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Selihot Initiates High Holy Day Season

5759 to be Celebrated beginning Sunday, Sept 20

High Holy Days

The Jewish New Year for the year 5759 begins Sunday evening, September 20th.

Services for Rosh Hashanah begin at 6:00 p.m. As in previous years, the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services will be held at the Ramaz School, 60 East 78th Street. Shaharit for the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Monday, begins at 8:30 a.m. Prior to Minhah that afternoon, at 5:45 p.m., members of the Congregation will gather at the Central Park Reservoir for Tashlikh. Minhah for the first day and maariv will follow at 6:45 p.m. at the Ramaz School.

Services for the second day of Rosh Hashanah also will begin at 8:30 a.m. Minhah and Maariv for the second day will start at 6:45 p.m. at the Or Zarua Synagogue.

On Rosh Hashanah, we blow the shofar. It is a positive commandment to hear the shofar blasts. Rabbi Saadya Gaon stated that there were ten reasons for the blowing of the shofar: 1) because Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of creation; 2) because Rosh Hashanah is the first of the ten days of repentance; 3) to remind us of our stand at the foot of Mt. Sinai; 4) to remind us of the words of the prophets; 5) to remind us of the destruction of the Temple; 6) to remind us of the binding of Isaac; 7) so that we tremble and bow our will to the will of the Creator; 8) to remind us of the Day of Judgment; 9) to remind us of our hope for the gathering of the dispersed of Israel; and 10) to remind us of the revival of the dead.

The Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Shabbat Shuva, is one of the most elevated shabbots of the year. The Torah reading is Vayelech. The name for this

Shabbat comes from the haftorah that is read, *Hosea 14:2-10*, which starts with the prophet's instruction: "Return, O Israel, unto the Lord your God, For thou hast stumbled in thine iniquity."

Kol Nidre services will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening, September 29. Yom Kippur services, on Wednesday, will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Yom Kippur Fast concludes at 7:27 p.m.

Selihot Services to be Held on Saturday Evening, September 12

Or Zarua will continue its tradition of commencing our commemoration of the Yamim Noraim with selihot services on the evening of the Saturday preceding Rosh Hashanah, this year, Saturday, September 12. The traditional Ashkanazi minhag 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. Since Rosh Hashanah falls on a Sunday night this year, we will have our selihot service not the day before, but the prior Saturday evening, Saturday, September 12. Rabbi Wechsler will speak on *Mystical Repentance* starting at 9:00 p.m., followed with 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.

HIGH HOLY DAY TICKETS

Tickets for our High Holy Day services, together with information on special children's services and accommodations, will be mailed right after Labor Day to all who have renewed their membership or joined the congregation for 1998-1999.

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.

HOLIDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

All Services are at 127 East 82nd Street unless otherwise noted

Sat. 9/12 9:00 p.m. Selihot study session
10:00 p.m. Selihot service

Rosh Hashanah

Sun. 9/20 6:00 p.m. 1st Night at Ramaz Upper School
Mon. 9/21 8:30 a.m. 1st Day at Ramaz
5:45 p.m. Tashlikh at Central Park Reservoir
6:45 p.m. Evening service at Ramaz
Tues. 9/22 8:30 a.m. 2nd day morning Service at Ramaz
6:45 p.m. Evening Service at Synagogue

Yom Kippur

Tues. 9/29 6:00 p.m. Kol Nidre Service at Ramaz
Wed. 9/30 9:00 a.m. Yom Kippur Service at Ramaz
Note Fast concludes at 7:27 p.m.

Sukkot

Sun.. 10/04 6:00 p.m. 1st Night Service
Mon. 10/05 9:00 a.m. 1st Day Service
6:30 p.m. 2nd Night Service
Tues. 10/06 9:00 a.m. 2nd Day Service

Sun. 10/11 6:00 p.m. Shemini Atzeret Evening Service
Mon. 10/12 9:00 a.m. Shemini Atzeret Service (Yizkor)
6:15 p.m. Simhat Torah Evening Service
Tues. 10/13 9:00 a.m. Simhat Torah Morning Service

BETRAYAL

by Kate Axelrod and Billy Gentile

(Editor's Note: Last April, in honor of Yom HaShoah. Dr. Regina Weinreich spoke to our Hebrew School's Vav class, which included her daughter Nina Salpeter, about her parents' Holocaust experience and the effect it had on her family. Teacher Charlie Sherman asked his students to write about what individual countries could have done, yet did not do, to save the Jewish people during the Holocaust. Dr. Weinreich's powerful stories were the inspiration for the following poem by Kate and Billy. We thought you would be interested in reading it.)

