

## Elul Inspiration: Two Tanakh Study Sessions with Shira Schiowitz

Zoom in on Two Wednesdays, August 26 and September 2, 7:30 pm  
Zoom ID: 871 9749 9277; Zoom Password: 613



**T**he month of Elul is upcoming, and thus we know that the High Holy Days are around the corner. So it is time to begin our spiritual preparations for Rosh Hashanah.

This Elul, master Tanakh teacher Shira

Schiowitz will give two lectures focused on notions of repentance in prophetic literature.

Shira Schiowitz is a Tanakh teacher at SAR High School where she also serves as co-director of professional development and mentors new teachers. She previously chaired the Tanakh department at Ma'ayanot

Yeshiva High School, and also served as Assistant Dean and helped facilitate the opening at Lamdeinu, an adult education institute in Teaneck. She received her MA in Bible at the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University.

In *Royalty, Responsibility and Limits on Power: The Prophets' Expanded Application of the Laws of Kings*, Ms. Schiowitz will present texts from Tanakh and Jewish thought that will allow us to reflect on our individual accountability and creative power. The prophets make use of laws from Deuteronomy regarding appointment of a Jewish king to help individuals of all stations find balance in life between power and moral agency. Our challenge is to live within an appropriate dialectic of creativity and humility, as God wants us to be masters of our world yet within prescribed limitations. Our prophetic literature illuminates that productive dialectic.

The second lecture, *Do the Haftarat of Elul Get Us On the Path of T'shuvah?*, will feature our liturgical cycle during the late summer. While Elul is regarded as the corridor towards t'shuvah, we continue to read haftarat from Isaiah connected to a post-Tisha B'Av mindset of consolation. The manner in which these prophetic readings fit into the larger framework of High Holy Days preparations is obscure. This lecture will address why we don't read Haftarat expressly about repentance during the month leading up to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

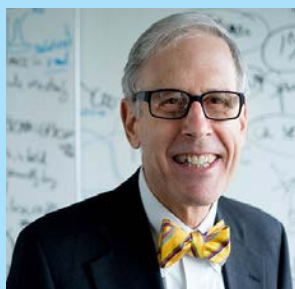
Our prophetic literature has been a source of profound wisdom and inspiration through the ages, but is sometimes ignored or underappreciated. In the Or Zarua tradition of adult learning, at this crucial time of the Jewish year, please join us as Ms. Schiowitz illuminates the prophets' lessons for contemporary times.

-Marc Ashley

## An Elul Chaburah with Dr. Barry Coller

### A Letter to My Grandchildren

Zoom in on Sunday, September 13, 7:00 pm  
Zoom ID: 882 2340 5771; Zoom Password: 613



**W**hat would you say in a letter to the next generation as they go off to college about explaining Jewish traditions and values to their classmates? Do our grandchildren realize that so many of the animating ideas stitched into Western Civilization derive directly from the foundational ideas of Judaism? Come prepare for the High Holy Days with our member, Dr. Barry Coller, as he reflects on what he hopes his grandchildren will gain from deeper connections to Torah, central Jewish narratives, and texts that are essential guidebooks for life.

## OZ Trivia Night

For the Whole Community!


Jewish Trivia Night  
with Isaac Nagiel

Tuesday, August 11, 7:00 pm

Back by popular demand, it's our next OZ trivia showdown using the exciting new format but the same boring host. Hopefully Trivia Night can be a fun respite for us to gather as a community and have some non-trivial amounts of fun. Register using the link below.

**Link for registering for trivia night:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/OZAugustTrivia>  
You will receive an email with Zoom information upon registration.

Or Zarua Hebrew School Registration  
Is Now Underway. See pages 6-7.


  
**CONGREGATION OrZarua**
  
 LEARN • PRAY • PARTICIPATE • CONNECT

A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE  
 FOUNDED 1989

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 New York, NY 10028  
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 www.orzarua.org

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 HELENE SANTO, *Executive Director*  
 SIGAL HIRSCH, *Director of Youth Education and Programming*  
 CHARLES SPIELHOLZ, *Newsletter Editor*

