A Traditional, Egalitarian and Participatory Conservative Synagogue



ELUL 5778/TISHREI/HESHVAN 5779 NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 31:1

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

# Annual T'shuvah Lecture T'shuvah, T'fillah, Tz'dakah What's the Connection?

Alyssa M. Gray, JD, PhD

Emily S. and Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman Chair in Rabbinics
Professor of Codes and Responsa Literature
Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion
Sunday, September 16, 7:00 pm



osh Hashanah is imminent, and with the Jewish new year come daunting challenges. The majesty and awe of the High Holy Days demand that we take affirmative

action to seek to shape our own destinies. Our tradition mandates that, although our fate may ultimately be in God's hands, we can also take steps in the coming days and beyond to influence the contours of our future.

The centerpiece of the High Holy Day liturgy, the *U-Netaneh Tokef* prayer, dramatically and optimistically declares that "repentance, prayer and charitable acts (t'shuvah, t'fillah, tz'dakah) avert the severity of the decree." Yet how did these three religious concepts come to be juxtaposed within this poignant liturgical proclamation? And what is the precise role of tz'dakah in this formula—and its relationship to repentance and prayer—that can help determine our fate?

Please join our T'shuvah Lecture with Professor Alyssa M. Gray on Sunday, September 16 at 7 pm—"T'shuvah, T'fillah, Tz'dakah: What's the Connection?"—as we explore significant questions surrounding these crucial High Holy Day themes. Dr. Gray will investigate some nearly forgotten pathways of Jewish religious thought, from the Talmudic period through modernity, that

will illuminate the importance of tz'dakah in this annual period of rededication and renewal.

Dr. Gray, a foremost scholar of Rabbinic texts and theology, is the Emily S. and Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman Chair in Rabbinics and Professor of Codes and Responsa Literature at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, and currently serves as Chair of the New York faculty. She received her PhD with distinction in Talmud and Rabbinics from JTS, and earned an LLM in *Mishpat Ivri* (Jewish law) from the Hebrew University Faculty of Law and a JD from the Columbia University School of Law.

Dr. Gray's current research interests are Talmud criticism, with a special focus on comparative study of the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds; wealth, poverty and charity in classical and medieval rabbinic literature; and the application of new theoretical perspectives on law, literature and history to the reading of medieval Jewish legal literature. She has been a visiting professor at Yale University and JTS, and has lectured in a variety of other academic and non-academic settings.

Please join us at this pivotal time—when your fate for the coming year may hang in the balance—for an informative and inspirational lecture about the dynamics of repentance, prayer and charity. You will emerge with a deeper appreciation of traditional Jewish perspectives on that life-changing trio of concepts and actions. And *U-Netaneh Tokef* will never again be the same for you.

-Marc Ashley

## Join Bir'nana

For a Shabbat Performace Saturday, October 20 After Kiddush

Bir'nana, which means "in joyful song" in Hebrew, is Or Zarua's a cappella group. Its repertoire includes Israeli, Ashkenazic, and Sephardic liturgical pieces from the 18th through 20th centuries, as well as modern Israeli and American songs. Conducted by Rabbi Amy Bolton, Bir'nana enhances OZ's musical experience and holiday celebrations. You can hear Bir'nana perform after kiddush on Saturday, October 20.

During the past year, the group performed on Sukkot, Hanukkah, Purim, and Yom HaShoah. If you love to sing (that's the only prerequisite!), Bir'nana would welcome you. Contact Aliza Kaplan (aliza.kaplan@gmail.com) with questions or to coordinate a visit during a rehearsal; rehearsal dates are listed on the OZ calendar.



Members of Bir'nana, from left: Aliza Kaplan, Susan March, Rabbi Amy Bolton, Marcia Kalin, Vera Silver, Dore Hollander, Aaron Shelden, Terry Krulwich, Chris Miller, Alan Yaillen, and Peter Wolf Smith. Not pictured: Tatiana Mross.

Crime and the Kehillah:
Accusation and Response
A Jewish History Course
with Barry Feldman
See page 16



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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.

Arthur H. Rosenbloom

## President's Message

by Diane Okrent



e are entering the season of return. We return from summer vacation and summer homes and summer hours. While we eagerly

await vacation season, there is pleasure in anticipating our return to our "regular" lives. We return to school and our "normal" schedule. We return to the opera and the symphony. And, we return to Or Zarua to begin the Jewish New Year. I hope you have renewed your membership and will join us at the High Holy Days and throughout the coming year

This is also the season of spiritual return, t'shuvah. T'shuvah is defined as a return to God, to the path of righteousness. The concept of T'shuvah also incorporates repentance. While we can do T'shuvah at any time, the High Holy Days are considered an especially auspicious time as we begin the new year. Our liturgy on Rosh Hashanah following the *U-Netaneh* Tokef includes a list of positive and negative fates in the coming year-B'rosh ha-shanah yikkateivun, u-v'yom tzom kippur yeihateimun—"On Rosh Hashanah it is written and on Yom Kippur it is sealed! How many will pass on, and how many will be born...." But t'shuvah, t'fillah, tz'dakah have the power to transform the harshness of our destiny. We are enjoined to repent, pray and be righteous. According to the notes in "Mahzor Lev Shalem," "t'shuvah involves self-critique and a resolve to act more in accord with one's principles." "t'fillah, often translated as prayer, this noun often implies self-judgment. Moments of t'fillah can bring insight and affirm primary religious commitments." "Tz'dakah .... derives from the word for righteousness or justice. It refers to all acts treating others with care and respect. In that sense, our gifts to the needy fulfill a divine obligation."

I like the idea of starting the new year refreshed and renewed. In the coming months, we will have many opportunities to be refreshed and renewed at Or Zarua. First, with six holidays that will occupy most of September — Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hoshanah Rabbah, Shemini Atzeret and Simhat Torah. We will finish reading the Torah and begin again on Simhat Torah. Or L'Atid programs will begin in September, And, our varied adult

education classes start in October! See the articles in this newsletter.

As we approach our 30th Anniversary, we are renewing our commitment to maintaining and enhancing the vibrancy of our community and to continue fulfilling our mission to provide sacred community, Or L'Atid programs, youth education, family and community learning, adult education, and connection to Israel. To that end, I encourage you to fill out the Or Zarua survey. Your answers will inform our strategic plan for the next few years. The survey will be closed on October 5, 2108 right after Yom Kippur.

