

Selihot Services to be Held on Saturday Evening, September 4

Tisha B'Av has come and gone, which means that the High Holy Days are not far behind. The month of Elul, which precedes Rosh Hashanah, is a period of repentance. Although there are different minhagim as to recitation of selihot, the traditional Ashkanazi custom is to recite selihot beginning with the first day of the week (Saturday evening) in which Rosh Hashanah falls, provided that four days are left before Rosh Hashanah.

Or Zarua will continue its tradition of commencing our commemoration of the Yamim Noraim with selihot series on Saturday evening, September 4th. Rabbi Wechsler will speak on *Mystical Repentance* starting at 9:00 p.m., followed by services at 10:00 p.m. The selihot prayers focus us on the upcoming Days of Awe and the challenge of Teshuvah awaiting each of us. It is a beautiful service, and we encourage you to attend, especially those of you who may not have participated in this service in prior years.

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Charlie Sherman New Hebrew School Director

Charlie Sherman, long-time favorite teacher in Or Zarua's Hebrew School, has been chosen to succeed Michelle Schaerf as Director of the school.

Originally from suburban Minneapolis, MN, Charlie moved to New York to attend the Jewish Theological Seminary and Columbia University's Joint Program. He graduated from the Joint Program with a B.A. in Bible from JTS and a B.A. in Comparative Religion from Columbia. Following that, Charlie received the Sylvia C. Ettenberg fellowship in Jewish Education at the Seminary's William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education, which awarded him his M.A.

Charlie currently teaches second and fifth grade Jewish Studies and third and fifth grade Hebrew at the Rodeph Sholom School. Over the past three years he has taught the Bet, Hey, Vav and High School Ethics classes at Or Zarua's Hebrew School. In addition to teaching, Charlie has designed curriculum at the Seminary's Melton Research Center for Jewish Education and at the Board of Jewish Education's Learning Center.

A former counselor at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin, many of our congregants have benefited from Charlie's Bar and Bat Mitzvah tutoring. He led High Holy Day Junior Congregation Services this past year.

Why does a person go into Jewish education we asked our new Director? "My initial inspiration to pursue a career in Jewish Education came from my work as a teacher at the Shabbat School of my hometown synagogue, B'nai Emet, in Minneapolis. Everything seemed to fall into place after that."

We welcome Charlie Sherman to Or Zarua in this new role and look forward to spending wonderful years together with him and his wife Ellie.



A sad and a happy day as Rabbi Wechsler (left) and Charlie Sherman (right) present Michelle Schaerf (center) with a parting gift on the last day of Hebrew School, May 1999.

OZY Youth Services

Every Shabbat morning, Or Zarua holds two services for its youngest congregants. One service is for children two to five years old and their parents; the other is designed for children ages six to nine. Both services run from 11:00 a.m. to approximately 12:15 p.m. (The six to nine service will not be held during the month of August.)

Our Or Zarua Youth (OZY) services concentrate on many themes over the course of each year. The children participate in various Shabbat tefillot (prayers) at each service, they hear about the torah portion of the week, sing and dance, and enjoy Shabbat games and activities. The children look forward to a special kiddush together, and are always eager to join the main congregation on the bima for *Ayn Keolohainu* and *Adon Olam*. Our warm and innovative teachers always welcome children visiting Or Zarua as well as synagogue regulars. If you and your children have never come to one of the OZY services, give it a try next Shabbat!

USHERS NEEDED FOR SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

No experience
necessary – just a
smile and good feet

Please call Enid
Menzies in the
Or Zarua office
(410-6041)

Travel to Israel on Internet Wings

by E. Philip Isaac

Thanks to the internet, members of Or Zarua can now have the sounds and voices of Israel delivered into their homes and offices. As other radio stations from around the world have been doing for a while, a number of Israeli radio stations are now broadcasting live on the internet. The quality of the broadcasts range from mono to stereo and with one Tel Aviv station you can even see a live picture of the studio. The vast majority of broadcasts from Israel are in Hebrew but even for those whose Hebrew is a bit rusty, the sounds of music from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv cut right through all language barriers.