### OZ Committee Chairs

ADMINISTRATION	<i>Pamela E. Gold</i>
AESTHETICS	<i>Aaron Shelden</i>
ART GALLERY	<i>Bobbi Collier</i>
BOOK DISCUSSION	<i>Reed Schneider Nora Yood</i>
BUILDING	<i>Gerry Solomon</i>
HESED	<i>Susan Lorin</i>
HEVRA KADISHA	<i>Roberta Hufnagel Gerry Solomon</i>
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MEMBERSHIP	<i>Raanan Korinow</i>
MINYAN	<i>Sheldon Adler</i>
NOMINATING AND LEADERSHIP	<i>Jay Palmer</i>
ORAL HISTORY	<i>Mimi Alperin</i>
PROGRAMMING	<i>Marc D. Ashley</i>
PUBLIC RELATIONS	<i>Aaron Shelden</i>
READERS AND LEADERS	<i>Marc D. Ashley Jay Palmer</i>
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT	<i>Arthur H. Rosenbloom</i>
WEBMASTER	<i>Jay Palmer</i>
YOUTH EDUCATION	<i>Eric Schmutter</i>

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

# President's Message

by Diane Okrent



I am writing this on Tisha B'Av, the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. We fast in commemoration of great tragedies in Jewish history including the destruction of the First and Second Temples,

the Crusades, the expulsions from England, France and Spain, the Holocaust, and, most recently, Pittsburgh and Poway.

At the end of the day, we commemorate the ability of the Jewish people to survive and thrive.

Today, I think we are also in mourning for our pre-COVID lives, secular and Jewish. I have not been in the Or Zarua building since February 29. I don't know when I will return. And, the uncertainty makes me sad. I am sure it makes you sad, too.

As we approached Passover this year, I was very unhappy contemplating not hosting Seders in my home. And, then, I started thinking about the possibilities of a ZOOM Seder! I realized that we could host Seders for as many people as we wanted. We didn't have to worry about having enough chairs or feeding a large crowd! We hosted 27 people for the first Seder. Our in-person capacity is 20.

As we approach the High Holy Days, I am feeling similarly sad that, whatever we will do, it won't be the usual. But, just as I did with Passover, I am thinking about how to make these days meaningful in new ways.

So, too, the Or Zarua community is in the midst of rethinking our observances so that we will honor our past but deal with the realities of our present.

The Reopening Task Force is at work considering all aspects of how to reopen the building as soon as we can do it legally and safely for all who enter our doors.

And, the High Holy Days Committee is at work creating experiences that will honor our sacred traditions and bring us together as a community.

Thank you to the nearly 200 members who completed the OZ High Holy Days survey. Your responses are informing decisions about our observance. We will announce High Holy Days plans as soon as possible.

By this time, you should have received your membership renewal via email. As I mentioned in my cover letter, "You might ask why you should renew your membership when High Holy Days plans are uncertain. My answer is that Congregation Or Zarua is

more than a physical space for us to express our Jewish traditions and values. Or Zarua is our community that ensures the continuity of the Jewish People. At Or Zarua, it is incumbent upon us to maintain a community where people of all Jewish backgrounds feel welcome and comfortable to learn, pray, participate and connect with us. We strive to be inclusive, not exclusive. And, if we want the community to be available to us when we need it, we must support it."

Even during this crisis, we have continued to educate our children and our adults, conduct services, and continue programs and classes. We have had special lectures and enjoyed a Summer-Scholar-in-Residence. And, Rabbi Bolton has performed funerals and burials, visited the sick, offered spiritual counseling, performed weddings in backyards and ZOOMed in for baby namings and brisses.

Your support ensures that we can continue to meet the needs of our community, now and when we are able to return to our building.

Our dues also support our staff and maintenance of our building. And, our dues support our rabbi and the wonderful work he does to provide leadership and guidance to our community in good times and in bad.

Please renew your membership this month.

Throughout history, we Jews have met seemingly insurmountable challenges and thrived. Or Zarua is doing the same. Eventually, we will be back in our building and back to our routines.

I encourage you to continue to learn, pray, participate and connect with us.

Wishing you continued good health, B'Shalom!

*Diane*



## Upcoming Programs for the High Holy Days

### Selihot

**Saturday, September 12, 7:55 pm**

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomOutOfShabbat>  
Zoom ID: 775 962 249; Zoom Password: 613

Come learn and enter the High Holy Days by hearing the familiar tunes of the Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur liturgy that are included in the 30 minute Selihot Service. Before services Rabbi Bolton will present *Rashi Also Wrote Selihot: Inspiration Beyond His Torah Commentary*. Rashi wrote many Selichot (penitential poems) and several are still incorporated into our liturgy including *Adonai Elohei Hatz'vaot*, which is recited on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, and *Az Terem Nimtehu*, which is recited on the Fast of Gedalia. This will launch our 5781 engagement with Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki's (Rashi's) writings and commentaries who will be our Parshan HaShanah (Torah commentator of the year).