Why?

Why does nothing happen?
A broken people,
fearful without a leader.
Shattered, like a covenant
lost or never discovered.

Fragile,

They walked with their last dream
of freedom,
Reaching, yearning, for a life they
once had;
never to be found again?

Love,

Families bound by everlasting
trust;
torn like paper in the claws of a
fierce tiger.

Trapped,

Like a dead rose baking in the sun.
Caught in the rails of brutal
hatred.

Moonlight,

Trying to seep through to no avail.
A dying people, screaming,
desperately, yet no one hears.

Responding,

With the silence of a hypocritical
nation;
banishing its neighbors,
like gasoline being torched by a
flame.

Trust,

Trust, broken like a glass bottle,
shattered against a callous ground.

Innocent,

People crying for help,
yet a country choosing to ignore,
to separate, like being crushed
by chariots in The Red Sea.

Humanity,

People drowning in the overpowering wave
of the sea of ignorance;
Storms of tears;
a hurricane of the soul.

Silence,

Silence of a nation.

Congregation Or Zarua*A Conservative Synagogue*

Founded 1989



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New York, NY 10128
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Dr. Harlan J. Wechsler, *Rabbi*
Samuel C. Klagsbrun, *President*

Newsletter Editor
Andrew Frackman

OR ZARUA HEBREW SCHOOL: PAST AND PRESENT

Michelle Jumbo Schaerf, Education Director

A front page article in the Tishrei 5752 (September 1991) issue of the Or Zarua Newsletter announced the opening of our Hebrew School in this way: *Seven wide-eyed youngsters began studies in our Hebrew School on September 12th, just two days after Rosh Hashanah. The classroom, on the third floor of the brand new building of the Nightingale-Bamford School on East 92nd Street was bright, cheery and climate controlled. Their teacher, Ms. Michelle Jumbo, served up apples and honey, traditional foods of the season, to remind her students that the study of Torah is sweet. Rabbi Wechsler came to greet each of the students. It was an historic new beginning for Or Zarua.*

There's no denying our school has changed and grown dramatically since that day. Now eight years later, Or Zarua Hebrew School educates nearly seventy students, ranging in age from five to fifteen years. When our doors open for the 1998-99 academic year this September, we will offer 11 different classes, ranging from kindergarten through tenth grade. Our qualified and diversified faculty will consist of Rabbinical School students,

(continued on Page 6)

Hebrew Courses Offered

Have you been meaning to study Hebrew but haven't had the time? Have you wanted to brush up on your basic knowledge but you haven't found the place?

Beginning the day after Labor Day, you will have the opportunity to either start from the beginning or to brush up in a seven session Crash Course to prepare you for the High Holy Days.

Beginners Hebrew

When? 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
September 8, 9, 10,
14, 15, 16 and 17.

Where? Or Zarua Synagogue building, 127 East 82nd Street.

The teacher?

Rabbi Stephen Shulman, Jewish Chaplain at Memorial Sloan Kettering, seasoned Hebrew teacher and wonderful rabbi.

Advanced Beginners Hebrew

A course for people who know the alphabet and who want to study the prayers and grammar useful in understanding the Mahzor of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

When? 8:15 to 9:15 p.m.
September 8, 9, 10,
14, 15, 16 and 17.

Where? Or Zarua Synagogue building, 127 East 82nd Street.

The teacher?

Again, Rabbi Stephen Shulman.

Those interested in the Beginners Hebrew should bring the book *Shalom Aleichem*. The Advanced Beginners text will be *Eyn K'Eloheynu*. Both books should be available at Feller's on Lexington Avenue between 81st and 82nd Streets.

For Or Zarua members there is no charge for either course. There is a \$100 fee for non-members. In either case, you must call the synagogue office (410-6041) to reserve a place for yourself.

