A Traditional, Egalitarian and Participatory Conservative Synagogue



ELUL 5780/TISHREI 5780

NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 33:1A

SEPTEMBER 2020

The Annual Or Zarua Tshuvah Lecture with Dr. Daniel Gordis

From a People Divided to a People United: Personal and Communal Tshuvah

Wednesday, September 23, 12:00 noon

Zoom ID: 863 7961 8213; Zoom Passcode: 613



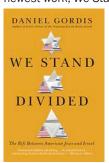
ill tshuvah bring American and Israeli Jews closer together? How does tshuvah help us repair relationships on both individual and communal levels?

Join us for this first ever daytime annual Tshuvah Lecture between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur with acclaimed teacher and thought-leader, Dr. Daniel Gordis, on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, beginning at 12:00 noon.

Dr. Gordis, who is Senior Vice President and the Koret Distinguished Fellow at Shalem College, Israel, will focus on the power of both personal tshuvah and communal repentance.

The author of more than ten books, a columnist for Bloomberg Opinion and a regular contributor to the Jerusalem Post, Dr. Gordis's 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. The Or Zarua Book Club discussed his newest work, We Stand Divided: The Rift



Between American
Jews and Israel and
discovered a history
often untold regarding
the relationship
between American
Jewish leaders and
organizations, Jewish
Israelis and Zionist
institutions.

Dr. Gordis noticed

the growing divide among North American Jews and Israelis and began explorations regarding healing the breach. Do the Days of Awe offer a unique time to reflect on the American-Israeli relationship and deepen our connections? What is the place of individual, more personal tshuvah versus communal oriented repentance? What is our

tshuvah bandwidth?

When Dr. Gordis served as the founding dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at American Jewish University, his spiritual guidance breathed new life into age old religious frameworks. Those teachings were captured in his book *God Was Not in the Fire*. Since that time, Dr. Gordis has become a leading voice in thought about Israel, the Diaspora and our individual relationships to Torah, Israel and our tradition.

Bridging his dynamic understandings of classic Jewish texts and his read on Jewish life in our time, as both an Israeli and an American, Dr. Gordis will offer insight into the possibilities of tshuvah in 5781.

Join us for what will be a most stimulating Annual Or Zarua T'shuvah Lecture this year. We are pleased to have Dr. Gordis joining us live from Jerusalem over ZOOM at Noon, Wednesday, September 23rd.

-Rabbi Scott Bolton

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 Passcode: 613



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.

The Book of Job in the Age of Coronavirus with Francine Klagsbrun Zoom in an Thursday September 24, 7:00 pm

Zoom in on Thursday, September 24, 7:00 pm Zoom ID: 810 3170 3793; Zoom Passcode: 613



his year Francine Klagsbrun's Yom Kippur afternoon talk will be held on the Thursday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Join us for what makes our High Holy Days experience complete as Francine addresses and explores important texts of our tradition. During this unprecedented time, we need new reads of our classic sources. Francine will explore the profound messages from *The Book of Job*

(Sefer Iyov) that apply during the pandemic. The *Book of Job* raises profound questions about suffering and guilt. How do those themes relate to our world today? Are there satisfying answers? We are blessed each year with Francine's personal reflections, intellectual acuity, and her heartfelt love of Jewish sources.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA SEPTEMBER 2020



A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE FOUNDED 1989

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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.

President's Message

by Diane Okrent



he first song in the long-running musical, *The Fantasticks*, is the nostalgic "Try to Remember." You know it. "Try to remember the kind of September when life was slow and oh, so mellow..."

I don't think life was ever slow and mellow but, at this time, thinking about past Septembers does make me nostalgic. This September and the High Holy Days within it will be very different from anything we've ever experienced.

As you know, we at Or Zarua are planning simultaneous Zoom services for all and limited in-person services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We hope you will join us for these extraordinary High Holy Days, either on Zoom or in-person.

Nevertheless, I feel a sense of loss and I know I am not alone with this feeling. Even though I will be davening with family and friends via Zoom, I won't be davening in our usual way together with my Or Zarua family. I won't be together in person with my relatives. I won't be hosting holiday meals. While I know this temporary, it is a loss.

