, our tradition instructs us, should occupy much of our time and

attention throughout our waking hours. The Talmud (Menachot 43b) teaches that we should say 100 blessings to God each day, which is approximately one blessing every 10 (non-sleeping) minutes! That formidable mandate is perhaps less daunting than it sounds for those who manage to recite all three daily prayer services, which generate the great majority of that number. But to reach that tally even dutifully prayerful Jews need to find occasions for additional blessings each day, likely before and after eating food and even when using the bathroom. Each such blessing creates an opportunity for thoughtful introspection and gratitude.

Giving thanks on a daily basis should be second nature to us at Or Zarua. We are privileged to enjoy the warmth and intimacy of a nurturing community within an elegant building, all in a wonderful neighborhood in the greatest city in the world (outside Jerusalem). Daily life at Or Zarua encompasses spirited prayer services and sophisticated adult education, animated youth programming and inspiring art exhibits. Our recent celebration of Sukkot epitomized the essence of Or Zarua living that should give rise to sincere thanksgiving—our beautiful and spacious sukkah was overflowing with congregants and filled with joyous song. A visceral sense of real gratitude comes naturally within those powerful communal experiences.

At Or Zarua, we also consistently express our gratitude through reaching out to others. Our Hesed programs are targeted to providing concrete help to those in need. Consider getting involved in our support of New York Common Pantry, or in delivering food to the hungry on erev Thanksgiving. We properly express our sense of blessing by assisting those less blessed.

I wish you a happy Thanksgiving and a light-filled Hanukkah this year, as we each should count our blessings as part of this one-of-a-kind Or Zarua community.



## Rabbi Reuven Hammer, PhD **Book Talk with Guest Talmudic Scholar**

Wednesday Evening, November 2, 7:30 pm



abbi Reuven Hammer, PhD, received his ordination and a doctorate in theology from JTS and a doctorate in education from Northwestern. A scholar of Jewish liturgy, he

is a lecturer and an author who has earned two National Jewish Book Awards. His many books include two volumes of Or Hadash: A Commentary on Siddur Sim Shalom (one volume for Shabbat and festivals and the

other for Weekdays): Entering the High Holy Days: A Guide to Origins, Themes, and Prayers; The Jerusalem Anthology: A Literary Guide: Entering Jewish Prayer: A Guide to Personal Devotion and the Worship Service; and Sifre: A Tannaitic



Commentary on the Book of Deuteronomy. His latest book is Akiva: Life, Legend, Legacy.

Rabbi Hammer is a founder of the Masorti movement; a past president of the International Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative movement in Israel; and a former director, dean, and professor of Rabbinic literature, JTS, Jerusalem.

Rabbi Hammer will present a talk about his latest book on Wednesday evening, November 2, at 7:30 pm. Copies of the book Akiva can be purchased through the OZ office

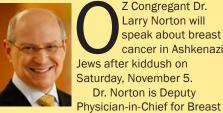
or the night of the event by bringing a check for \$25 payable to Rabbi Reuven Hammer (not to Or Zarua). This event is open to non-members; all are welcome to attend. Invite friends and others who may be interested.





Friday morning, October 14 we were strong for minyan. But we need your help to accomplish this each and every weekday morning. Join Or Zarua's minyan for Shaharit (morning service) and help keep the minyan strong. The service begins at 7:15 am most weekday mornings and 8:45 am on Sundays (check the calendar for times). The service usually lasts about 45 to 55 minutes (a little longer on Rosh Hodesh and Hol Hamoed) and is followed by a breakfast where you meet with other congregants over coffee, OJ, bagels, cake and yogurt. Contact Sheldon Adler (sadler@skadden.com) for additional information.