**The Annual Or Zarua T'shuvah Lecture  
with Dr. Daniel Gordis  
From a People Divided  
to a People United:**

**Will T'shuvah Bring American and Israeli  
Jews Closer Together?**

**Wednesday, September 23, 12 noon**

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/DrGordisAtOZ2020>  
Zoom ID: 896 0784 1114; Zoom Password: 613

Dr. Daniel Gordis is Senior Vice President and the Koret Distinguished Fellow at Shalem College, Israel. He is author of more than ten books, a columnist for *Bloomberg Opinion* and a regular contributor to *Jerusalem Post*. His history of the State of Israel, entitled *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn*, received the 2016 National Jewish Book Award as Book of the Year.

Dr. Gordis will present his lecture between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. Details will be published in the next issue of the OZ newsletter and in eblasts.

## Talmud and Siddur Classes with Rabbi Bolton

**Talmud Class for 5781  
Wednesdays, 7:30–9:00 pm  
beginning October 21**

**Jews in a Non-Jewish World: Idol Worship and Living With Others.  
Chapter 1 of Masekhet Avodah Zarah**

Throughout history, Jews have maintained strong religious beliefs and cultural ties. The Talmudic Sages, through the paradigm of exploring the mitzvah of refraining from and even abolishing idol worship, confront us with questions: how do we, as Jews, navigate living in a non-Jewish world? How much interaction and integration is acceptable, when it comes to business or socializing with neighbors? Should there be any limits? The Rabbis' discussions and debates about the prohibition against idol worship is engaged as a framework of thought concerning the Jewish People's place among the nations of the world. From the beginning of Tractate Avodah Zarah (Idol Worship) the Sages expand on laws that seem black and white on their face but move us into discussions about living in the complex world of kaleidoscopic humanity. Come join the learning no matter what your background. Students may bring either the *Artscroll Schottenstein Volume. 1 Avodah Zarah* or the *Koren Talmud Bavli Avoda Zara -Horayot* volume to class. Class meets at 7:30 pm on Wednesday evenings throughout the year, after the holiday season.

**Siddur Class for 5781  
Thursdays, 8:40–9:40 am  
beginning October 22**

**"I Thought the Service Was Over!"**

**Readings, Songs and Passages of Study After the  
Official Morning Prayers**

The Siddur is not only a prayerbook but a repository for passages of study, hymns to sing, and glorious, poetic songs. We will study passages from the Rambam like the Thirteen Principles of Faith, collections of Torah verses prepared for the worshipper who wanted to go right to study after prayers and other materials that were inserted into the post-service sections of printed siddurim stemming from manuscripts of the Middle Ages. Of course, already in the Talmud, certain Sages would add personal prayers and pleas of their own after their recitations of the Amidah. Those personal prayer passages have made their way into some prayer rites, as well, at the end of morning services. They stand on their own as petitionary poetry, and we will study them as stand alone liturgy. In this class we sing, listen to the music of prayer, discuss prayer life and examine prayer language closely. Come gain understandings and add meaning to prayer life. Join us at 8:40 am on Thursdays after the holiday season.

*Either class may be joined at any time. For additional information contact Rabbi Bolton ([rabbibolton@orzarua.org](mailto:rabbibolton@orzarua.org))*

## Services at OZ via Zoom

### ZOOM Into Minyan

Weekdays (Monday-Friday), 7:15 am  
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomDaily>  
Zoom ID: 518 639 181; Zoom Password: 613

Sundays, 8:45 am  
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomSunday>  
Zoom ID: 283 908 873; Zoom Password: 613