We have to remember that life, itself, is all about transition. We, and our circumstances, are constantly changing – evolving from one stage to another. As the recently departed Gail Sheehy wrote in Passages, "Changes are not only possible and predictable, but to deny them is to be an accomplice to one's own unnecessary vegetation." We must change, transition if you will, or we will stagnate. Just as each individual grows and matures, physically, intellectually and spiritually, so has Jewish practice, and Or Zarua itself, grown and matured. We have always been in transition.

Elul, the last month in the Jewish civil calendar, is a time of transition. We are conscious of shifting from our routine existence toward Rosh Hashanah. Each weekday morning, the shofar is blown and we read Psalm 27, "The Lord is my light and my help. Whom shall I fear?" The shofar blasts are intended to awaken us to search our hearts and draw us close to God in preparation for the coming Day of Judgment (Rosh Hashanah) and the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). We are expected to get out of the doldrums and get moving toward repentance and renewal. In the words of Maimonides, the message of the shofar is, "Awake you sleepers from your sleep, and

you that are in slumber, rouse yourselves. Consider your ways, remember God, turn unto Him."

Hadeish Yameinu K'Kedem- Renew Our Days! We say these words from Lamentations (5:21) after every Torah reading as we put the Torah back in the Ark. We pray that our relationship with the Torah and with God be constantly refreshed. These words are especially apt as we approach Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. In fact, these same words are in Sh'ma Koleinu, which we say every day from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur. "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 think these words are especially poignant as we approach Rosh Hashanah this year. I pray that we are all renewed and rejuvenated for a much better year ahead!

Wishing you and your family a very happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous 5781!

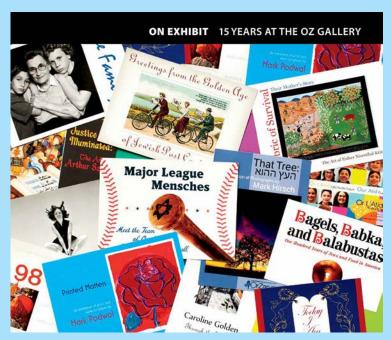
Shana Tovah!

Diane



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A Gift For The New Year On Exhibit: 15 Years at the OZ Gallery



t's here! Watch your mailbox! On Exhibit: 15 Years at the OZ Gallery has been published and will be sent to OZ members, a gift from Or Zarua and the Gallery Committee. Soon you'll have a chance to share in this luminous history of the space that became the OZ Gallery. On its 60-plus lushly illustrated pages are highlights of past exhibits in the Gallery and reminiscences by contributors, Gallery Committee members, Rabbi Scott Bolton and OZ's founding Rabbi Harlan Wechsler, Executive Director Helene Santo and Youth Education and Programming Director Sigal Hirsch. Produced under the direction of Gallery Committee Chair and curator Bobbi Coller, art director, artist and OZ Congregant Caroline Golden Ilberman and artist/illustrator Rudi Wolff, this commemorative volume is dedicated to our cherished member and congregant Charlotte Schwartz. On Exhibit is meant to be a celebration of the synagogue's past as it points the way to a vision of the future. We hope you will enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed creating it. Shana tovah!

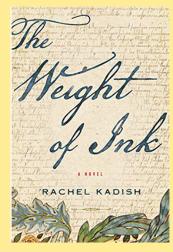
-Bobbi Coller and Gerry Solomon

Or Zarua Book Discussions

The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish To be led by: Pat Davidson Sunday, October 18, 7:00 pm Zoom ID: 840 2954 6173 Zoom Password: 613

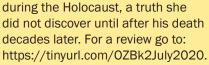
https://tinyurl.com/OZB1July2020.

ur October selection. The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish is 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:

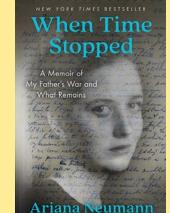


When Time Stopped by Ariana Neuman Sunday, December 6, 7:00 pm Meeting information will be available in a future issue of the OZ Newsletter.

he selection for December, When Time Stopped, a memoir by Ariana Neuman, unfolds the amazing account about her father's miraculous survival



If you are willing to be a discussion leader for When Time Stopped, please contact Nora Yood via email: nbmjdy@gmail.com).