**Dr. Larry Norton** "Genetic Susceptibility to Breast Cancer in Ashkenazi Jews and Others" Saturday, November 5, After Kiddush (1 pm)



Z Congregant Dr. Larry Norton will speak about breast cancer in Ashkenazi Jews after kiddush on Saturday, November 5. Dr. Norton is Deputy

Cancer Programs and Medical Director of the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. A board-certified medical oncologist with broad interests in cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, he received his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. He trained in medicine and medical research at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

He has served as President of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and Chair of the ASCO Foundation. He was Vice-Chair of the Lymphoma Committee and is long-serving Chair of the Breast Committee of the Cancer and Leukemia Group B (the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology). He has served on or chaired numerous committees of the NCI, the National Institutes of Health, and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He is an editorial board member or reviewer for numerous medical journals and is on the advisory boards of many advocacy and medical institutions.

Dr. Norton's research focuses on the use of medicines to treat cancer. He has made significant contributions to the application of mathematical methods for optimizing dosing and scheduling of treatment protocols, and has contributed to the development of many antitumor agents, including paclitaxel and trastuzumab. He is a Principal Investigator of an NCI Program Project Grant in Models of Human Breast Cancer and has authored more than 350 published articles, as well as many book chapters.

This unique lyun (talk) is a rare opportunity to learn from a significant contributor to the progress in the treatment of breast cancer and is open to members and non-members.

## Talmudic Takes on Hanukkah

Violent Victory: Did the Rabbis Beat the Maccabees?

with Rabbi Mordecai Schwartz, PhD Wednesday, December 21, 7:30 pm



his session of Talmudic Takes on the Holidays will cover Hanukkah. Rabbi Mordecai Schwartz will be posing the question: "Did the Rabbis beat the Maccabees?"
We will use the Talmud to

discuss and answer these questions: "What were the tensions between Rabbinic Judaism and the Hasmonean Dynasty?" "Who won?" "What does the conflict mean for us as we celebrate Hanukkah today?"

Talmudic Takes on the Holidays is a series

of three scholarly presentations about major themes of the High Holy Days, Hanukkah and Passover. The goal is to expand on profound ideas and practices that enrich these holidays. Our guest lecturer, Rabbi Mordecai Schwartz, PhD, who led our two-year hevruta program, delivered our first text-based lecture, on the High Holy Days, this past September. Join us for the second presentation in the series. These sessions present a unique opportunity to study with a master teacher of Talmudic and Rabbinic texts. The Talmudic Takes series is open to everyone

# Hanukkah Spirit Shabbat Dinner with OZ's a cappella group Bir'nana

Friday, December 16 Mihhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 4:12 pm Dinner 5:15 pm



n anticipation of
Hanukkah, there will
be a community dinner
after Kabbalat Shabbat
services. Bir'nana will be
performing during dinner
to welcome the Sabbath
and the upcoming holiday.

Traditional and popular Hanukkah songs will be sung in beautiful harmony.

# Hanukkah Zimriyah Community Singing

Pre-Hanukkah Zimriyah Saturday, December 3 After Kiddush in the OZ Art Gallery

Pre-Hanukkah Zimriyah Saturday, December 24 After Kiddush in the OZ Art Gallery

Please join us to sing Shabbat songs and learn Hanukkah melodies. Rabbi Bolton, Marc Ashley, and our service leaders will sing new tunes and review familar ones.

### **Rabbi Wechsler Teaches**

On SirrusXM Satellite Radio Sundays, 4:00 am & 8:00 pm Channel 106 www.siriusxm.com Reservations are required for dinner: \$45 for adults, \$25 for children ages 5–12, no charge for children under 5. RSVP by Thursday, December 8 by calling 212-452-2310, ext 39 or by logging into your Chaverweb account and selecting Hanukkah Dinner 12-16-2016 in the pulldown menu or by going to http://tinyurl.com/Hanukkah12-16-2016.

# Pre-Hanukkah Campus Connection

Or Zarua strives to maintain contact with our young adults who are away at college. This year, in anticipation of Hanukkah (the first night is December 24), we will send a gift "study package" to remind them that they are part of our extended family wherever they go to school. If you would like your children to receive a free package, please reply to Deborah Wenger

(dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452- 2310, ext. 12) by Friday, December 2, with their full name and complete school address. Also, please include their email address and cell phone number so that Rabbi Bolton can stay in touch with them.