During the High Holy Days and every day from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur, we sing Sh'ma Koleinu. "Hear our voice ...Help us return to You, and we shall return; Renew our lives as when we were young." We pray that we will be renewed and rejuvenated in the new year – given new energy to live our lives to the fullest, to embrace the future as we honor our past. We pray to be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life so we can truly live another year.

I hope that as we return from summer and begin autumn you are renewed and refreshed as you return to Or Zarua.

May you and your family be inscribed and sealed for a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous 5779! L'Shanah Tovah!





The Ark and Bimah at Or Zarua is accented in white for the High Holy Days

## Steve Greenberg speaks, interviewed at OZ

Baseball icon Hank Greenberg's son, award-winning sportswriter Ira Berkow in dialogue after screening of film, *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*, Sunday, October 21, 6:00 pm

s baseball heads to the postseason and the World Series, the Fall classic, the OZ Gallery also is getting ready for a championship event. On Sunday, October 21, just two days before the World Series is scheduled to begin, the film *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg* will be screened in the OZ Gallery at 6:00 pm. Following the screening, Steve Greenberg, son of the baseball legend Hank Greenberg, will be speaking about his father, interviewed by award-winning journalist, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Ira Berkow.

Special thanks to OZ Congregant Elaine Wolfensohn—our own OZ MVP—for inviting her friend Steve Greenberg to view our exhibition and share his memories of his remarkable father with us.

What a season this has been for our boys—or boychiks—of summer! Since July Major League Mensches: Jewish Stars of Baseball, the current exhibit in the Gallery, has been welcoming visitors on Wednesday afternoons from 11 am to 2 pm. In early August, the local weekly newspaper Our Town/Eastsider named the OZ Gallery show its "Editor's Pick."

When the OZ Gallery committee first planned to mount a baseball show featuring historic, rarely seen memorabilia from nine Jewish ballplayers—from the 19th century to last year's World Series champions—the expectation was that the show would be informative, enlightening and entertaining. What the committee didn't know was how timely and topical it has turned out to be!

In late June, the film The Catcher Was a Spy was screened at the



JCC in Manhattan. Based on a book of the same name, the movie dramatizes the real World War II-era espionage activities of professional catcher Moe Berg, one of the Jewish players highlighted in *Major League Mensches*. Among the items in the Moe Berg section is a letter from Berg to his brother relating his activities with the US Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during the war. Also this summer baseball's Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, was scheduled to mount the exhibit, Moe Berg: Big League Spy, a glimpse into Berg's double life.

In the photo from the OZ exhibit accompanying this article Mr. Berg is the scowling catcher as another of our Mensches, Hank Greenberg, approaches home plate after hitting a home run.

At this year's All-Star Game, Houston Astros third baseman Alex Bregman, the lone active player in the OZ exhibit and a member of the 2017 World Series champions, was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP). *Major League Mensches* displays a bobblehead doll and an Alex Bregman game-used bat.

The items on display in *Major League Mensches* are on loan to Congregation Or Zarua from Jeff Aeder, a Chicago real estate developer, restaurateur, civic leader and philanthropist and the owner of the nation's largest collection of Jewish baseball memorabilia.

Mr. Aeder is the founder of the online Jewish Baseball Museum.

Admission to the film screening is free and all are welcome. Please email Deborah Wenger (dwenger@orzarua.org) to reserve a place.

-Gerry Solomon

#### **Talmud & Siddur Classes with Rabbi Bolton**

Siddur Class for 5779
Thursdays, beginning October 11
8:40-9:40 am

### To the Finish Line: Prayers at the End of our Service

Thursday mornings, the Siddur Class meets to explore the richness and depth of our liturgy and to consider what meaning we make of our Jewish prayer practices. Discussions center on the language of the prayerbook, as well as comparisons to siddur manuscripts throughout the Jewish ages. We also discuss the lived experience of prayer-how to engage, when it feels empty, infusing the minyan experience with meaning. Those wondering about how prayer life can be developed find as much a place around the table, as those whose interests lie in the Hebrew of the siddur and a historical look at our liturgy. Our focus this coming year will be the prayers at the end of our services. We will look again at Ashrei, and talk about psalms that have been included; the selection "U'va L'Tzion," with ideas of holiness and redemption at its core; and, Aleinu and Mourner's Kaddish. When are we ever done praying?! Come join the Siddur Class on Thursday mornings.

Talmud Class for 5779
Wednesdays, beginning October 10
7:30-9:00 pm

#### Fasting, Praying, Planting, and Walking Through the Rain: Masekhet Ta'anit

We will be studying Masekhet Ta'anit. In four chapters (30 pages), the Talmud explores ancient ideas about individual prayers, fasts, and communal practices to influence Heaven. Material addressed includes: prayers for rain, our relationship to the natural world (that is, rain, seasons, and agriculture), our power as "pray-ers," and the Koheinic blessings that were performed in ancient days. A discussion of public fast days allows for a presentation and review of Jewish history. The Rabbis begin the discussion of which is more important: a focus on tragedies or a focus on moments of success and triumph? We will see some of the earliest material in the Talmud that deals with communal prayer, which, according to some scholarship, coalesced around public fast days that were declared for the purpose of beseeching God for communal needs. Join Rabbi Bolton on Wednesday evenings to explore this fascinating tractate.

### Chaburah

### **OZ Torah Study**

After Kiddush on Select Shabbatot

October 6: Bereshit with Charlie Spielholz Keeping Faith Alongside Science

Future sessions for this year include: November 17: Evelyn Kenvin on Vayeitze

February 2: Rob Schaffer on Mishpatim

April 13: Burt Biderman on Tzav

Everyone is invited to attend.

## The Lucy S. Dawidowicz Lecture Christine Haves. PhD

Robert F. & Patricia Ross Weis Professor of Religious Studies Yale University

Thursday, February 7, 2019

## Get Involved Through Or Zarua and Help Those in Need

"The Reward for Charity Depends Entirely Upon the Extent of the Kindness in it"-Talmud Bavli

#### Volunteer for Dorot's Rosh Hashanah Package Delivery

Brighten the holidays for a senior!
Volunteer to deliver a package and visit with an older person on Sunday,
September 16. OZ volunteers will meet at 10:15 am at Temple Israel, 112 East 75th Street, between Park and Lexington Avenues. The entire project requires approximately 2.5 hours including a visit of up to one hour. Ages 8 and up are welcome. There is limited space for family matching. Contact Miriam Quart (hesed@orzarua.org) for more info or to register.