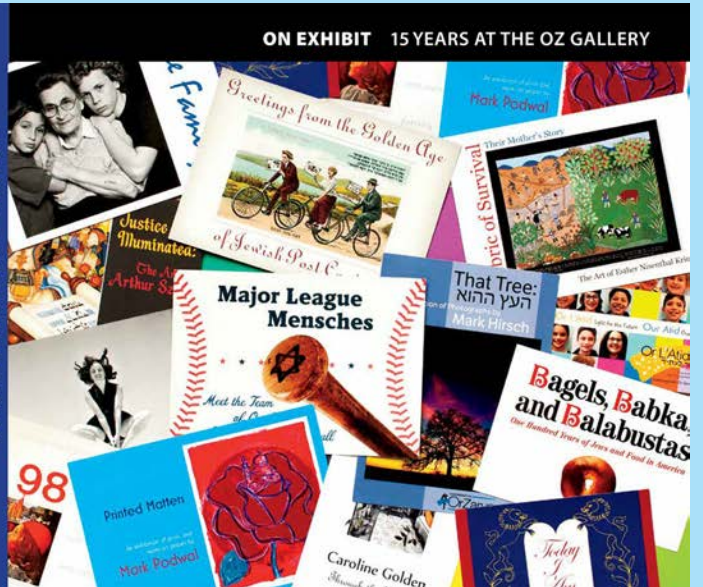
### ZOOM Into & Out of Shabbat

Friday Nights: See Calendar for times  
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomIntoShabbat>  
Zoom ID: 854 630 476; Zoom Password: 613

Saturday Nights: See Calendar for times  
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomOutOfShabbat>  
Zoom ID: 775 962 249; Zoom Password: 613



# Coming Soon On Exhibit: 15 Years at the OZ Gallery



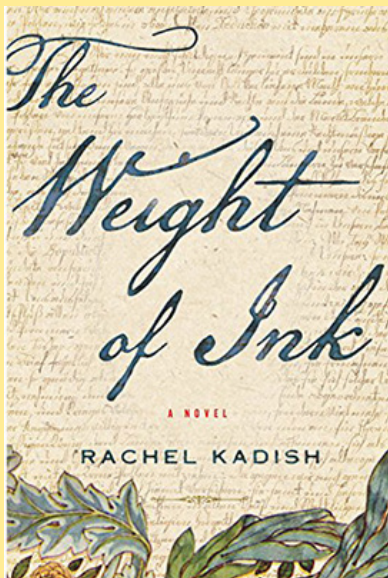
**T**he Presses Are Rolling!: Sometimes you can judge a book by its cover. Open up *On Exhibit: 15 Years at the OZ Gallery* and you'll be taken on a journey through the wonderful, informative and inspiring exhibits that have fulfilled the realization of our Founders' dream of an active gallery space. All the exhibits represented on the volume's cover are brought back in the 60-plus pages of this vividly-illustrated commemorative volume. Also included are highlights of past exhibits and

remembrances by contributors, Gallery Committee members and Rabbi Scott Bolton and OZ's founding Rabbi Harlan Wechsler. The book is meant to be a celebration of the synagogue's past, but it also points the way to a vision of the future. *On Exhibit: 15 Years at the OZ Gallery* is coming soon. Details on distribution in the next OZ Newsletter.

-Bobbi Collier and Gerry Solomon

## Or Zarua Book Discussions Summer Reading and First Book for Fall

**A**s this coronavirus summer continues, we book lovers can take solace knowing that reading still remains a permissible pleasure. Dates and venue for the coming year have not been determined, but in order to add to your beach or beach-substitute reading, consider *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish, our timely first selection. A fascinating work of historical fiction unraveling, among other



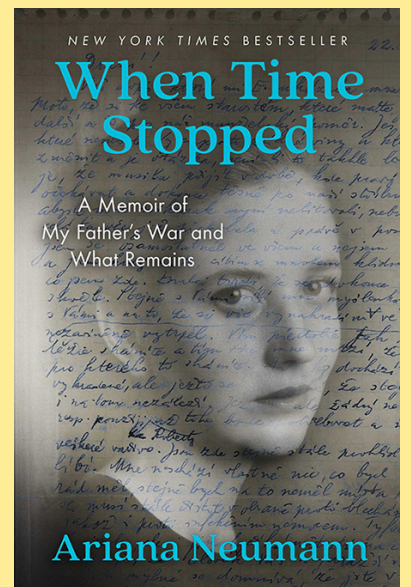
gripping story lines, the consequences of the plague that devastated London during the 1660s. For a review go to: <https://tinyurl.com/OZB1July2020>.

**OZ Congregant Pat Davidson will lead a discussion of *The Weight of Ink* on Sunday, October 18, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Additional details will be available in the next issue of the OZ Newsletter.**

The book *When Time Stopped*, a memoir by Ariana Neuman, unfolds the amazing account about her father's miraculous survival during the Holocaust, a truth she did not discover until his death decades later. For a review go to: <https://tinyurl.com/OZBk2July2020>. An excellent summer read we will be discussing at a future meeting.