# Megillah Reading Class

ark Somerstein will teach a course in Megillah reading beginning this November. The aim



of this class is to expand participation of OZ Congregants in reading Megillot during holidays and other observances. Mark's classes have been critical in supporting OZ's status as a participatory synagogue.

This class is designed to enable people to read the Megillah on Purim with confidence and an understanding of the trope. Mark, a longtime member of Or Zarua, has been teaching people how to read Hebrew and leyn (read Torah) for more than 50 years.

The course is intergenerational; it is designed for all ages and skill levels. Teens are welcome. The class is scheduled to begin in November; meeting dates and times are to be determined. For additional information or to sign up, please contact Mark at 646-303-1076 or msmrstn@aol.com.

#### **Rabbi Bolton's Siddur Class**

This fall we are exploring Tahanun and the Torah Service including High Holy Day themes that appear in the daily service. You may join us on any Thursday, at our new time, 8:40 am, as shown on the OZ calendar, as we continue to translate and delve into our daily liturgy.

# TALMUD CLASS Living Generously! Tzedakah in the Talmud

Wednesdays, as noted on calendar, 7:30 pm



We are studying Talmudic passages regarding tzedakah (charity), gemilut chasadim (bestowal of kindnesses), and righteousness. No background necessary.

Everyone is welcome

to attend; individuals may join the class at any time. Texts, in Hebrew and English, are provided in class. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, as shown on the OZ Newsletter calendar.

#### The Or Zarua Social Hall

is available to rent for appropriate functions.

Contact Helene Santo,
212-452-2310, ext. 14, for information.

# **Or Zarua Hesed Programs**

Get involved through Or Zarua and help others in need

### **Erev Thanksgiving and Erev Christmas**

Hands, vans, and hearts are needed to glean, pack, and deliver food from Eli's and The Vinegar Factory on the evenings (8:30 pm) of Wednesday, November 23, and Saturday, December 24. The food will be delivered to Ronald McDonald House (East 73rd Street), Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter (East 81st Street), NYCP (East 109th Street), and Salvation Deliverance Church (South Bronx). It's a quick and fun team project. Volunteers, please contact Jeffrey Haberman at jeff32449@verizon.net.

## **Embrace the Needy with Winter Warmth!**

Please help low-income adults and families in NYC by donating to OZ's Annual Coat Drive from November 1 to December 21. Items needed include all sizes of gently used winter coats, but this year we are especially looking for extra large (XL & XXL) coats, hoodies, sweatpants, and socks for the residents of Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter. The rest of the adult-sized coats will be donated to the Educational Alliance for its adult population through Project ORE. Children's coats will be given to PS 140's after-school programs. Please leave donated items in the bin located in the basement.

Join us for Hesed Shabbat, November 19 OZ will highlight its support of New York Common Pantry. At the end of services, Executive Director Stephen Grimaldi will give us on update on NYCP's fight against hunger including its new endeavors for nutrition education. OZ is a proud sponsor of this highly efficient organization. OZ volunteers can attest that their time is well spent bagging fresh groceries or interacting with participants and staff. Ensuring ongoing food security and uplifting those who are falling towards homelessness are priorities of NYCP. NYCP is helping us extend our hands and hearts to those most in need. Join us for this presentation on Shabbat, November 19th, so we can learn more about one of our critical tzedakah recipients.

#### Be Part of the Solution

Feed the hungry in our community by donating to or volunteering with New York Common Pantry. OZ volunteers are needed the first Wednesday of each month, 9:00 am to noon, in NYCP's distribution center, 8 East 109th Street. Contact Lesley Palmer (lesleypalmer123@gmail.com) to sign up for November 2 or December 7. Collection bins

are in the social hall for food donations of healthy (low-sodium, whole wheat, low-fat or nonfat) packaged grocery items.