To tune in to Israel all you need is a personal computer equipped with a sound card, speakers and an internet connection. The next requirement is a virtual "radio" which is available at no charge from Real Networks, a principal maker of the software which allows audio and video surfing. To obtain the Real Networks player, aim your browser to www.real.com and look for the free version of the Real Player G2. If you are a real gadgeteer, you can even pay for a fancy player with a stereo equalizer and all kinds of other virtual bells and whistles. Never worry, however, the plain old vanilla player is excellent and produces excellent sound. Fill out the usual download form and download the player to your PC and then click on the downloaded file to install the program. The downloading time is relatively fast by internet standards and the installation of this software is user friendly even if the user is not a certified computer maven.

With the hardware and software ready to take you across the miles, one of the best places to locate Israeli ra-

dio stations is at www.comfm.com, a web site that specializes in connecting you to audio and video web events all over the world. After landing at comfm.com, click on "live radios" and then click on the Israeli flag to take you to the list of Israeli stations. There you will find listed Kol Israel (Reshet Bet), Radio 10 (a religious Jerusalem station), Radio 100 FM (a popular Tel Aviv area station), Radio Haifa (a local station in the north), and Radio Tel Aviv 102 FM (another Tel Aviv station). While Arutz7 (the pirate radio ship) is listed, the listed link may not work. Click on the "Real Audio" icon to the right of the station of your choice and, if all works as it should, a stream of bits and bytes will arrive at your computer activating your Real Player and, within a few moments, your pc will transport you to the sounds of Israel. Get some falafel and chumus and you can complete the experience. Bon voyage.

(Editor's note: The Isaac family joined Congregation Or Zarua in August 1993.)

Congregation Or Zarua

A Conservative Synagogue
Founded 1989



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Dr. Harlan J. Wechsler, Rabbi
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Newsletter Editor
Andrew Frackman

A Story About Or Zarua's Sister Congregation in Tel Aviv, Kehilat Sinai

On the morning of June 14, 1999, seven youth from the Enoch School (Tel Aviv) for individuals with moderate retardation, joined the ranks of Jewish youth who mark their passage from childhood to young responsibility, from passive to active Judaism.

This ceremony, unlike others, found its origins five years ago when Rinat Danziger, an enthusiastic occupational therapist, watched the first group Bar/Bat Mitzvah for children with special needs at Hartzfeld School in Holon. She vowed to herself that, given the opportunity, she would bring the Bar/Bat Mitzvah project to her school. Last year she became principal of Enoch School and this year made her dream come true. She was the moving force in bringing the Conservative (Masorti) Movement into her non-religious school, convincing staff and parents alike of the positive joy of non-coercive Judaism.

The children came from varied backgrounds, with differing levels of support from their parents. One girl's mother celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in Israel with an aliyah to the Torah. Another girl's parents almost backed out, thinking their daughter too old, at age 17, to be celebrating this life cycle event. Their teacher, Rene Jacobs, created, initiated, taught and gave of herself in order to reach out to this group of eager, enthusiastic students. She took them to an army base to distribute mishloach manot on Purim. They went to a hospital to give gifts to sick children, bought with money the group donated to tzedakah. She taught them that they are capable of giving, not only of receiving. As this dedicated teacher quoted during the ceremony: "I have learned from all my teachers, but I have learned the most from my students."

High Holy Day Tickets

Tickets for our High Holy Day services, together with information on special children's services and accommodations, will be mailed the end of August to all who have renewed their membership or joined the congregation for 1999-2000.

Although tickets are not sold separate from membership, members may purchase additional tickets for visiting family members at a cost of \$150 each.

If you have any questions, or wish to order additional tickets, please call Enid Menzies at the Or Zarua office, 410-6041.

Rabbi Roberto Arbiv, a veteran of these ceremonies, once again opened the doors of his Congregation Sinai, Midreshet Iyun- Or Zarua's sister congregation in Tel Aviv- to these special youth and their families. His fervent prayers and blessings reached every heart, bringing each congregant closer to the spirituality within us, to the acceptance of the uniqueness of each one present, from a girl's seven-week old sister to another's 87-year-old grandparents. The school staff were overwhelmed at this new side of the children they teach daily, unabashedly crying tears of joy and naht.

The Masorti Movement's History and Structure

The Masorti Movement in Israel was officially established in 1979 under the leadership of Rabbi Michael Graetz. Prior to that time there had been congregations throughout the country under the auspices of the United Synagogue of Israel and the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel. These two organizations joined to form the Masorti Movement. From only four congregations in 1972, the Movement has grown to include nearly 50 affiliated Masorti congregations around the country in all major cities and in a number of kibbutzim and moshavim, academic and religious centers, the Seminary of Judaic Studies (Machon Schechter), Kibbutz Hanaton and Moshav Shorashim, the NOAM Youth Movement, Ramah/NOAM camp and Nahal Garin.