Please forward any recommendations for additional book discussions to Nora Yood (nbmjdy@gmail.com). If you are willing to be a discussion leader for *When Time Stopped*, that would be greatly appreciated.

Happy reading!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>2 • 12 Av</b> 8:45a Shaharit Minyan 7:00p Book Discussion: <i>The Crooked Shall be Made Straight</i> by S.Y. Agnon <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i></p>	<p><b>3 • 13 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>4 • 14 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>5 • 15 Av</b> <b>Tu B'Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 2:00p OZ Youth Virtual Tiyyul to Israel</p>	<p><b>6 • 16 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit</p>	<p><b>7 • 17 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:00p Zoom into Shabbat 7:45p Candlelighting</p>	<p><b>8 • 18 Av</b> <b>Ekev</b> 8:42p Shabbat Ends 8:50p Zoom Out of Shabbat</p>
<p><b>9 • 19 Av</b> 8:45a Shaharit Minyan <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i></p>	<p><b>10 • 20 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>11 • 21 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:00p Trivia Night: Advance registration required</p>	<p><b>12 • 22 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 2:00p OZ Youth Virtual Tiyyul to Israel</p>	<p><b>13 • 23 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>14 • 24 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 5:00p Shabbat Story Time 7:00p Zoom into Shabbat 7:36p Candlelighting</p>	<p><b>15 • 25 Av</b> <b>Re'eh</b> 8:32p Shabbat Ends 8:40p Zoom Out of Shabbat</p>
<p><b>16 • 26 Av</b> 8:45a Shaharit Minyan <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i></p>	<p><b>17 • 27 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>18 • 28 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>19 • 29 Av</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 2:00p OZ Youth Virtual Tiyyul to Israel</p>	<p><b>20 • 30 Av</b> <b>Rosh Hodesh</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>21 • 1 Elul</b> <b>Rosh Hodesh</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:00p Zoom into Shabbat 7:26p Candlelighting</p>	<p><b>22 • 2 Elul</b> <b>Shoftim</b> 8:21p Shabbat Ends 8:30p Zoom Out of Shabbat</p>
<p><b>23 • 3 Elul</b> 8:45a Shaharit Minyan <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i></p>	<p><b>24 • 4 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>25 • 5 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>26 • 6 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:30p <i>Elul Inspiration: Two Tanakh Study Sessions with Shira Schiowitz</i></p>	<p><b>27 • 7 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>28 • 8 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:00p Zoom into Shabbat 7:15p Candlelighting</p>	<p><b>29 • 9 Elul</b> <b>Ki Tetze</b> 8:09p Shabbat Ends 8:15p Zoom Out of Shabbat</p>
<p><b>30 • 10 Elul</b> 8:45a Shaharit Minyan <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i></p>	<p><b>31 • 11 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>1 Sept • 12 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>2 Sept • 13 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:30p <i>Elul Inspiration: Two Tanakh Study Sessions with Shira Schiowitz</i></p>	<p><b>3 Sept • 14 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan</p>	<p><b>4 Sept • 15 Elul</b> 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 5:45p Zoom into Shabbat 7:04p Candlelighting</p>	<p><b>5 Sept • 16 Elul</b> <b>Ki Tavo</b> 7:58p Shabbat Ends 8:05p Zoom Out of Shabbat</p>

Be sure to check the Or Zarua Website ([www.orzarua.org](http://www.orzarua.org)) and the weekly eblasts for updates to the calendar.

In person services are temporarily suspended and are being conducted virtually via Zoom.





# BRING YOUR KIDS BACK TOGETHER

WITH **HEBREW SCHOOL** AT 

Dear Families,

As the new school year draws near, we are excited to share some news about Hebrew School for this fall.

We will begin our learning remotely to ensure the year gets off to a smooth start with so much uncertainty still surrounding individual schools' reopening plans. We plan to evaluate at predetermined intervals whether it is safe to resume children's classes in the Or Zarua building.

The Hebrew School schedule will be similar to years past, but with some changes to ensure the highest quality of learning. Stay tuned for exciting new pieces of our curriculum, plus brand new offerings!

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Jewish learning and for your continued flexibility during these difficult times! Consistency, community and Jewish connections are so important for the social and emotional health of our children, and we are so excited to have them all back together soon!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to be in touch with me.