#### **Thanksgiving Food Preparation**

This Thanksgiving the Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter is preparing dinners for its residents residing at its four locations. Donations of side dishes, salads, or desserts, prepared at home, are needed. If interested contact Shari Prince: sprincenyc@aol.com or 917-690-2552.

#### **Home Visit Volunteers**

Volunteer to visit and bring cheer to ill or home-bound OZ Congregants. Contact Deborah Wenger: dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext. 12, if you are interested.

#### **Monday Night Pasta and Salad at NCS**

OZ congregants serve hot food and good cheer at the Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter's East 81st Street Residence from 6:00 to 6:45 pm on the last two Mondays of each month. Contact Jeffrey Haberman, jeff32449@verizon.net, for information.

For information about Hesed programs, please contact Susan J. Lorin, Hesed Committee Chair, at lorin@sewkis.com or 212-717-4647.





Above Left: OZ volunteers always enjoy taking part in DOROT's annual Rosh Hashanah package delivery for seniors, and this year's program on September 25 was no exception. Amy Bolton commented, "We had a lovely visit. Our hostess was very engaging and appreciative. She shared about her family history, how her mother's family got out of Kiev. She spent much of her adult life very involved in Hadassah, so it was especially meaningful to give back to someone who herself has done so much for the Jewish community." Aliana Spungen shared, "[Our senior] was clearly happy to see us, and we had a far-ranging conversation from her past career to the election to her current challenges with her health care agency. I felt that it was both helpful for her and a joy for all of us." Thank you to Amy, Shiya, Ziv, and Yonah Bolton; Susan Di Leo; Susan Katz; Lesley and Jordanna Palmer; Charlie Spielholz; and Aliana and David Spungen.

Above and Lower Right: OZ members cleaned out their book shelves and donated hundreds of children's books to the Stanley Isaacs Center youth library. Thanks to everyone's generosity, the East Harlem settlement house will be able to restock its youth library, which was destroyed in a recent flood.





127 East 82nd Street New York, NY 10028 • 212-452-2310

# November 2016 • Tishrei/Heshvan 5777

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 • 30 Tishrei Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit	2 • 1 Heshvan Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 9:00a NYCP 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Book Talk with Guest Talmud Scholar Rabbi Reuven Hammer	3 • 2 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	4 • 3 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 5:30p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	5 • 4 Heshvan 9:00 am Shaharit / Noah 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 11:15a Torah Tots 1:00p Genetics of Breast Cancer with MSKCC's Larry Norton, MD 6:35p Shabbat Ends
6 • 5 Heshvan  Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:45a Shaharit 6:00p Gallery Opening:  "Printed Matters"  Dr. Mark Podwal	7 • 6 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	8 • 7 Heshvan Election Day 7:15a Shaharit	9 • 8 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmud Class	10 • 9 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	11 • 10 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:23p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner	12 • 11 Heshvan 9:00 am Shaharit Lekh Lekha 10:30a Shabbat & Me 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 5:28p Shabbat Ends 7:00p Teen Gelato Making
13 • 12 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a <i>Jewish Settlement</i> in NYC with Barry Feldman 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	14 • 13 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	15 • 14 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	16 • 15 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmud Class	17 • 16 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	18 • 17 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:17p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45p Family Shabbat Dinner	19 • 18 Heshvan 9:00 am Shaharit Vayera Hesed Shabbat Highlighting OZ & NYCP 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 11:15a Torah Tots 5:22p Shabbat Ends
20 • 19 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Jewish Settlement in NYC with Barry Feldman 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	21 • 20 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	22 • 21 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	23 • 22 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit No Hebrew School No Talmud Class	24 • 23 Heshvan Thanksgiving 8:45a Shaharit No Siddur Class 8:30p Hesed Holiday Gleaning OZ Office Closed	25 • 24 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:14p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat OZ Office Closed	26 • 25 Heshvan 9:00 am Shaharit Haye Sarah 5:19p Shabbat Ends (No Youth Programs)
27 • 26 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit	28 • 27 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Sushi & Study: Importance of Hanukkah	29 • 28 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	30 • 29 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmud Class			