Please forward any recommendations for additional book discussions to Nora Yood (nbmjdy@gmail.com).

Wired for Inspiration: Three Days of High Holy Days at OZ Sunday, September 6; 7:00–8:00pm Zoom ID: 823 7110 6344; Passcode: 613

n Sunday evening, September 6, at 7:00 pm—one week before Selihot and two weeks before Rosh HaShanah—you are invited to join Rabbi Bolton for a Zoom Lecture titled Wired for Inspiration: Three Days of High Holy Days at Or Zarua 5781. Rabbi Bolton will discuss sacred experiences in virtual space, as well as the halakhic considerations

involved in allowing for ZOOM minyans. He will address the question of why we are we breaking Jewish law for three days of Zoom Streaming on the High Holy Days. Achieving kavannah, inspiration and intention, through an electronic interface is not always easy, and suggestions for creating prayer-space at home will be discussed.

Order Your Etrogim and Lulavim

The joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Friday evening, October 2. 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. Note that this year we we not be able to share lulavim and etrogim at in-person services; you will need to order your own set this year for home or any services you may attend.

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 Hashanot, \$5.00 each



To place an order go to your ShulCloud account or click this link:

https://orzarua.shulcloud.com/form/lulav--etrog.html.

Orders must be completed by midnight on Monday, September 21; orders cannot be processed without payment. Contact Deborah Wenger via email (dwenger@orzarua.org) with questions. You will notified by email when your order is ready to be picked up..

Selihot Saturday night September 12, 8:00 pm

To attend Selihot via Zoom you will need to preregister using the following link:

https://tinyurl.com/OZSelihot2020

earn 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).

Programming for Sukkot will be published in the October issue of the OZ Newsletter

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. 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 such as 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 at the end of morning services as well. 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. 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)

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High Holy Day Services 5781/2020 Register for Zoom services by Thursday, September 10 Link to Register: https://tinyurl.com/OZ-HHD-2020

his year, High Holy Day services at Or Zarua will be held via the Zoom platform. To attend services via Zoom, you will need to register by Thursday, September 10 using the link: https://tinyurl.com/OZ-HHD-2020

When you register, you will be asked to enter an email address; that email address is specific for your registration. Your registration will work on only one device (computer, smart phone, table, or similar device). If you require additional links for guests or for family members using different devices, each must register individually. Once the registrations have been submitted, please contact Deborah Wenger (dwenger@orzarua.org) and provide their email addresses so we will know to approve the registrations.

This year we are not charging a fee for your friends and relatives, but, of course,

donations to OZ are welcome!

In order to successfully register for High Holy Day services via Zoom at Or Zarua, you must be a member in good standing. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so before registering for Zoom services. Direct questions about membership to Helene Santo (hsanto@orzarua.org).

If you have submitted preferences for inperson High Holy Day services, the OZ office will let you know which, if any, services you may attend. Please note that choosing the in-person services does not guarantee a reservation. If you have submitted your in-person preferences, you will still need to register for Zoom services as described above for those services you are not attending.

Information regarding youth programs for the High Holy Days can be found on page 7.

High Holy Day Services 5781/2020

Erev Rosh Hashanah Friday, September 18 Minhah/Ma'ariv: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

First Day Rosh Hashanah Saturday, September 19 Shaharit: 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Second Day Rosh Hashanah Sunday, September 20 Shaharit: 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Erev Yom Kippur Sunday, September 27 Kol Nidre: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Yom Kippur Monday, September 28 Shaharit: 10:30 am-12:00 pm Minhah/Yizkor: 2:00-3:30 pm Neileh: 6:00-7:30 pm

Tashlikh

his year we are not able to follow our custom of gathering for Tashlikh in Central Park. Instead we will be circulating a sheet describing the liturgy so that you can perform Tashlikh on your own. Be sure to find a spot that is a safe distance from others and use the liturgy to perform Tashlikh. On the 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah, at 4:00 pm, in Carl Schurz Park, we will distribute the Tashlikh liturgy after the sounding of the **Shofar in the Streets** (see information at left).