The first Israeli Conservative synagogue Congregation, Emet Ve'emuna, was established in 1936 by a community of German Jews who identified with the positive historical school of Jewish thought. Most of the other Masorti communities, formed by core groups of immigrants from English speaking countries who were familiar with Conservative ideology and the positive expressions of a pluralistic society, have come to include families and individuals from a wide

(Continued of Page 8)

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

(All services will take place at the Ramaz Upper School)

Rosh Hashanah

Fri.	9/10	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	1 st Night Service
Sat.	9/11	8:30 am - 1:00 pm	1 st Day Morning Service
		7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Evening Service
Sun.	9/12	8:30 am - 1:00 pm	2 nd Day Morning Service
		5:45 pm - 6:30 pm	Tashlikh at Central Park Reservoir
		7:00 pm - 7:55 pm	Evening Service

Yom Kippur

Sun.	9/19	6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Kol Nidre Service
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1999

August

1999

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6 6:38 pm Minhah-Maariv 7:48 pm Candlelighting	7 9 am Shaharit, Re'Eh 6:48 pm Minhah/Seudah Shlishit/Maariv
8	9	10	11	12 Rosh Hodesh Elul	13 Rosh Hodesh Elul 6:30 pm Minhah-Maariv 7:39 pm Candlelighting	14 9 am Shaharit, Shofetim
15	16	17	18	19	20 6:22 pm Minhah-Maariv 7:29 pm Candlelighting	21 9 am Shaharit, Kee Tetze
22	23	24	25	26	27 6:13 pm Minhah-Maariv 7:19 pm Candlelighting	28 9 am Shaharit, Kee Tavo
29	30	31				

1999

September

1999

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 6:04 pm Minhah-Maariv 7:08 pm Candlelighting	4 9 am Shaharit, Nitzavim-Vayeilekh 9 pm Selihot Lecture 10 pm Selihot Service
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10 6-7 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:56 pm Candlelighting	11 8:30 am-1pm Rosh Hashanah morning service 7:54 pm Candlelighting 7-8 pm Rosh Hashanah evening service
12 8:30 am-1pm 2 nd day Rosh Hashanah morning service 5:45-6:30 pm Tashlikh/Central Park Reservoir 7-7:55 pm 2 nd day Rosh Hashanah evening service	13 Fast of Gedaliah	14	15	16	17 6 pm Minhah-Maariv 6:44 pm Candlelighting	18 Shabbat Shuvah 9 am Shaharit, Haazinu
19 5:41 pm Candlelighting 6:30-9:30 pm Kol Nidre	20 9 am-7:46 pm Yom Kippur	21	22	23	24 6 pm Sukkot 1 evening service 6:30 pm Candlelighting	25 9 am Sukkot 1 morning service 6:45 pm Sukkot 2 evening service 7:32 pm candlelighting
26 9 am Sukkot 2 morning service	27 Hol Hamoed Sukkot	28 Hol Hamoed Sukkot	29 Hol Hamoed Sukkot	30 Hol Hamoed Sukkot		

CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions listed were received on or before July 16, 1999

Capital Campaign contributions are not listed.

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Barry & Judith Schneider, in memory of Marcia Stenn, Enid Menzies' sister-in-law
Reed & Anne Schneider
Aaron Shelden & Diane Okrent, in memory of Enid Menzies' sister-in-law, Marcia Stenn
Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler
Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in honor of the birth of Ephraim David Kozodoy, son of Neal and Maud Kozodoy
William & Muriel Tannenbaum, in memory of Sidney Silverman's mother, Bertha (Bea) Silverman
Lynda Wertheim

Hesed Fund

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Lawrence & Leslie Rusoff, in loving memory of his parents, Jerome and Shirley Rusoff
Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in memory of Goldie Patt, mother of Miriam Wallerstein
Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in memory of Reba Shelden, mother of Aaron Shelden