-Sigal

Early Bird rates will be automatically applied if you complete registration on or before August 17. Sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/OZSchoolReg2020> by August 10 for an additional re-enrollment discount for returning students. A credit will be applied to your account for the re-enrollment discount (\$100/child) after your enrollment is submitted.



**Mondays, 4:00-6:00 pm**

Our youngest students, Kindergarten - 2nd grade, begin their journeys of Jewish learning focusing on the most fundamental Jewish skills and knowledge.

**Students will:**

- Learn the aleph-bet and begin building a Hebrew vocabulary through immersive Hebrew games and activities.
- Begin learning basic prayers in t'filah and gaining literacy in weekly parashah stories from the Torah.
- Learn about the Jewish holidays with creative explorations and projects.

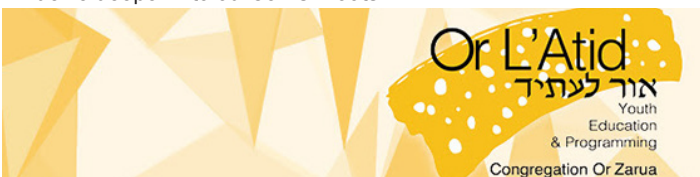


**Mondays, 6:30-7:30 pm & Wednesdays 4:00-4.45 pm**

Our B'nei Mitzvah Scholars, 6th and 7th grade students, will continue their Jewish learning as they approach Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

**Students will:**

- Continue with Hebrew learning.
- Strengthen reading skills and continue building a modern Hebrew vocabulary.
- Explore Jewish history, Israel, t'filah and more with Sigal as we delve deeper into our Jewish roots.



**Mondays & Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00 pm**

In 3rd - 5th grade, students will build on existing skills and knowledge and dive deeper into Jewish learning.

**Students will:**

- Continue developing Hebrew language skills and vocabulary and strengthening reading abilities.
- Lead younger students in t'filah as they grow as role models in our community.
- Learn Torah stories as we study the weekly parashah and deepen knowledge about Jewish holidays with fun activities and projects.
- Use new Hebrew skills to engage with Israeli culture in a whole new way!
- Begin learning the Friday evening prayers as we begin Kabbalat Shabbat in t'filah.
- Have a ball with our brand new "Parashah Play" time as we put on short skits of the weekly Torah portion with a new pop-culture twist!



**Wednesdays, 6:45-7:30 pm**

Our 8th and 9th grade students continue their Jewish education with Hebrew learning!

**Students will:**

- Focus on modern Hebrew language and conversational skills, all while strengthening reading and writing abilities.
- Engage with the language of the Jewish people through fun activities, games and more!



# Start Spreading THE JEWS! WE WANT TO BE A PART OF IT...NEW YORK, NY WITH Rabbi Bolton, FOR Middle School AND High School

Monthly on Thursdays (check the OZ calendar for dates)

5:00 pm - Cooking with Sigal

6:00 pm - Class with Rabbi Bolton

They came from around the world with songs and culture from Spain, Portugal, Germany, Eastern Europe, Russia, Ethiopia and the Middle East.

Join Rabbi Bolton for his brand new class,  
Start Spreading the Jews!

We want to be a part of it, New York, NY...

We'll continue our exploration of different Jewish experiences around the world that we began this year in Tastes & Tradition as we zoom in on New York!

Come explore the kaleidoscope of Jewish New Yorkers on this culinary and historical journey. When did they get here? By choice or chance? What tastes did they establish for all of New York? How did their new situation get reflected in media and on Broadway? Each session will feature a taste of Jewish New York and an exploration of the various Jewish communities that make up the larger Jewish community of the Big Apple (and honey, of course)!

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/OZSchoolReg2020> by September 1; please fill out one registration per family.



Our Virtual Tiyl to Israel is already half-way done! Kids have been having a blast exploring our Jewish homeland through all sorts of fun projects!