Beit New York-Jerusalem

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1998

August

1998

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 9 a.m. Shaharit, Devarim 9 p.m. Tisha B'Av Service
2 6 p.m. Tisha B'Av/Minhah- Maariv Service	3	4	5	6	7 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:45 p.m. Candle Lighting	8 9 a.m. Shaharit, Vaethanan Shabbat Hazon
9	10	11	12	13	14 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:36 p.m. Candle Lighting	15 9 a.m. Shaharit, Ekev Shabbat Nahamu
16	17	18	19	20	21 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:26 p.m. Candle Lighting	22 9 a.m. Shaharit, Re'Eh Rosh Hodesh Elul
23 Rosh Hodesh Elul	24	25	26	27	28 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:15 p.m. Candle Lighting	29 9 a.m. Shaharit, Shofetim
30	31					

1998

September

1998

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	2 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	3 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	4 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:04 p.m. Candle Lighting	5 9 a.m. Shaharit, Kee Teitze 6:04 p.m. Minhah Service Seudah Shlishit/Maariv Service
6	7 Labor Day	8 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	9 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	10 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	11 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:52 p.m. Candle Lighting	12 9 a.m. Shaharit, Kee Tavo 9 p.m. Selihot Study Session 10 p.m. Selihot Service
13 6:30-8:30 p.m. Hebrew School Theology Class begins 7:30 p.m. Book Club <i>Rubber Bullets</i> by Yaron Ezrahi, at the Spergels	14 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	15 4-5:45 p.m. Hebrew School begins except for Aleph Class 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	16 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	17 4-5:45 p.m. Hebrew School Aleph Class begins 7-8 p.m. Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15 p.m. Advanced Beginners Hebrew Course	18 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:45 p.m. Candle Lighting	19 9 a.m. Shaharit, Nitzavim
20 6-7 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	21 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Service 5:45-6:30 p.m. Tashlikh/Central Park Reservoir 6:45-7:40 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Evening Service at the Synagogue, 127 E. 82nd St.	22 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah 6:45-7:40 p.m. 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Evening Service at the Synagogue, 127 E. 82nd St.	23	24	25 6: p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:29 p.m. Candle Lighting	26 9 a.m. Shaharit, Vayeilekh Shabbat Shuvah
27	28	29 6-9 p.m. Kol Nidre	30 9 a.m.-7:27 p.m. Yom Kippur			

Contributions

All contributions listed were received on or before July 31, 1998.

Capital Campaign contributions are not listed.

Book Fund

Donald Isler, in honor of David Kogut's birthday

Hesed Fund

Daniel & Alisa Doctoroff, in memory of Sonia Kinn, mother of Mark Kinn

Richard Gottlieb
Simon & Janet Katz
Charles & Ora Ramat

Hesed Food Fund

Marguerite Lederberg
Ralph & Phyllis Lusskin
Samuel & Ruth Perelson
Neil & Leona Schluger
Barry & Judith Schneider
Herbert & Lorraine Shapiro
Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler
William & Muriel Tannenbaum, in memory of Roger Ferszt, husband of Helen Ferszt
Lynda Faye Wertheim

Hevra Kadisha Fund

Helen Ferszt, in memory of her father, Louis Karp
Jacob & Esther Oberman, in memory of Roger Ferszt, husband of Helen Ferszt

Kiddush Fund

Philip & Catherine Isaac, in honor of the birthdays of their daughters, Amital and Ortal
Leonard & Rita Lefkort, in honor of the aufruf of their son, Maurice
Michael Katz and Meredith Golden, in honor of their aufruf and 8/9/98 wedding
Samuel & Francine Klagsbrun, in honor of their daughter, Dr. Sarah Klagsbrun, receiving her M.D. degree from the Albert Einstein School of Medicine
Rafael Kleiman & Natalie Sobel, in honor of their second wedding anniversary

Herbert & Judith Lukashok, in honor of their first wedding anniversary
Steven & Margret Magid, in honor of Steve's reading Haftarah on the 35th anniversary of his bar mitzvah
Reed & Anne Schneider, in honor of the birthdays of their daughters, Lauren & Mariel
David & Susan Shapiro, in memory of his mother Aida Shapiro, on her yahrzeit
Aaron Shelden & Diane Okrent in memory of Diane's father, Meyer Okrent, on his second yahrzeit

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Alexander & Susan Deutsch, in honor of the first anniversary of daughter Abigail's bat mitzvah
Samuel & Ruth Perelson, in gratitude for the honor of blessing the Torah in memory of Ruth's mother, Lillian Cohen, on her yahrzeit
Janean Ries, in memory of her father, Jonas Ries, on his yahrzeit
Renee Siegel