Tashlikh can be performed throughout the Days of Repentance between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (not on Shabbat or Yom Kippur); so you can take the liturgy and your bread crumbs to a body of water anytime during the week!

Shofar In The Streets Sunday, September 20, 4:00 pm



he East Side Jewish Communities invite you to experience Shofar in the Streets. Hear the shofar on the second day of Rosh HaShanah from your windows and balconies, or, meet with us on the streets! Wear your mask and maintain the rules of social distancing as the shofars are sounded by East Side synagogues.

For more information and for a list of the venues or to view or downlaod a full size copy of the flyer at left, click on flyer use the following link:

https://tinyurl.com/Shofar2020Streets.

Mahzor: High Holy Day Prayer Book



his year, everyone will need a mahzor of his or her own, whether one is participating through ZOOM or in-person (by reservation only).

If you ordered a **Mahzor Lev Shalem** through

Or Zarua, you can pick it up at the synagogue on Wednesday, September 9, between noon and 4 pm or on Thursday, September 10, between 10 am and 4 pm.

If you would like to use the Mahzor Lev Shalem on an electronic device, please download the ISSUU app. You will need a code that we hope to have soon. This code can be used from multiple devices by logging in to the ISSUU app with the same account on each device. Or Zarua has paid for one code per member unit. Please do not share the code with people who will not be using your ISSUU account.



Early Childhood Programs

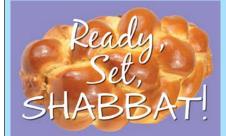


Mondays, 10:00-10:45 am

Start your little one's day the happy & healthy way with song, dance, stories, bubbles, puppets, instruments & more!

Parents, grandparents and caregivers join us as we learn simple Hebrew, Jewish values, and favorite tunes!

Shalom Sing Along is in partnership with PJ Library and Tkiya.



Fridays, 10:00-10:45 am

Get ready for Shabbat with all your senses! Parents, grandparents and caregivers, join Sigal as we get in the Shabbat mood with little ones through challah baking, puppets, story time, sensory experiences and more. Focus on family and being together as we unplug before Shabbat.

Ready, Set, Shabbat is in partnership with PJ Library.

Sign up for Early Childhood Programs at OZ at:
https://tinyurl.com/OZ-EC-2020 or on Kidpass.

Introducing Or Zarua's NEW After-School Programs

For children from all educational backgrounds public school, private school, Jewish day school
OZ Members enroll for free if you "bring a friend" to class!



Tuesdays, 4:00-4:45 pm

Get ready to move with NaZoOZ! Dance, jump, run and play with Sigal in this high-energy experience.

Featuring all sorts of movement activities - including dancing, yoga, stretching, interactive games and more— NaZoOZ is an **ivrit b'ivrit** program, with Hebrew music and instruction.

Children with all levels of Hebrew comprehension are welcome to participate. Even beginners will be understanding and even speaking Hebrew in no time!

For Kindergarten-5th Grade students.

NaZoOZ will meet virtually, at least through December.

Each family will receive one complimentary NaZoOZ t-shirt with a registration, and can order additional t-shirts for \$25/shirt.

Families can sign up for one semester or the whole year.



Thursdays, 4:00-4:45 pm

Time to get cooking with Aleph-Bet Cooking and Cookies!

Cook and bake your way from Aleph-to-Tav with delicious alphabetical confections. With Sigal's instruction, you'll learn new recipes and new Hebrew words each week.

Kids kindergarten and older are welcome. Younger children will require adult participation or supervision.

Bring the joy of Jewish and Hebrew baking into your home with this new virtual after-school program! Ingredient and supplies lists will be provided in advance, along with information about where to purchase special supplies when needed.

Families can sign up for one semester, the whole year, or drop in for one class. \$10/class. See below for semester and year rates.

Please note all registration fees are per household. Families can enroll multiple children for one fee.

For Member Families (be sure to log into shulcloud for member rates):

\$100 for one semester (September - December or January-June) \$180 for the full year (September-June)

FREE if you "bring a friend" (if a friend you refer to the program signs up)
Contact Sigal before registering if you will be referring a friend for a discount code.

For non-Member Families:

\$120 for one semester (September - December or January - June) \$215 for the full year (September - June)

Refer a friend to a program and sign up for free if they register for that class!