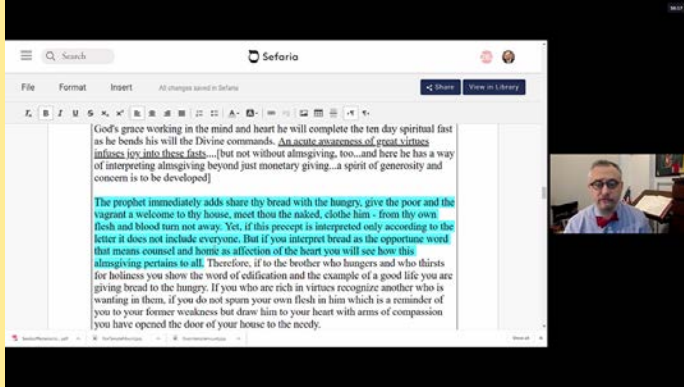
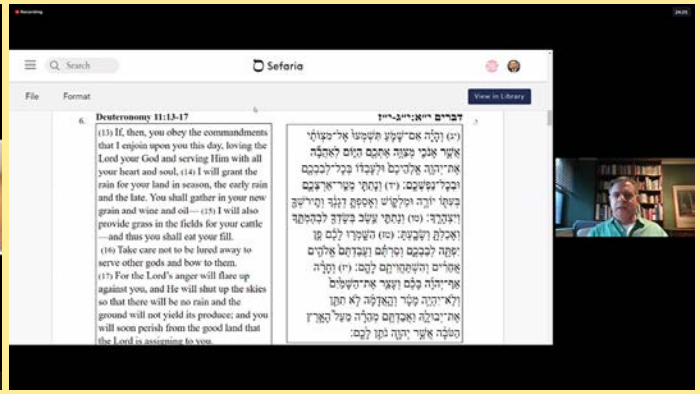
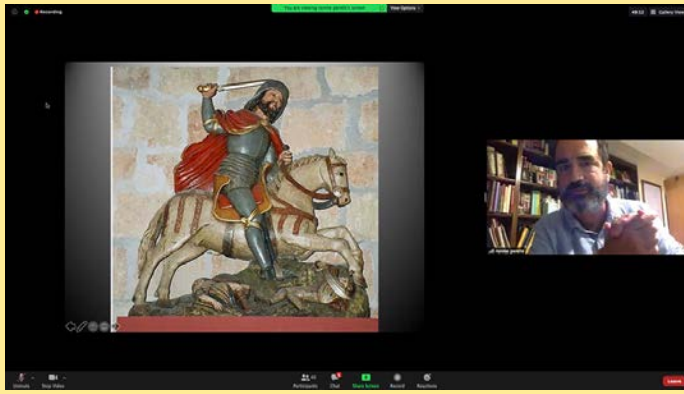
Parents, look out for information about our Parents' Night IN! Enjoy a virtual wine tasting featuring wines from the Carmel Winery in Israel. Keep the Israeli theme going with a short Israeli cooking demo. More information to follow!

Keep track of upcoming events all year round by adding our Or L'Atid calendar to your Google Calendar! Go to: <https://www.orzarua.org/or-latid/calendar/>. Or L'Atid is Congregation Or Zarua's program of youth education and engagement. Or L'Atid encompasses our Hebrew School, Shabbat and holiday programs, and more! For more information, contact Sigal Hirsch, Director of Youth Education and Programming at Congregation Or Zarua.

Phone: 212-452-2310 x15,

Email: [shirsch@orzarua.org](mailto:shirsch@orzarua.org), Website:

<https://www.orzarua.org/or-latid/>.



**Screen Shots of Zoom Presentations from July at Congregation Or Zarua.**

**Upper Left:** Summer Scholar-in-Residence with Professor Ronnie Perelis: *“The Exiles of Jerusalem in Sepharad”*: Crisis, Creativity and Resilience.

**Upper Right:** Tisha B'Av Lecture with Congregant Marc Ashley: *Lamenting Our Sins or Our Suffering?*

**Left:** Tisha B'Av Lecture with Rabbi Scott Bolton: *Did Abraham Lincoln Know the Laws of Fasting and Tisha B'Av?*

# ZOOMING with Or Zarua

## A Brief “How To”

Click on this link for a simple video (less than one minute) on how to “join a meeting” [https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting-Using Zoom on various devices](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting-Using-Zoom-on-various-devices)

You can use Zoom on your computer, iPhone, Android phone, or Mac.  
 You can use it on your desktop or tablet; download an app on your computer or phone.  
 You can listen in by landline phone as well.  
 These approaches are explained below.

### Video and Microphone

If you have a camera on your computer you can participate by video (or turn it off).  
 If you want to talk you must have a microphone or call in on the phone.  
 Please make sure you are in a relatively quiet place. If you talk to someone else when you are unmuted we can hear you.