Kiddush Fund

Marc & Joanne Ashley, in honor of the birthdays of their children, Josh and Rebecca
David & Robin Balik, in honor of son Steven's Bar Mitzvah
Jerome Blum, in honor of his aufruff and marriage to Carole Goodman
Barry & Bobbi Collier, in honor of the aufruff of their daughter Hilary and Leonid Kruglyak
Dan Cord & Leigh Hellner, in honor of their aufruff
Ran & Laurel Eisenbruch, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Adar Eisenbruch
Mark & Hannah Kinn, in memory of his mother, Sonia Kinn, on her first yahrzeit
Samuel & Francine Klagsbrun, in honor of the honorary degree presented to Fran by The Jewish Theological Seminary
David Kogut, in memory of his sister, Irene Kogut Laster, on her yahrzeit
David Kogut, in appreciation of the cards and calls he received while in the hospital
Steven & Margret Magid, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Lisa Magid
Steven & Margret Magid, in honor of the 36th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah
Ronni Myers, in honor of the anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah
Alan & Yafa Nadel, in honor of daughter Shira's Bat Mitzvah
The Okrent & Shelden families in memory of Meyer Okrent on his third yahrzeit
Keith & Ellen Pearlman, in honor of the naming of their daughter, Kathryn Jane Pearlman
Michael Stanislawski & Marjorie Kaplan, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ethan Stanislawski
Sabine Veit, in honor of being called to the Torah

Kosovo Relief Fund

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 Ilberman's bridge group, in honor of her
 marriage to Mel Ilberman

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 Ran & Laurel Eisenbruch, in honor of the Bar
 Mitzvah of their son, Adar
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 Wechsler
 Sander & Mechele Flaum, in memory of his
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 Arthur & Judy Robbins, in honor of Alisa
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 dency of Or Zarua
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 tude to Rabbi Wechsler
 Lynda & Toby Wertheim

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 Edward & Cynthia Brodsky, yahrzeit
 Edward & Cynthia Brodsky, in memory of her
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 Barry & Bobbi Collier, in honor of Fran
 Klagsbrun's receiving an honorary degree
 from the Jewish Theological Seminary
 George Dessart, in memory of Reba Shelden,
 mother of Aaron Shelden
 Daniel & Alisa Doctoroff, in memory of Goldie
 Patt, mother of Miriam Wallerstein
 Daniel & Alisa Doctoroff, in honor of Francine
 Klagsbrun receiving an honorary degree
 at JTS
 Daniel & Alisa Doctoroff, in honor of Sam
 Klagsbrun's leadership of the congregation
 as president
 Avrom & Arlene Doft, in honor of Arthur
 Rosenbloom's 65th birthday
 Ruth Drazen, in memory of Aaron Shelden's
 mother, Reba Shelden
 H. Paul & Lilyan Elkind, in memory of Reba
 Shelden, mother of Aaron Shelden
 Tibor Engel, in appreciation of Aliyot
 Michael Fandal
 Helen Ferszt, in memory of her father, Louis
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 Helen Ferszt, in memory of Reba Shelden,
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 Martin & Joanne Feierman, in memory of
 Aaron Shelden's mother, Reba Shelden
 Martin & Joanne Feierman, in honor of Adam
 Posner's acceptance to NYU
 Norton & Adair Goodman, with thanks for the
 Or Zarua mezuzah
 Norton & Adair Goodman, in memory of his
 mother, Esther Goodman, on her yahrzeit
 Samuel & Francine Klagsbrun, in memory of
 Miriam Wallerstein's mother, Goldie Patt
 Samuel & Francine Klagsbrun, in honor of
 Arthur Rosenbloom's 65th birthday
 Mendel & Rose Klepper, Yizkor
 Helen Lifton, in memory of Nettie Fishler
 Ralph & Phyllis Lusskin, in memory of her
 father, Morris Brown, on his yahrzeit
 Leonard & Harriet Mayer, in memory of his
 mother, Jean Mayer Thrope, on her
 yahrzeit, and in memory of his father, Wil-
 liam Mayer, on his yahrzeit
 Leonard & Harriet Mayer, in memory of
 Goldie Patt, mother of Miriam Wallerstein
 Frederick & Martha Mendelsohn, in memory
 of her father, Arnold Neustadter, on his
 yahrzeit

Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, in memory of
 Bea Silverman, mother of Sidney
 Silverman
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, for a speedy
 recovery of Stuart Shorestein's mother
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, in honor of Dr.
 Larry Norton receiving much deserved
 credit for his work
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, in memory of
 Milton Barlow, husband of Dr. Priscilla
 Winn Barlow
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, with thanks to
 their good friend, Dr. Enrique Ergas
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, with thanks to
 Hal Jacobs for his friendship and assistance
 with Yehudah's opera, "The Lost Child-
 hood"
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, in honor of Dr.
 Steven Harwin for his masterful healing
 work
 Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin, in memory of
 Marvin Davis' beloved parent
 Irwin Niedober, in thankfulness for Dr.
 Klagsbrun's good work
 Jacob & Esther Oberman, in memory of Aaron
 Shelden's mother, Reba Shelden
 Keith & Ellen Pearlman, in honor of the nam-
 ing of their daughter, Katheryn Jane
 Pearlman
 Steven & Wendy Podos, in memory of Henry
 Hertog, father of Roger Hertog
 Laura Resnikoff, in honor of Arthur
 Rosenbloom's 65th birthday
 Laura Resnikoff, in memory of Dr. Samuel
 Bloom
 Janee Ries
 Neil & Leona Schluger, in honor of the nam-
 ing of Keith & Ellen Pearlman's daughter
 Katheryn
 Neil & Leona Schluger, in honor of the birth
 of Ephraim David Kozodoy, son of Neal
 and Maud Kozodoy
 Sheldon & Arlene Simon and family, in ap-
 preciation for the aliyot for which they were
 called during the Passover holiday
 Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler, in memory
 of Aaron Shelden's mother, Reba Shelden
 Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in honor of the birth
 of Neal and Maud Kozodoy's son, Ephraim
 David
 William & Muriel Tannenbaum, in memory
 of Reba Shelden, mother of Aaron Shelden
 William & Muriel Tannenbaum, in honor of
 the birth of Neal and Maud Kozodoy's son,
 Ephraim David
 Miriam Wallerstein
 Lynda Wertheim & Toby Wertheim, in
 memory of their aunt, Lillie Levine
 Kirk Zachary & Susan Smirnoff, in memory
 of Reba Shelden, much loved mother,
 mother-in-law and grandmother of Aaron,
 Diane Okrent and Victor
 Eugene & Sherry Zuriff, in memory of Mrs.
 Schneiderman

The Masorti Movement's History and Structure

(Continued)

variety of backgrounds. Over half of the Masorti Movement's members are native-born and veteran Israelis. Masorti's members and affiliates number over 30,000 and over three times that number participate in Masorti's programs throughout Israel.

The Masorti Movement serves as a common ground for Jews of different backgrounds who favor a modern historical approach to the development of Jewish law and tradition. They have brought together native-born Israelis and immigrants, sephardim and ashkenazim, who are strongly committed to Jewish life and tradition in the Jewish state, in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance.

CONDOLENCES TO

Zita Bloom on the death of her husband, Dr. Samuel Bloom
Aaron Shelden on the death of his mother, Reba Shelden
Walter Squire on the death of his mother and our member, Helen Squire

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Barry & Bobbi Coller on the June 6th wedding of their daughter, Hilary, to Leonid Kruglyak
Mina Greenstein on the engagement of her son, John, to Rebecca Rubel. Their wedding date is scheduled for this coming October 2nd in Boston.
Francine Klagsbrun, recipient of an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary
Neal & Maude Kozodoy on the May 30th birth of their son, Ephraim David
Yaakov & Robert Shechter on daughter Mikal Finkelstein's getting her M.D. from Einstein
Alan & Adele Spickler on the birth of their first grandchild, Ethan Spickler Lerman, son of daughter Beth Lerman and her husband Craig.

Come Spend a Day Learning about a Summer experience that Lasts a Lifetime!



**Berkshires
Camper 2000 Day**

Parents and their Prospective Campers are invited to spend Sunday morning, August 8, 1999 at Camp Ramah in the Berkshires
For more information, call Paula Ittis at the camp office (914) 832-6622

We Welcome New Members

Joseph & Dorothy Bamberge
Phyllis Brochstein
S. Robin Blumenthal
Michael & Susan Caplan
Ira & Linda Greenblatt
Daniel Cord & Leigh Hellner
Kenneth Drucker & Leslie Berger
Miriam Frankel
Elizabeth (Betty) Goldberg
Charles Hesdorffer
Richard & Brooke Rapaport
Sandy & Rhona Schneiderman
Hugh Schweitzer & Lorraine Spector
Andrew Seidman & Dina Markson
Arthur & Nancy Sobel
Barry & Anita Weinstein
Stephen & Debra Weiss

Congregation Or Zarua

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ק"ק אור זרוע