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# December 2016 • Kislev/Tevet 5777

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 • 1 Kislev Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 6:30p Young Professionals Happy Hour	2 • 2 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:11p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	3 • 3 Kislev 9:00 am Shaharit / Toledot 10:30a Shabbat & Me Saturday 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 12:00p Family Shabbat Lunch 1:00p Post-Kiddush Zimriyah Community Singing 5:16p Shabbat Ends
4 • 4 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	5 • 5 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	6 • 6 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit	7 • 7 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NYCP 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmud Class	8 • 8 Kislev 7: 15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	9 • 9 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:10p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	10 • 10 Kislev 9:00a Shaharit / Vayetze 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 11:15a Torah Tots 12:45p Bir'nana Rehearsal (after kiddush) 5:15p Shabbat Ends
11 • 11 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Jewish Settlement in NYC with Barry Feldman 7:00p Bir'nana Rehearsal 7:30p Book Discussion	12 • 12 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	13 • 13 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit	14 • 14 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmud Class	15 • 15 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	16 • 16 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:12p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:15p Hanukkah Spirit Dinner with Bir'nana 6:30p Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner	17 • 17 Kislev 9:00a Shaharit Vayishlah 11:00a Mah Zeh Shabbat?! 11:00a Torah Kids 11:15a Torah Tots 5:17p Shabbat Ends 5:30p Family Hanukkah Havdalah & Puppet Show 8:00p Kadima Game Night
18 • 18 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a <i>Jewish Settlement</i> <i>in NYC</i> with Barry Feldman	19 • 19 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 5:30p Rock-Ivrit 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	20 • 20 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit	21 • 21 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 2.0 7:30p Talmudic Takes on Hanukkah with Rabbi Mordecai Schwartz	22 • 22 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	23 • 23 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:15p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	24 • 24 Kislev Erev Hanukkah 9:00 am Shaharit Vayeshev 1:00p Hanukkah Zimriyah (after kiddush) 5:20p Shabbat Ends Light 1 Candle at night 8:30p Hesed Holiday Gleaning (No Youth Programs)
25 • 25 Kislev Hanukkah 8:45a Shaharit Light 2 Candles at night	26 • 26 Kislev Hanukkah 8:45a Shaharit No Hebrew School TBA Teen & Alumni Hanukkah Program Light 3 Candles at night OZ Office Closed	27 • 27 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit Light 4 Candles at night	28 • 28 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit No Hebrew School No Talmud Class Light 5 Candles at night	29 • 29 Kislev  Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 7:00p Young Professionals  Hanukkah Party Light 6 Candles at night	30 • 1 Tevet Rosh Hodesh Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit Light 7 Candles before Shabbat 4:20p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	31 • 2 Tevet Shabbat Hanukkah 9:00 am Shaharit Miketz 5:25p Shabbat Ends Light 8 Candles at night (No Youth Programs)
andredation Or Zame Offi	ce Hours: Monday through T	bureday 0.00 are F.00 res	Friday 0.00 am 1.00 am Th	a office is also ad Caturday o	nd Cunday, as well as an lay	viah and fadaral halidaya

Congregation Or Zarua Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 am-5:00 pm; Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm. The office is closed Saturday and Sunday, as well as on Jewish and federal holidays

# Or L'Atid אור לעתיד Youth Education & Programming Congregation Or Zarua

For information about Youth Education and Programming contact Sigal Hirsch, Director of Youth Education and Programming at shirsch@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 15.









# The New Year With Or L'Atid

by Sigal Hirsch

r L'Atid's year is off to a great start. With 36 students enrolled in our K-12 Hebrew School, the OZ building is filled with sounds of learning and laughter, as kids learn about and experience Judaism. The addition of new teachers to our already strong Hebrew School staff has brought even more energy, insight and enthusiasm to our students.