#### **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 pm to 6:45 pm on the last two Mondays of each month. Contact Jeffrey Haberman at jeff32449@verizon.net, for information.

#### Do you have one morning to fight hunger?

Join Or Zarua volunteers at the NY Common Pantry, the city's largest communitybased food program. OZ volunteers help with the distribution of nutritious, fresh food pantry packages for families the first Wednesday (9 am to noon) of every month and of supplemental food for seniors the third Monday (10 am to 1 pm) of each month (with adjustments for holidays). Upcoming Wednesday dates are: September 5 and October 3. For Monday our date is September 17. To sign up or request information, please contact the Hesed Committee at hesed@orzarua.org. You can also donate non-perishable food items, such as whole wheat pasta, canned soups, and beans. Collection bins are located in the OZ social hall and the basement.

#### **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.

#### South Bronx Salvation and 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 and families in the South Bronx. OZ partners with South Bronx Salvation and Deliverance Church, whose members are housekeepers caring for their own local needy. Contact Richard Stadin at 212-744-6697 or stadin1@aol.com to arrange for donations.

For more information about Hesed programs, contact Susan J. Lorin, Hesed Committee Chair, at hesed@orzarua.org.

## **OZ Tutors Needed: Two Opportunities to Help Children**















#### New In-person Tutoring Opportunity with Local Children

DREAM, formerly Harlem RBI, is a youth development program that began as a baseball/softball program in East Harlem 26 years ago, and today offers a charter school and after-school program serving over 2,000 youth. The backbone of DREAM is its voluteers who are needed for three programs:

- DREAM's after-school tutoring program, TeamBuilders, is looking for volunteer tutors to work with middle-schoolers one afternoon a week, helping with homework, test preparation, remediation, and general enrichment. Tutors must make a commitment of one afternoon per week for a minimum of three months. Training will be provided.
- College success mentors, a one year commitment to mentor a low-income student transitioning to college life. Communication for this commitment is mostly done by email and phone. If you are interested in helping an under-performing student succeed, please contact Susan J. Lorin at hesed@orzarua.org.

#### Sign Up for the Nation's Leading Online Volunteer Tutoring Program.

Want to help a child learn to read without leaving your desk? Join Or Zarua's TutorMate team - all it takes is a computer with internet access, a telephone, 30 minutes a week and a genuine interest in helping a child. OZ tutors will be paired with an underperforming child in a school in a low-income neighborhood to read ebooks and play word games remotely every week for a 30-minute online session (which can easily be rescheduled via an online calendar). No experience is necessary although a full school year commitment is required. TutorMate is the nation's leading online volunteer tutoring program. More than 200 leading US companies engage their employees as TutorMate volunteers, and the program has expanded to community and religious organizations. TutorMate makes it easy to volunteer. Twenty OZ tutors participated last year and had a very positive experience. For more information, visit www.tutormate.org. If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact Lesley Palmer at hesed@orzarua.org. Or Zarua will cover the cost of participation. A limited number of slots are available.

Would you like to learn to leyn (read Torah) or lead services at Or Zarua?

If so, contact Mark Somerstein at msmrstn@aol.com
or call the synagogue office 212-452-2310, ext 12.

Help Keep Our Daily Minyan Strong
ONE HOUR • ONE MORNING • ONCE A MONTH
Contact Sheldon Adler: sadler@skadden.com

## **Or Zarua Book Discussions**

The Orchard by Yochi Brandes

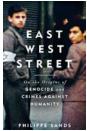
Translated from the Hebrew by Daniel Libenson

Sunday, October 7, 7:30 pm To be led by Mark Somerstein



The Orchard's core is the author's richly imagined life of Rabbi Akiva "in the context of his contemporaries, the Sages of Jewish tradition and of early Christianity. Rabbi Eliezer, Rabbi Ishmael, Rabban Gamaliel, Paul of Tarsus, and many others become flesh and blood in this stunning interweaving of biblical and Talmudic lore into a page-turning read." This novel "offers a brilliant narrative solution to the fascinating story of four sages who entered a metaphysical orchard: one died, one lost his mind, one became a hater of God, and one made it out unscathed."

## East West Street: On the Origins of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity Sunday, December 9, 7:30 pm To be led by Owen Pell



aws for preventing genocide and crimes against humanity were driven by two Jews—Raphael Lemkin and Hersch Lauterpacht—who grew up at the same time in Lvov, Austria-Hungary. Philippe Sands' extraordinary book "East West Street," uses this coincidence to examine how justice came to be meted out to the Nazis who perpetrated the Holocaust. In a tale that reads like a detective story, Sands unearths the intertwined histories of these Jews from Lvov (including his own grandfather), and considers the legal principles born of this history.

-Owen Pell

wen Pell is an attorney at White & Case LLP. His work has included litigation seeking the return of art looted during the Holocaust. He is the Chairman of the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, the largest NGO training government officials in the prevention of genocide and mass atrocity, having trained over 4,000 officials from over 80 nations in the last ten years

## Shabbat Across Or Zarua Friday, October 26, 2018

habbat Across Or Zarua will return on Friday, October 26, 2018 to honor Parashat Vayera. In the parasha, Abraham welcomes strangers to his home and so, at Or Zarua, members will welcome other members to their homes.

Shabbat Across OZ is a warm and wonderful way for members to get to know each other. Guests enjoy the gracious hospitality of host families and everyone shares Shabbat joy, delicious food, and stimulating conversation.

If you would like to be a guest, please contact the OZ office (dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 12) by Friday, October 19, 2018. Be sure to provide

your name and phone number as well as the number of people who will be with you including the ages of children. The Shabbat Across Or Zarua Committee will contact you with the name and address of your host.

If you would like to host Shabbat dinner for 4 to 10 members of OZ and you maintain a kosher home, please call the Or Zarua office 212-452-2310, ext 12. Hosts will receive information regarding informal study and Zemirot (songs) as part of the Shabbat celebration.

If you would like to host but do not maintain a kosher home, Rabbi Bolton will help you plan a kosher meal. Please call the Or Zarua office.