### Here are some good basic requirements and directions

If you want to use desktop on Windows (PC) or Mac, click this link to get started: <https://tinyurl.com/OZZoomGettingStarted>

### Software

To download the necessary software for your computer, click on this link: <https://zoom.us/download>

### On your phone

To listen on your landline phone dial (646) 558-8656 and, when prompted, enter the unique Meeting ID and Password as prompted that is listed with each event throughout the OZ Newsletter.  
 On your iPhone or Android you will need to download the app from the Apple app store or from Google Play. Search for Zoom Cloud Meeting and download the app; the Zoom logo is shown above.

### Still have questions?

If you need assistance with the Zoom platform, please be in touch with Helene Santo at [hsanto@orzarua.org](mailto:hsanto@orzarua.org).



**Sponsor a Zoom program: a minyan, class, or other function in memory of a loved one, or for a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or other milestone. Contact Helene Santo ([hsanto@orzarua.org](mailto:hsanto@orzarua.org)) for information.**



# The Or Zarua Community

Fund contributions received between June 9, 2020 and July 10, 2020

**Visit OZ on the Web!**  
Go to <https://orzarua.org>

**The Or Zarua Social Hall will be available to rent once NYC is no longer (semi)-paused**  
Contact Helene Santo, 212-452-2310, ext 14, for information.

**Celebrate a Birthday or Anniversary with OZ: Be a Virtual Sponsor**

Sponsor a Zoom program or minyan at Or Zarua to celebrate a birthday or anniversary with fellow Congregants or as a meaningful way to remember a loved one. Contact Deborah Wenger ([dwenger@orzarua.org](mailto:dwenger@orzarua.org)) for details.

**Or Zarua's Memorial Wall**

For information about plaques for our Memorial Wall, please contact Helene Santo at [hsanto@orzarua.org](mailto:hsanto@orzarua.org) or 212-452-2310, ext 14. We will place another order when we have sufficient interest.

Order forms are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/OZMemorialPlaque> or from the OZ office by calling Deborah Wenger at 212-452-2310, ext 12.



**Help Keep Our Daily Minyan Strong**  
Contact Sheldon Adler: [sadler@skadden.com](mailto:sadler@skadden.com)

**Or Zarua's Young Professionals**

**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 Young Professionals). Contact OZ's Young Professionals with any questions, suggestions, or just to say hi via email: [OZYoungPros@gmail.com](mailto:OZYoungPros@gmail.com).

**Get Social**

Follow us on social media to learn, participate, and connect. Find us on Facebook as Congregation Or Zarua, on Instagram as @or\_zarua and on Twitter as @Or\_Zarua.



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



### Membership Renewal

Letters regarding renewal of membership at Or Zarua have been sent by email. Please contact Helene Santo by email ([hsanto@orzarua.org](mailto:hsanto@orzarua.org)) with any questions regarding membership at Congregation Or Zarua.

### Help Keep Our Daily Minyan Strong Even on Zoom

Please donate  
ONE HOUR  
ONE MORNING  
per month  
to our Shahrut minyan.  
Contact Sheldon Adler:  
[sadler@skadden.com](mailto:sadler@skadden.com)

#### Editor's Note

As with the July issue this issue of our Newsletter covers only one month of activity at Or Zarua, a departure from the tradition of covering two months. The reason for this change is directly related to current events. Or Zarua, like all other responsible institutions, is in the midst of planning for reopening. The Reopening Task Force is taking into consideration current laws and government recommendations, health agencies' guidelines and ultimately our members' health and welfare. This format may continue into the future so that we get you the most up-to-date information possible.

## Virtual Bir'nana

Like so many other OZ activities, Bir'nana rehearsals have continued on Zoom during the pandemic lockdown. And like so many other Zoom activities, rehearsals have been something of an adventure. Given the quirks of the technology, we can't actually sing together, but we've found ways to work around the challenges. So we've spent this time dusting off some of our "greatest hits" and even learning a new piece. Most important, although our rehearsals have been less frequent and shorter than usual, they've allowed us to maintain the singing community we've built over the last seven years.



Bir'nana always welcomes new members. So keep an eye on the newsletter and e-mail blasts for announcements about upcoming rehearsals. Or, for more information, contact Rabbi Amy Bolton ([rabamy@gmail.com](mailto:rabamy@gmail.com)) or Dore Hollander ([dore.hollander@gmail.com](mailto:dore.hollander@gmail.com)).

When the time is right, we will sing together again and, eventually, share our "joyful song" with the congregation. We can't wait!

— Dore Hollander