After a vibrant three weeks of school, our Hebrew School students jumped into holiday celebrations, joining our community on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for youth services and the Family Learning Experience with Rabbi Amy Bolton. More than 100

people attended Or L'Atid programs over the course of the High Holy Days.

Celebrations continued over Sukkot, as Hebrew School families enjoyed dinner together up in the beautiful Or Zarua Sukkah, teens came together for Sushi & Study with Rabbi Bolton, families welcomed Shabbat at Sukkot & Me, and kids of all ages celebrated Simhat Torah at Ice Cream at Sinai and our annual Kadima-USY Simhat Torah dinner.

In November, we return to weekly classes, learning Hebrew, participating in t'filah, beginning our exploration of Hanukkah, studying Talmud, delving into the weekly parasha, and much, much more.





**Photos, page 8: Students love learning with their new teachers.** Our K-2 class (top) learns Hebrew with Morah Tamar. Third through 5th graders (bottom) explore Jewish life with Morah Alyssa. Smiling faces, sounds of learning and laughter fill our hallways!

Page 9: Sukkot was a blast for youth of all ages! Kids, teens and families celebrated at our dinner in the sukkah, Teen Sushi & Study with Rabbi Bolton and our annual Sukkot Sleepover.

# Spend Shabbat at Or Zarua

Community and Learning for OZ's Youth

his year, our Or L'Atid Shabbat programs have grown! Youth of all ages are invited to join us every week as we celebrate Shabbat together.

## Torah Tots, 11:15 am (Nursery/Pre-K)

Our youngest youth meet every Saturday. Parents and children celebrate Shabbat together in song, stories, and Shabbat snacks!

## Torah Kids, 11:00 am (Elementary School)

Learn and pray together at Torah Kids! Together, we'll daven Shabbat Shaharit, learning new t'filot and melodies while we deepen our understanding of and connection to the prayers. Study the weekly parashah through interactive activities, improv, skits, deep discussion, games, and more!

## Mah Zeh Shabbat, 11 am (Middle School and High School)

What's up with Shabbat?! Youth in 6th–12th grade are invited to join in our weekly Shabbat service featuring Musaf, Breakfast Club, and Torah Talk!

## Pre-Hanukkah Events for Youth and Familes

## Family Pre-Hanukkah Havdalah and Puppet Show

Saturday, December 17, 5:30pm

Get ready for Hanukkah with our annual Hanukkah Havdalah and puppet show! End Shabbat with a light dinner and communal Havdalah ceremony, followed by a thrilling show!

## **Kadima Game Night**

program.

**Saturday, December 17, 8:00pm** Immediately following the Family Havdalah



## Shabbat & Me Friday\*

Welcome Shabbat with family and friends every month at Shabbat & Me Friday! Usher in Shabbat with songs, stories, simple prayers, and a special snack, while building connections with your children and other Jewish families that will last a lifetime.

## Shabbat & Me Saturday\*

Celebrate Shabbat together every month at Shabbat & Me Saturday, where families with children up to age 4 sing, pray, learn, and play!

Shabbat & Me Saturday meets from 10:30 to 11:45 am and concludes with a light snack. Other weeks, join us for Torah Tots for stories, songs and snacks!

\*Check the OZ calendar for Shabbat & Me Friday and Shabbat & Me Saturday dates.

## **Family Shabbat Dinner**

Families with children infants-teens, join us on November 18 for our first Family Shabbat Dinner of the year. Celebrate Shabbat with family and friends and a delicious meal! Sign up on Chaverweb.



The Megillah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein is Open to Teens! See page 4 for information or contact Sigal Hirsch at shirsch@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 15.









# Or Zarua Book Discussions

All Who Go Do Not Return by Shulem Deen

Sunday, December 11, 2016, 7:30 pm



All Who Go Do Not Return is Shulem Deen's autobiographical account of discovering a world outside the Skverers, his Hasidic sect. Use of a radio and library caused him to question religious beliefs.

As an undiscovered heretic he risked being ostracized from the community and losing contact with his five children.