Sign up by Friday, September II.

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Celebrate The High Holy Days with Or Zarua

Zoom Family Learning Experience for the High Holy Days

Get ready for the High Holy Days with Rabbi Amy Bolton! Rosh HaShanah: Sunday, September 13, 11:00 am Yom Kippur: Sunday, September 27, 11:00 am

My Home, God's Home: Creating Physical and Spiritual Spaces: Join us on Zoom as we gather together to prepare for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. We will explore how we build our physical and spiritual homes, what it means to create a home for God, and how this year poses both unique challenges and unique opportunities in our celebration of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. FLEX will include group learning, small discussions in breakout rooms, singing, and more. This year especially we need community, let's usher in 5781 together!

All are welcome, including non-members, to participate in this family learning experience for the High Holy Days.

Advance registration required; use the links, below.

Upon registering, you will receive Zoom information.

For Rosh HaShannah: https://tinyurl.com/RHFLEX For Yom Kippur: https://tinyurl.com/YKFLEX

Or L'Atid High Holy Day Video Library

As parents join OZ High Holy Day services via Zoom, set your kids up with our High Holy Day videos for kids! Check out our library on the OZ YouTube page for content for kids of all ages. Connect on the holidays, and enjoy the videos before and after chag!

High Holy Day Story Time: For Little Ones

Sunday, September 13, 5:00 pm

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are invited to join us with your little ones for a High Holy Days Story Time! Get ready for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with stories, songs, movement and more. Register at https://tinyurl.com/HHDStoryTime. Upon registration, you will receive an employed the Zoom information.

For children birth to age 5. Older siblings and friends are welcome.

Shofar in the Streets: Family Gathering and Tashlich

2nd Day Rosh HaShanah Sunday, September 20, 3:00 pm

Families are invited to gather together in Carl Shurz Park before the first ever Shofar in the Streets! See friends on the holiday and participate in a short self-guided activity. Be sure to bring your breadcrumbs so that you can throw them into the river as you do Tashlich, before we hear the blasts of the Shofar!







Photographs: Our Virtual Trip to Israel was a blast! We finished the summer with a trip to Eilat, where we went snorkleling and made beautiful fish. Then we took a trip up north and made fresh labneh and salsa. Yum!



Hebrew School at Or Zarua

Hebrew School starts Monday, September 14!

Visit

orzarua.org/or-latid/hebrewschool/

for more information.

Sign up at https://orzarua.shulcloud.com/form/2020-2021-hebrew-school-registration.html

Schedule of Classes

Kindergarten-Second Grade Mondays, 4:00-6:00 pm

Third-Fifth Grade

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

B'nei Mitzvah Scholars (6th-7th Grade) Mondays, 6:30-8:00 pm

> Hebrew (8th & 9th Grade) Wednesdays, 6:45-7:30 pm

Start Spreading the Jews with Rabbi Bolton for Middle School and High School

Monthly Thursdays, 5:00 pm Cooking with Sigal, 6:00 pm Class with Rabbi Bolton

If you have friends or family who might be interested in our wonderful community, please connect them with Sigal Hirsch (212-452-2310, ext 15 or shirsch@orzarua.org), as we continue to grow our Or L'Atid programs and our Hebrew School classes.

From Compassion to Action: Volunteer with Or Zarua

"The reward for charity depends entirely upon the extent of the kindness in it." - Talmud Bavli

Help Homebound Seniors Stay Connected

Isolated seniors have been hit hard by the pandemic. Encore Community Services, a wonderful nonprofit in midtown Manhattan, is seeking 'Friendly Callers" to reach out on a weekly basis by phone to homebound seniors. They are serving 2,000 seniors and need more volunteers. Encore is offering a volunteer orientation on September 15 at 11:00 am for Congregation Or Zarua members. If you are interested please contact Gigi Verkaik at gigi@encorenyc.org for Zoom details or more information.





Photos above: Screen Shots of Zoom Presentations by Shira Shira Schiowitz "Elul Inspiration: Two Tanakh Study Sessions" at Congregation Or Zarua.