OZ is on Facebook. Find us at https://www.facebook.com/OrZarua/

## Or Zarua's Young Professionals

Sushi in the Sukkah

Thursday, September 27, 7:00 pm Come celebrate Sukkot with drinks and handmade sushi in OZ's rooftop Sukkah. RSVP online:

https://tinyurl.com/YP-Sushi-9-27-18.

#### **Hike in the Mountains**

Sunday, October 14, 8:00 am (Rain Date, Sunday, October 21) Contact OZ's Young Professionals for details

#### **Shabbat Dinner**

Friday, October 19 6:15 pm: Happy Hour 7:00 pm Shabbat Services 7:45 pm: Shabbat Dinner.

#### Upcoming in November & December Details to Follow

Friday, November 9: Shabbat Dinner Wednesday, November 21: Thanksgiving Gleaning Tuesday, December 4: Hanukkah Party Friday, December 21: Shabbat Dinner

OZ's Young Professionals 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 or suggestions via email: OZYoungPros@gmail.com.

## Meet Jazmin Bradley OZ's Bookkeeper



azmin Bradley has recently joined the Or Zarua Staff as the Bookkeeper. She comes to us from a background as a case planner in foster care with ACS and has a bachelors degree in psychology from SUNY Buffalo

State. Currently she is pursuing a second degree to become a Registered Nurse with aspirations to ultimately become a Certified Nurse Midwife. In her free time she enjoys watching movies and reading in the park. Jazmin is excited to be a part of the Or Zarua team and looks forward to meeting everyone. Contact Jazmin in the OZ office at 212-452-2310, ext 10 or email accounting@orzarua.org.

#### Selihot

Saturday Night, September 1

8:30 pm Dessert Reception

9:00 pm Selihot Study with Rabbi Bolton

"Unique Insight: Repentance in Nehama Leibowitz's Torah Studies"

10:00 pm Selihot Service

#### **Annual T'shuvah Lecture**

"T'shuvah, T'fillah, Tz'dakah: What's the Connection?" with Alyssa M. Gray, JD, PhD

Sunday, September 16, 7:00 pm See Page 1

#### Welcome-Back Kiddush Saturday, September 8 after services

Congregation Or Zarua
welcomes everyone
back with a post summer kiddush
beginning immediately after services.
Guests and newcomers
are welcome to attend.

#### Zimriyah

Community Sing & Melody
Workshop for the High Holy Days
Saturday, September 8
After Kiddush in the OZ Art Gallery

Please join us to sing Shabbat songs and learn High Holy Day melodies.
Rabbi Bolton, Marc Ashley, and our service leaders will sing new tunes and review familar ones. Everyone is invited to participate.

## High Holy Day Services 5779/2018 General information

ur High Holy Day services will be held at Wallace Hall, on the west side of Park Avenue between 83rd and 84th Streets, not far from our synagogue building on East 82nd Street.

OZ offers three types of services for the High Holy Days: a main service, led by Rabbi Scott Bolton; youth services, divided by age; and a Family Learning Experience, led by Rabbi Amy Bolton. Youth services will be held on both days of Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur. Please note that children 2–4 years old must be accompanied by no more than one parent. There will be a Mah Zeh?! program for Teens on Yom Kippur. Teenagers are encouraged to attend the main service. Please review the High Holy Day services schedules, on this page (see right) and the services for youth on page 10 for times and locations.

The Family Learning Experience (FLEX), described on page 10, led by Rabbi Amy Bolton, is designed for the entire family and

is not a drop-off service. It will be held in the Or Zarua library from 10:45 am to 12:45 pm on the second day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur. Grandparents are also invited. Times and locations are listed on the Youth services schedule on page 10.

If you know of people who might be without a place to go for High Holy Day Services, please have them contact the office (212-452-2310, ext 12).

The schedule for all main services will be printed on the reverse side of your admission ticket. Tickets will be mailed in mid-September to all members in good standing; remember to bring your ticket with you to all services at both Wallace Hall and OZ. Call the synagogue office with questions regarding your membership. Note that all children through the age of 22 are included in family membership; children 23 and older are required to have guest tickets. Call the synagogue office, 212-452-2310, ext 12, or go online to Chaverweb to purchase guest tickets.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**: Letters regarding renewal of membership at Or Zarua have been mailed. Please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext 12 with questions regarding membership.

**ADDITIONAL HIGH HOLY DAY TICKETS:** Guest tickets for all High Holy Day services are \$360 for each adult; \$180 for each children ages 5–17, college students, and young professionals (ages 18–30). Children age 4 and under do not need tickets. Tickets for nonmembers wishing to bring their families to the Family Learning Experience are \$180 per family. To order, contact Deborah Wenger at dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 12.

## High Holy Day Services 5779/2018

#### Erev Rosh Hashanah Sunday, September 9

Minhah/Ma'ariv: 6:15 pm-7:15 pm at Congregation Or Zarua

#### First Day Rosh Hashanah Monday, September 10

Shaharit: 8:30 am-1:00 pm at Wallace Hall

Tashlikh: 6:00 pm-6:30 pm at Central Park Reservoir, south end

Minhah/Ma'ariv: 7:00 pm-8:00 pm at Congregation Or Zarua

#### Second Day Rosh Hashanah Tuesday, September 11

Shaharit: 8:30 am-1:00 pm at Wallace Hall

Minhah/Ma'ariv: 7:00 pm-8:00 pm at Congregation Or Zarua

## **Shabbat Shuva**Saturday, September 15

Shaharit: 9:00 am-12:00 noon at Congregation Or Zarua

#### Erev Yom Kippur Tuesday, September 18

Minhah, 1:30 pm-1:55 pm at Congregation Or Zarua

Kol Nidre: 6:15 pm-8:45 pm at Wallace Hall

#### Yom Kippur Wednesday, September 19

Services: 9:00 am-7:34 pm at Wallace Hall

#### **Service Locations**

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

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

Tickets are required for all services at both locations, except on Shabbat Shuva.

High Holy Day Programming for Youth is on Page 10.

## Meals in the Sukkah

t is a mitzvah to eat in the sukkah during the Festival of Sukkot. Or Zarua offers Congregants several opportunities to have lunch or dinner in the sukkah on the synagogue's roof.