# Upcoming Book Discussions for 2017:

Sunday, January 22, 7:30 pm

The Mystics of Mile End: A Novel by Sigal Samuel

**Sunday, March 5, 7:30 pm** *The Yid* by Paul Goldberg

Sunday, April 30; 7:30 pm

Here I Am by Jonathan Safran Foer







OZ's Book Discussions are open to all. For additional information about Or Zarua Book Discussions, call the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext 12, or simply attend.



The Book Discussion held on Sunday evening, Septemeber 18, was led by the author of *Safekeeping*, Jessamyn Hope.

## **Smile for Tzedakah**

When you shop at AmazonSmile,
Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible
purchases to OZ. Here's how:
Visit smile.amazon.com and search for
Congregation Or Zarua. Shop for your
favorite items any time of the year through
AmazonSmile!

# Or Zarua Book | Memorial Wall Update

by Benjamin Marcus



**The first of Or Zarua's Memorial Wall plaques have been installed.** As designed, plaques have alternating, brushed metallic finishes to create an overall, dappled effect of variegated incandescence. While the names of our related loved ones can be grouped together, the general mounting is random, in keeping with our shul's egalitarian ethos, and plaque locations may be adjusted as available space requires.

**Orders for new plaques can be made at any time.** But for the next scheduled installation planned to occur by Pesah, the deadline is December 31, 2016. Contact Helene Santo at 212-452-2310, ext. 14, or hsanto@orzarua.org for ordering information.

# OZ Cemetery For Members and Their Families

The OZ section at Beth El Cemetery is located in Washington Township, NJ, 10 miles from the George Washington Bridge. The cemetery is well maintained, and its design provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the values and aesthetics of Congregation Or Zarua. Gravesites within the OZ section are available for sale to members of our congregation. Burial is limited to persons of the Jewish faith. For information concerning gravesite purchases, contact Helene Santo at 212-452-2310, ext. 14.

# The Or Zarua Community Fund contributions received between August 1, 2016, and September 30, 2016

## **Printed Matters: The Art of Mark Podwal**

Opening Sunday, November 6, 6:00 pm continued from page 1



become a doctor, sowith Queens College nearby and tuitionfree---that's where he went. After three years as a biology/ pre-med student, he was accepted at NYU Medical School.

Matzoh Moon. Print.

It was there that what would become

an Or Zarua connection was born. One of Podwal's medical school classmates was OZ Congregant Barry Coller. Podwal's first exhibition was at the medical school, and Barry and Bobbi Coller were among the first purchasers of his work. Some years later, another collaboration: OZ Congregant Francine Klagsbrun's glorious

Jewish Days: A Book of Jewish Life and Culture Around the Year was published, with illustrations by Mark Podwal.

Now Printed Matters by Mark Podwal will grace the OZ

Gallery. The exhibition will continue through the Spring of 2017. The opening is open to all who are interested. Light refreshments will be served.

-GERRY SOLOMON

## Sukkot 5777





Building a sukkah and Hoshannah Rabbah services







## **Hesed Shabbat**

**New York Common Pantry Executive Director Stephen Grimaldi** Solutions to Hunger in NYC. See page 5

## CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

# Or Zarua's Young Professionals

## **Upcoming Events OZ's Young Professionals**

Friday, November 11, 6:30 pm **Shabbat Dinner** 

Thursday, December 1, 6:30 pm **Happy Hour** 

Friday, December 16, 6:30 pm **Shabbat Dinner** 

OZ's Young Professional are a group in their 20s and 30s committed to building a welcoming and vibrant Jewish community within Or Zarua. For more details follow their Facebook page (Or Zarua's Young Professionals). Contact OZ's Young Professionals with any questions, suggestions or just to say hi via email: OZYoungPros@gmail.com.





















**OZ's Young Professionals Annual Sushi in the Sukkah** Dinner. On the second day of Hol Hamoed Sukkot 5777 (Thursday, October 20), about 70 Young Professionals gather for a sushi dinner in OZ's rooftop sukkah for a sushi dinner and socializing.