Hesed Committee Update

Rabbi Scott Bolton



ear Or Zarua, Let me call your attention to this important message from our Hesed Committee: At this time,

many of the organizations that we partner with and with whom our members volunteer have greater needs than ever.

"Hesed hafatzti!" (Hosea 6:6) The Prophet teaches us that God desires our pursuit of kindness. Abraham and Sarah were thought highly of by God, because they committed themselves and future generations to tzedakah. (Genesis 15:6)

The organizations we support allow us to fight racial injustice, food insecurity and help to provide the fundamental services people need to become self-sufficient or less dependent in the long-run. We encourage you to learn more about the organizations we are invested in; we feel they help us extend our hands and hearts and do the justice work that our tradition demands of us.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, OZ is not sending volunteers out at this time, but please read below to see how you can help.

New York Common Pantry: Our long-time partner, has remained open and is deemed an "essential service" during the COVID-19 crisis. They are seeing huge demand for their services. The best way to help is to make a donation through our Hesed Fund. You can learn more about the Pantry here: http://nycommonpantry.org

You can also donate needed pantry staples—particularly rice and pasta—via the Pantry's Amazon list.

NYCP has begun to take volunteers again, using a small number of volunteers on day-to-day projects. As restrictions are lifted additional volunteers will be needed. Currently they are not coordinating shifts, but if you are not at extra risk according to CDC Guidelines, don't have anyone at home who is at high risk, are 18-plus years old, and feel comfortable going in to volunteer—ideally from 9:00 am-1:00 pm if you are a heavy lifter or an all day shift (9:00 am-4:00 pm)—please reach out to Debby Lowenstein (dlowenstein@nycommonpantry.org) at the Pantry. Let her know that you are from Or Zarua.

They have masks, gloves and hand sanitizer and the facilities are cleaned regularly.

We are looking into other organizations that our members can volunteer with by phone or computer.

Finally, please consider making a donation to the OZ Hesed Fund for disbursement to our partners. You may learn more about them at the links below:

New York Common Pantry: http://nycommonpantry.org Met Council for Jewish Poverty: https://www.metcouncil.org

Project ORE:

https://edalliance.org/our-programs/community-centers/project-ore

Food Bank for New York City: https://www.foodbanknyc.org

UJA Federation of New York: https://www.ujafedny.org Leket, Table to Table (Israeli): https://www.leket.org/en/