#### Dinner (catered) on Erev Sukkot

Sunday, September 23 Minhah/Ma'ariv: 6:15 pm Dinner begins after services (7:15 pm) RSVP by Monday, September 17 at: http://tinyurl.com/SukkotDinner9-23-2018

Catered dinners require reservations: \$45 for adults, \$25 for children ages 5-12, no charge for children under 5. Use the links specified above or call 212-452-2310, ext 39 or log into your Chaverweb account

#### **Bring-Your-Own Shabbat Dinner**

Friday, September 28 Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat: 6:15 pm Dinner After Services (7:15 pm) You bring dinner and all service items, including beverages, plates, cups, napkins, and utensils. Dessert and challah are provided. All food brought to the sukkah must be kosher. Please conclude your evening meal by 9:00 pm.

To bring your own Shabbat dinner to the sukkah or to eat in the sukkah at other times, please notify Deborah Wenger in the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext 12, of the number of people in your group by noon, Wednesday, September 26.

#### Kiddush in the Sukkah

Monday and Tuesday, September 24 and 25, and Saturday, September 29, immediately after services

After our daily Shaharit minyanim during Hol Hamoed Sukkot and on Hoshanah Rabbah, breakfast will be held in the Sukkah. Please join us for services, coffee, OJ and bagels in the sukkah!

#### Festival Programing for Youth is on page 11.

## **Order Your Etrogim and Lulavim**

he joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Sunday evening, September 23. 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 options, each certified for use on Sukkot, are available:

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



To order, contact Deborah Wenger at 212-452-2310, ext 12, or dwenger@orzarua.org, or log into your Chaverweb account at http://tinyurl.com/OZ-Etrog-2018. by noon on Monday, September 17. We cannot accept any orders without payment, Sets will be available for pickup between Yom Kippur and Sukkot on a date to be determined.

#### **OZ's Young Professionals Annual Sushi in the Sukkah** Thursday, September 27, 7:00 pm



OZ's Young Professionals will gather in OZ's roof-top sukkah for drinks and sushi. online: https://tinyurl.com/YP-Sushi-9-27



### **Festival Services** 5779/2018

#### **Erev Sukkot**

Sunday, September 23 Minhah/Ma'ariv: 6:15 pm

#### **First Day Sukkot** Monday, September 24

Shaharit: 9:00 am Minhah/Ma'ariv: 6:30 pm

#### **Second Day Sukkot**

**Tuesday, September 25** Shaharit: 9:00 am

#### Hol Hamoed Sukkot (weekday)

Wednesday, September 26 through Friday, September 28

Shaharit: 7:00 am

#### **Shabbat Hol Hamoed Sukkot**

Friday, September 28

Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat: 6:15 pm

#### Saturday, September 29

Shaharit: 8:45 am (includes reading of Megillat Kohelet) Minhah/Ma'ariv and Seudah Shilshit: 5:15pm

#### **Hoshanah Rabbah**

**Sunday, September 30** Shaharit: 8:45 am

#### **Erev Shemini Atzeret**

Sunday, September 30 Shaharit: 7:00 am

#### **Shemini Atzeret**

Monday, October 1 Shaharit: 9:00 am

#### **Erev Simhat Torah**

Monday, October 1

Minhah/Ma'ariv and Hakafot: 6:30 pm

#### **Simhat Torah**

Tuesday, October 2

Shaharit: 9:00 am



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## **September 2018 • Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 • 21 Elul Aufruf: Shira Nadel and Jason Schifrien 9:00a Shaharit Ki Tavo 8:06p Shabbat Ends 8:30p Dessert Reception 9:00p Selihot Study 10:00p Selihot Service
2 • 22 Elul 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit No Bir'nana Rehearsal	3 • 23 Elul <b>Labor Day</b> 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit Office Closed	4 • 24 Elul 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit	5 • 25 Elul 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry	6 • 26 Elul 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit	7 • 27 Elul 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00p Candlelighting	8 • 28 Elul 9:00a Shaharit Nitzavim 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 12:00p Welcome Back Kiddush 1:00p High Holy Day Zimriyah 7:54p Shabbat Ends
9 • 29 Elul Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Ma'ariv (OZ) 6:57p Candlelighting No Bir'nana Rehearsal	10 • 1 Tishrei Rosh Hashanah I 8:30a Shaharit (WH) 10:45a Youth Service (WH & 0Z) 4:30p Family Tashlikh for children (Carl Schurz Park) 6:00p Tashlikh (Central Park) 7:00p Minhah/Ma'ariv (0Z) Light Candles after 7:50p	11 • 2 Tishrei Rosh Hashanah II 8:30a Shaharit (WH) 10:45a Youth Service (WH) 10:45a Family Learning Experience (OZ) 7:00p Minhah/Ma'ariv 7:49p Rosh Hashanah ends	12 • 3 Tishrei Tzom Gedaliah 5:22a Fast Begins 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 7:45p Fast Ends	13 • 4 Tishrei 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit	14 • 5 Tishrei 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:49p Candlelighting	15 • 6 Tishrei Shabbat Shuva Vayeleh 9:00 am Shaharit 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 7:42p Shabbat Ends
16 • 7 Tishrei 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit 7:00p T'shuvah Lecture with Alyssa M Gray, JD, PhD T'shuvah, T'fillah, Tz'dakah: What's the Connection? No Bir'nana Rehearsal	17 • 8 Tishrei 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 10:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School Welcome Back Night Last Day to Place Lulav and Etrog Orders with OZ; Contact the OZ office	18 • 9 Tishrei Erev Yom Kippur 7:00a Selihot & Shaharit 1:30p Minhah (OZ) 6:42p Candlelighting; Fast Begins 6:15p Kol Nidre (WH) 6:15p Youth Service (WH)	19 • 10 Tishrei Yom Kippur 9:00a Services Begin 10:45a Youth Service (WH) 10:45a Family Learning Experience (OZ) 3:00p Mah Zeh High Holy Days?! Yizkor 7:34p Yom Kippur Ends; Fast Ends	20 • 11 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit	21 • 12 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:37p Candlelighting	22 • 13 Tishrei Bar Mitzvah: Jacob Kranich 9:00a Shaharit Ha'azinu 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 7:30p Shabbat Ends
23 • 14 Tishrei Erev Sukkot 8:45a Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:33p Candlelighting 7:15p Sukkot Dinner (RSVP needed) No Bir'nana Rehearsal	24 • 15 Tishrei Sukkot First Day 9:00a Shaharit 7:00p Festival Ma'ariv Light Candles after 7:26p Office Closed	25 • 16 Tishrei Sukkot Second Day 9:00a Shaharit 7:24p Festival Ends Office Closed	26 • 17 Tishrei Hol Hamoed Sukkot 3 7:00a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 6:30p Sushi & Study in the Sukkah 7:15p Hebrew School Family Dinner in the Sukkah	27 • 18 Tishrei Hol Hamoed Sukkot 4 7:00a Shaharit 7:00p OZYP Sushi in the Sukkah	28 • 19 Tishrei Hol Hamoed Sukkot 5 7:00a Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:25p Candlelighting 7:00p Bring your own Shabbat dinner to the sukkah (contact the office)	29 • 20 Tishrei 8:45a Shaharit Hol Hamoed Sukkot 6 11:00a Torah Tots & Tots 1:00p Community Hangout after Kiddush 5:15p Minhah/Ma'ariv & Seudah Shlishit 7:17p Shabbat Ends 7:30p Sukkah Sleepover & Parents' Night Out



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## October 2018 • Tishrei/Heshvan 5779

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 Sept • 21 Tishrei Hoshanah Rabbah Erev Shemini Atzeret 8:45a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:22p Candlelighting No Bir'nana Rehearsal	1 Oct • 22 Tishrei Shemini Atzeret Erev Simhat Torah 9:00a Shaharit/Yizkor 5:30p Ice Cream at Sinai 5:30p Middle & High School Dinner 6:30p Minhah/Ma'ariv Light Candles after 7:22p 7:27p Ma'ariv and Hakafot Office Closed	2 • 23 Tishrei Simhat Torah 9:00a Shaharit 7:25p Festival Ends Office Closed	3 • 24 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School No Talmud Class	4 • 25 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit No Siddur Class	5 • 26 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:14p Candlelighting	6 • 27 Tishrei 9:00a Shaharit <b>Bereshit</b> 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 1:00p Chaburah: Post- Kiddush Torah Study 7:06p Shabbat Ends
7 • 28 Tishrei 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Book Discussions: The Orchard by Yochi Brandes 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	8 • 29 Tishrei Columbus Day 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Rock Ivrit	9 • 30 Tishrei Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit	10 • 1 Heshvan Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	11 • 2 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	12 • 3 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:02p Candlelighting	13 • 4 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Noah 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 6:57p Shabbat Ends
14 • 5 Heshvan 8:00a OZYP Hike (Rain Date: October 21) 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Crime and the Kehillah: Accusation and Response with Barry Feldman 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	15 • 6 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Rock Ivrit	16 • 7 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	17 • 8 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	18 • 9 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	19 • 10 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 6:15p OZYP Happy Hour 5:52p Candlelighting 5:52p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00p OZYP Shabbat Services 7:45p OZYP Shabbat Dinner	20 • 11 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Lekh Lekha Family Shabbat 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 1:00p Bir'nana Performance after kiddush 6:45p Shabbat Ends
21 • 12 Heshvan 8:00a OZYP Hike Rain Date 8:45a Shaharit 6:00p Movie: The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	22 • 13 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Rock Ivrit	23 • 14 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	24 • 15 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	25 • 16 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	26 • 17 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 5:42p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:42p Candlelighting Dinner: Shabbat Across OZ	27 • 18 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Vayera 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 6:36p Shabbat Ends
28 • 19 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Crime and the Kehillah: Accusation and Response with Barry Feldman 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	29 • 20 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Rock Ivrit	30 • 21 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit	31 • 22 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	1 Nov • 23 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	2 Nov • 24 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 5:33p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:33p Candlelighting	3 Nov • 25 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Haye Sarah Hesed Shabbat 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 6:28p Shabbat Ends



### **Shabbat** at Or Zarua

#### Celebrate Shabbat with Or L'Atid

Join us for Torah Tots and Torah Kids (see below for times) as we come back together on September 8 with a Welcome Back Kiddush for the whole Congregation.

#### Then, make Shabbat extra special with Family Shabbat on October 20!

Join us for a family lunch after youth programs:

#### **Shabbat & Me Saturday**

(for Pre-K and younger) Sing, pray, learn, play, and celebrate together.

#### **Family Learning Experience**

(for Elementary School and parents) Enrich your lives with monthly parentchild learning.

#### **Shabbat Buddies**

(for Middle & High School) Pair up with High School buddies to develop skills and knowledge for participation on Shabbat! Requires advanced sign up so we can pair our buddies! Contact Sigal by October 15 to sign up (Middle School and High School students).

> Join us every Shabbat for Torah Tots, 11:00-11:45 am (Pre-K and younger) and Torah Kids, 11:00-11:45 am (Elementary School)

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

## Celebrate the High Holy Days with your Family and Or L'Atid

High Holy Day Family Learning Experience Tuesday, September 11 (Rosh Hashanah), 10:45 am-12:45 pm Wednesday, September 19 (Yom Kippur), 10:45 am-12:45 pm

hare the High Holy Days in uplifting, family-centered ways with your kids at the Family Learning Experience and our other High Holy Day programs.

Join with other families for prayer, music,

interactive discussion, and parent-child learning at the Family Learning Experience with Rabbi Amy Bolton.

The Family Learning Experience is a unique inter-generational opportunity for families to blend High Holy Day prayer, music, play and Q&A. Led by Rabbi Amy Bolton, FLEX has something wonderful in store for everyone. Little ones play, while older kids, parents and grandparents enjoy



will be leading Or Zarua's

**Family Learning Experience for the** 

High Holy Days.

discussions and activities centered on Jewish values and High Holy Day themes. Learn new tunes and explanations for key holiday prayers as you find new meaning in High Holy Day services.

Children not participating in a Youth Service or the Family Learning Experience are encouraged to join their parents in the main service (see page 6).

A schedule of High Holy Day services for youth at OZ is printed below. It is also listed on the OZ calendar, and online at orzarua-orlatid.org.

For questions or information about youth High Holy Day programming at Or Zarua, contact Sigal Hirsch, Director of Youth Education and Programming, at shirsch@orzarua.org, or 212-452-2310, ext 15.

Nonmembers wishing to attend these youth programs should contact Deborah Wenger at dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 12, for guest tickets.