Services at OZ via Zoom ZOOM Into Minyan ZOOM Into & Out of Shabbat

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

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



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

September 2020 • Elul 5780/Tishrei 5781

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 • 12 Elul 7:15a Shaharit	2 • 13 Elul 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 7:30p Elul Inspiration: Two Tanakh Study Sessions with Shira Schiowitz	3 • 14 Elul 7:15a Shaharit	4 • 15 Elul 7:15a Shaharit Minyan 5:45p Zoom into Shabbat 7:04p Candlelighting	5 • 16 Elul Ki Tavo 7:58p Shabbat Ends 8:05p Zoom Out of Shabbat
6 • 17 Elul 8:45a Shaharit 7:00p Wired for Inspiration: Three Days of High Holy Days at OZ with Rabbi Bolton No Bir'nana Rehearsal	7 • 18 Elul Labor Day 7:15a Shaharit	8 • 19 Elul 7:15a Shaharit	9 • 20 Elul 7:15a Shaharit 12:00p Opportunity to pick up Mahzor ordered through OZ (until 4 pm)	10 • 21 Elul 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Opportunity to pick up Mahzor ordered through OZ (until 4 pm)	11 • 22 Elul 7:15a Shaharit 5:45p Zoom into Shabbat 6:53p Candlelighting	12 • 23 Elul Nitzavim/ Vayelech 7:48p Shabbat Ends 8:00p Selihot
13 • 24 Elul 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit 11:00a Rosh HaShanah Family Zoom 5:00 p High Holy Day Story Time (For Little Ones) 7:00p Elul Chaburah: A Letter to My Grandchildren with Dr. Barry Coller No Bir'nana Rehearsal	14 • 25 Elul 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 10:00 Shalom Sing Along Hebrew School Begins 4:00p Hebrew School: K-5th Grades 6:30p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars: 6th-7th Grades	15 • 26 Elul 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 11:00a Encore Orientation (Hesed Seniors Program) 4:00p NaZoOZ	16 • 27 Elul 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School: 3rd- 5th Grades 6:45p 8th-9th Grade Hebrew	17 • 28 Elul 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 4:00p Aleph-Bet Cooking & Cookies	18 • 29 Elul Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 10:00a Ready, Set, Shabbat 6:00p Erev Rosh Hashanah Services 6:40p Candlelighting	19 • 1 Tishrei Rosh Hashanah I 10:30a Shaharit for Rosh Hashanah Light Candles after 7:34p
20 • 2 Tishrei Rosh Hashanah II 10:30a Shaharit for Rosh Hashanah 3:00p Family Program: Shofar in the Streets 4:00p Shofar in the Streets 7:33p Rosh Hashanah ends No Bir'nana Rehearsal	21 • 3 Tishrei Tzom Gedaliah 5:30a Fast Begins 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 10:00 Shalom Sing Along 4:00p Hebrew School: K-5th Grades 6:30p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars: 6th-7th Grades 7:24a Fast Ends	22 • 4 Tishrei 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 4:00p NaZoOZ	23 • 5 Tishrei 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 12:00p Tshuvah Lecture: with Dr. Daniel Gordis 4:00p Hebrew School: 3rd- 5th Grades 6:45p 8th-9th Grade Hebrew	24 • 6 Tishrei 7:15a Selihot & Shaharit 4:00p Aleph-Bet Cooking & Cookies 7:00p The Book of Job in the Age of Coronavrus with Francine Klagsbrun	25 • 7 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Ready, Set, Shabbat 5:30p Zoom into Shabbat 6:28p Candlelighting	26 • 8 Tishrei Shabbat Shuva Ha'azinu 7:22p Shabbat Ends 7:30p Zoom Out of Shabbat
27 • 9 Tishrei Erev Yom Kippur 8:45a Selihot & Shaharit 11:00a Yom Kippur Family Zoom 6:00p Kol Nidre 6:25p Fast Begins No Bir'nana Rehearsal	28 • 10 Tishrei Yom Kippur 10:30a Yom Kippur Shaharit 2:00p Minhah/Yizkor 6:00p Neilah 7:19p Fast Ends No Hebrew School	29 • 11 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p NaZoOZ	30 • 12 Tishrei I 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School: 3rd- 5th Grades 6:45p 8th-9th Grade Hebrew	1 Oct • 13 Tishrei 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Aleph-Bet Cooking & Cookies	2 Oct • 14 Tishrei Erev Sukkot 7:15a Shaharit 5:30p Zoom into Shabbat & Sukkot 6:16p Candlelighting	3 Oct • 15 Tishrei Sukkot First Day Light Candles after 7:11p (Additional information regarding Sukkot will be published in the October issue of the OZ Newsletter)

Be sure to check the Or Zarua Website (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.

The Or Zarua Community

Fund contributions received between July 11, 2020 and August 14, 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) for details.

Help Keep Our Daily MinyanStrong Contact Sheldon Adler: sadler@skadden.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.

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

Or Zarua's Memorial Wall

via email: OZYoungPros@gmail.com.

For information about plaques for our Memorial Wall, please contact Helene Santo at 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.



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 paying online. 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 will be sending out mailings again! 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.

To help Or Zarua please contact Helene Santo at: 212-452-2310, ext 14 or hsanto@orzarua.org.





Membership Renewal

Letters regarding renewal of membership at Or Zarua have been sent by email. Please contact Helene Santo by email (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 Shaharit minyan.
Contact Sheldon Adler:
sadler@skadden.com

Editor's Note

As with the recent issues of the OZ Newsletter 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.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

SEPTEMBER 2020

Sing Out With Bir'nana!



andemic schmandemic! Bir'nana, Or Zarua's a cappella group, has been meeting via Zoom to learn new music, revisit our oldies but goodies, and keep up the musical community we've built over the last seven years. We're on hiatus now, but virtual rehearsals will resume after the holidays. If you love to sing—and that's the only qualification—please join us. For more information, contact Rabbi Amy Bolton (rabamy@gmail.com) or Dore Hollander (dore.hollander@gmail.com).