#### High Holy Day Youth Services 5779/2018

#### **First Day Rosh Hashanah** Monday, September 10

Youth Services: 10:45 am-12:45 pm

#### **High Holy Days Tots**

(Pre-K and Younger) at Congregation Or Zarua

#### **High Holy Days Kids**

(Elementary School) at Wallace Hall

#### **Second Day Rosh Hashanah Tuesday, September 11**

Youth Services: 10:45 am - 12:45 pm

#### **High Holy Days Kids**

(Elementary School) at Wallace Hall

#### Family Learning Experience with Rabbi Amy Bolton

10:45 am-12:45 pm For families with children through 6th grade. Older siblings are welcome. Note that this program is not a drop-off. at Congregation Or Zarua

#### **Erev Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre Tuesday, September 18**

#### **High Holy Days Kids**

6:15 pm-8:45 pm (Elementary School) at Wallace Hall.

#### Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 19

#### **High Holy Days Kids**

10:45 am-12:45 pm (Elementary School) at Wallace Hall

#### Family Learning Experience with Rabbi Amy Bolton

10:45 am-12:45 am For families with children through 6th grade. Older siblings are welcome. at Congregation Or Zarua

#### Mah Zeh High Holy Days?!

3:00 pm (6th-12 grades) at Wallace Hall

Tickets are required for all services listed above.

## Join Us in the Sukkah as we Celebrate Sukkot Together

Festival Events for Youth and Families Sukkot, Shemni Atzeret, & Simhat Torah

#### Hebrew School Family Dinner Wednesday, September 26, 5:30pm

Hebrew School Families, celebrate Sukkot with us with a dinner in the Sukkah! See old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy a delicious meal up on the roof!

#### Sukkah Sleepover Saturday, September 29, 7:30 pm

Children ages 5–13, join us for our annual Sukkah Sleepover! Enjoy fun and games, snacks and a movie. Teens are invited to help out, and to sleep over as well! **Dinner will not be served, so please be sure that your child eats dinner before coming.** 

#### Parents' Night Out in the Sukkah Saturday, September 29, 7:30pm-9:30 pm

Parents are invited to our second annual Parents' Night Out in the Sukkah! Enjoy cocktails and community up on the Or Zarua roof in our very own Sukkah.

Children, including those younger than 5, not sleeping over are invited to join us for the Sukkah Sleepover festivities while parents socialize up on the roof in the OZ Sukkah!





#### Sushi & Study in the Sukkah Wednesday September 26, 6:30 pm

Middle School and High School students are all invited for dinner and learning with Rabbi Bolton at our annual Sushi & Study in the Sukkah.

#### Ice Cream @ Sinai Monday, October 1, 5:30 pm

Children are invited to open the ark and take an up-close look at the Torah!

Join Rabbi Bolton to learn about the Torah together, sing songs, read stories, and enjoy ice cream before the community-wide Simhat Torah celebration. For families with children from birth through age 8. Older siblings welcome.

#### Middle & High School Dinner Monday, October 1, 5:30 pm

Middle School and High School students are invited to join us for our annual Simhat Torah Dinner! Meet new people, reunite with old friends, enjoy dinner and then join the community-wide Simhat Torah celebration!

To participate in Sukkot events for youth RSVP to Sigal Hirsch at shirsch@orzarua.org by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 26.



**Left and Above:** Last year kids had a blast at the Sleepover in the OZ Sukkah, playing games, shaking the lulav, and socializing with friends. **Below:** Shalom-Sing-Along (See yellow box, right).





## Hebrew School at Or Zarua

#### Begins Monday, September 17

egister for Hebrew School at Or Zarua using Chaverweb. Log in and click "School Registration." You will be able to choose your class from the drop-down menu.

Be sure to register before the start of classes! Visit orzarua-orlatid.org/ hebrew-school/ for more information, or contact Director of Youth Education and Programming Sigal Hirsch at shirsch@ orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 15.

If you are not a member of Or Zarua or if you are not able to access your Chaverweb account but you would like to register for Hebrew School at Or Zarua, please contact Sigal to register.

#### Musical Mondays with Shalom Sing-A-Long Mondays, 10:15am-11:00am Beginning September 17

Join us on Mondays for Shalom Sing-A-Long, a music and movement class for you and your little one for ages 1-4.

Start your little one's day the happy and healthy way with song, dance, stories, balls, bubbles, puppets, instruments, and more! Parents, grandparents and caregivers join us as we learn simple Hebrew, Jewish values, and favorite tunes!

#### Sign Up at:

**OrZarua-OrLatid.org/Shalom-Sing-A-Long/** or drop in for any class.

Never been to Shalom Sing-A-Long? Join us for a free trial class on September 17! **Sign up using promo code: tryit2018** 

Newcomers are welcome to try a first class free anytime during the semester using **promo code: tryshalom**.

## LEARN • PRAY • PARTICIPATE • CONNECT with Congregation Or Zarua

LEARN At Or Zarua we learn in many ways—about Judaism, Talmud, Torah and all aspects of Jewish life. Through its Adult Education programming OZ presents an extensive variety of interesting, expert speakers on all aspects of Jewish life—religion, culture, history and language.

Seilhot Study, Annual T'shuvah Lecture for the High Holy Days, Family Shabbat Programs (Shabbat & Me, Shabbat Family Learning Experiences, Shabbat Buddies), Teen Sushi & Study, NYC Jewish History with Barry Feldman, Talmud & Siddur Classes with Rabbi Bolton, Annual Lucy Dawidowicz Lecture, Marc Ashley's Adult Education Course, Tikkun Leyl Shavuot, Teen Tikkun Leyl Shavuot and various other lectures, presentations and discussions.



PRAY Prayer is central to our religious experience. Or Zarua's services are traditional with equal participation of men and women. We have no choir, we use no musical instruments, and we read the entire weekly Torah portion, explicated by Rabbi Bolton's d'var Torah. Our services are led by members of the congregation. Visit us for Shabbat, on Yom Tov, or at our weekday morning minyan (followed by breakfast and lively conversation!).







#### PRAY • PARTICIPATE • CONNECT LEARN with Congregation Or Zarua

## PARTICIPATE At Or Zarua,

we draw strength from the active participation of our members. It is what keeps us vibrant. We come together to strengthen our connectedness to our community and to the larger Jewish community as well. We come together to celebrate festivals and milestones, and we come together to support one another in times of stress and sorrow. We encourage attendance and participation in OZ events.

Hesed, Dorot, New Common Pantry, Project ORE, Dinners for Holidays and Shabbat, Families, Young Professionals. Book Discussions, Super Bowl Tz'dakah Party, Hanukkah Parties, Purim Spiel, Second Seder, Zayin Adar Dinner, our A Cappella Group Bir'nana.



CONNECT There are numerous ways to become involved with the Or Zarua community-through our many activities and special events. We welcome all to join in the diverse array of events and

Services and Dinners with OZ's Young Professionals, Sukkah Sleepover for Kids, Seudah Shilshit and Havdalah, OZ Art Gallery Openings, Shabbat Shirah, OZ's Birthday Party with cake and Champagne, Celebrate Israel Parade.



of the events scheduled at Congregation Or Zarua for 5779. Many more lectures, guest speakers, classes, presentations, programs, dinners, and social events throughout the year. See the OZ website, www.orzarua.org, or the Newsletter (published every two months) for listings of new events throughout the year and to confirm dates, times, and future events.

## Join Or Zarua for Daily Minyan



One hour of your time one morning a month will allow members who have lost loved ones to say Kaddish. You'll be doing a mitzvah and helping them to do one, as well. If you choose a Monday or Thursday, having a minyan will allow us to read Torah, something that isn't allowed without a minyan. And so that you leave the shul filled both spiritually and nutritiously, there's always a breakfast with cake, coffee and tea, orange juice, bagels, yogurt, and cottage cheese. And great conversation. Contact Sheldon Adler (sadler@skadden.com) and tell him the day that's best for you. Services at Or Zarua start at 7:15 am on weekday mornings, 8:45 am on Sundays, and 7:00 am on Hol Hamoed and Rosh Hodesh.

## Jews and Christians Read the Song of Songs With Robert Harris, PhD

JTS Context Class at Or Zarua Six Tuesdays beginning November 6, 6:30 pm



ur next JTS
Context is a
six-session
course
presented by Dr.
Robert A. Harris,
associate professor
of Bible and Ancient

Semitic Languages at JTS. Dr. Harris teaches courses in biblical literature and commentary, particularly medieval Jewish biblical exegesis.

This course will explore how the meaning of "Song of Songs" developed from ancient love poems into a time-honored allegory - essentially shared by both rabbinic sages of the Talmud and the fathers of the Church and then how medieval sages came to understand the book not only as an allegory of the love God has for the people of Israel (or, in Christianity, the love of God for "His Church"), but also as a poetic narrative

## **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. Th is well maintained cemetery provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the values of OZ. 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 gravesites, contact Helene Santo at 212-452-2310, ext 14.

about the erotic love between a young couple in biblical days. In particular, we will see how reading this biblical book according to its peshat, or contextual meaning, allowed "the voice of the woman" to emerge as a narrator of this poetic composition. Finally, we will examine how a variety of other interpretations (Jewish kabbalah as well as Christian mysticism) re-allegorize the Song into a kind of "radical midrash."

The course meets in the OZ library and begins on November 6 (see the OZ calendar in the next issue of the newsletter); tuition is \$325. This reading-intensive seminar is designed for graduates of the Me'ah or Context two-year program or for those with similar Jewish learning backgrounds. If you are uncertain whether the course is right for you or for more information regarding registering, please contact Lynn Feinman at 212-678-8821 or lyfeinman@jtsa.edu.

#### Sponsor Kiddush or Minyan Breakfast

The custom of sponsoring a kiddush or a minyan breakfast can be a meaningful way to remember your loved ones or celebrate a birthday or anniversary with fellow Congregants while enhancing the community's Shabbat or morning minyan experience. Contact Deborah Wenger (212-452-2310, ext 12) for details.



### **Helping Or Zarua**

r Zarua is a vibrant community, and all communities need their members. Here are some quick and easy ways to help:

Choose to **pay via ACH** when using Chaverweb. This is a direct debit from your checking account. It saves OZ the higher credit card transaction fees.

Still want to pay via credit card? Choose to **include the transaction fee** in your payment! It covers that transaction fee so the entire payment comes to OZ.

Start your **shopping at Amazon Smile!** Go to **smile.amazon.com** when you shop on Amazon and choose Or Zarua as your beneficiary. Then shop as usual. OZ earns a percentage of every eligible purchase.

**Sponsor a lecture!** Our T'shuvah and Lucy Dawidowicz Lectures are important features of OZ programming. You can sponsor a portion, one, or both! Sponsorship defrays the costs of these wonderful events. Please contact Rabbi Bolton or Helene Santo for information.

**Stuff envelopes!** We send out mailings. You can come in and stuff envelopes or fold newsletters. It gets mailings out in a quick and efficient manner and requires only a few minutes of dedication. Contact Helene Santo for more information.

## The Or Zarua Social Hall is available to rent

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





Or Zarua will be present at Streets Fairs being held on the Upper East Side. We need volunteers to help staff our booths on Sundays, September 9 (10 am-2pm) and September 30 (12-2pm) at the Third Avenue and 92Y StreetFest. Please contact Deborah Wenger at dwenger@orzarua.org if you would like to volunteer.

#### CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

#### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

### Crime and the Kehillah: Accusation and Response

**Jewish History with Barry Feldman** 

Four Sundays: October 14 & 28 and November 4 & 11, 10 am-12 noon



r Zarua Congregant Barry Feldman will again lead a four-session course covering the history of the Kehillah.

In 1906, New York City Police Commissioner

Theodore Bingham asserted that half the city's criminals were Jews. Although a widespread backlash forced Bingham to issue a retraction, Bingham's message was loud and clear. New York's Jewish population was considered a menace to more "polite" [that is, "native"] New York society. The Jewish response was the New York Kehillah: an attempt to organize communal activities under a single umbrella and present a united productive image of Jews as New Yorkers and Americans.

How was the Kehillah organized? Who were the leaders? What challenges did it face? Did it meet expectations? Using primary documents to spark discussion,

this class will examine the successes and challenges of the Kehillah.

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, Jewish Harlem, and other New York neighborhoods. He has been teaching at OZ since 2014.



**Each year, OZ Congregant Barry Feldman teaches a four-session class on NYC Jewish history.** Past classes have included "*Machlokis, Tzuris & Achdus: Disputes, Troubles, and Unity During the Iconic Period of Jewish Settlement in NYC*" and "*Life in the Streets on the Lower East Side During the Iconic Period of Immigration and Settlement.*" The class attracts up to 30 people per session. Barry's classes are open to all. Prior knowledge is not required, and you may attend any or all sessions. We hope to see you this year as we continue to study NYC Jewish history with Barry.