General Fund

Edward Abramson, in honor of Martin & Rochelle Spergel
Susan Arbuck, in honor of Dr. Larry Norton, a compassionate physician and a real "mensch"
Martin & Joanne Feierman, in honor of the 10th anniversary of Jeremy Posner's bar mitzvah
Martin & Joanne Feierman, in honor of the marriage of Mark Somerstein's son, David
Martin & Joanne Feierman, in memory of Roger Ferszt, husband of Helen Ferszt
Martin & Joanne Feierman, in memory of Shira Ruskay
Bernard Feuerstein, in memory of his brother, Joseph, on his yahrzeit
Bernard Feuerstein, in memory of his mother, Rae Feuerstein, on her yahrzeit
Stuart & Michelle Freedman, with thanks for the honors of Aliyot

Leon & Susan Heller, in memory of Roger Ferszt, husband of Helen Ferszt
Myron & Harriet Glantz, in memory of her parents, Lena and Joseph R. Singer
Ralph & Phyllis Lusskin, in memory of Phyllis' father, Morris Brown
Aaron Shelden & Diane Okrent, Yizkor
Aaron Shelden & Diane Okrent, in memory of Joyce Arnoff Cohen
Aaron Shelden & Diane Okrent, in memory of Roger Ferszt
Reba Shelden, Yizkor
Robert & Vera Silver, Shavuot Yizkor
Bernard & Leah Tolpin, in memory of Roger Ferszt
Bernard & Leah Tolpin, Yizkor

Hebrew School (continued)

graduate students in Jewish Education, and undergraduate students from the Jewish Theological Seminary, as well as a recent Seminary graduate, a Hebrew-speaking vocalist, and a Judaic artist.

Aiming to provide a substantive Jewish education in a highly involved afternoon school atmosphere, we have developed a strong and well-rounded curriculum over the past eight years. Subjects include Hebrew language and reading, prayer skills, holiday customs and ceremonies, Bible studies, Jewish history, and Jewish values. We have maintained small class sizes since the school's founding, which allows for intimate attention to each child's learning needs.

Our classes continue to be held at the Nightingale-Bamford School, with the exception of our three high school classes that meet in the library at our synagogue office, 1384 Lexington Avenue. School takes place primarily on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and one Shabbat morning a month; one of our high school classes meets on Sunday evenings!

If you are interested in further information regarding the Or Zarua Hebrew School program, please contact Michelle Schaerf, Education Director, at 1-917-913-5120

Etrogim and Lulavim for Sukkot

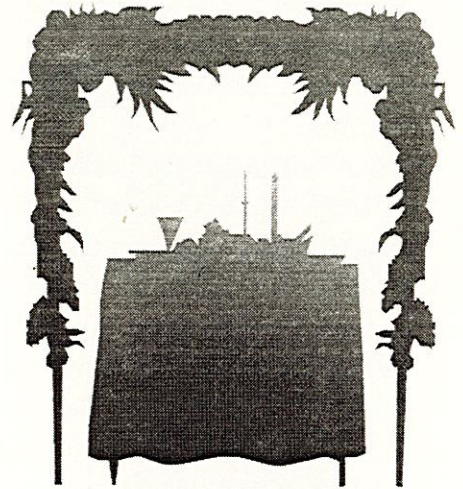
Here's one less thing to think about after Labor Day

The joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Sunday evening, October 4. (Details will be included in our next Newsletter.) If you are unable to get to an etrog market yourself, Congregation Or Zarua will arrange for the purchase of *Etrogim* and *Lulavim*. Three different sets, each certified for use on Sukkot, are available. All orders are delivered in complete sets with the four minim: Etrog in box, bagged Lulav with Hadassim and Aravot.

Standard	\$34
Choice (<i>Muvchar</i>)	\$40
Gorgeous (<i>Mehudar</i>)	\$52

Orders may be picked up at the Or Zarua office on Thursday afternoon, October 1, between 1 pm and 5 pm, or Friday, October 2, between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm.

Members may also call in orders no later than Wednesday, September 23.



Order Form: Must be received at the Or Zarua office by Wednesday, September 23

Congregation Or Zarua
1384 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10128
(212)410-6041

Please purchase (how many?) () *lulav* and *etrog* set(s)

Standard \$34 _____

Choice (*Muvchar*) \$40 _____

Gorgeous (*Mehudar*) \$52 _____

Total: \$ _____

My check, payable to Congregation Or Zarua in the total amount shown, is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____

Congratulations To

Barry and Bobbi Collier on the engagement of their daughter, Hilary, to Leonid Kruglyak. The wedding will take place next spring.

Michael Katz and Meredith Golden on their August 9th wedding

Maurice Lefkort and Faith Steinman on their June 28th wedding

Samuel & Ruth Perelson on the 3/25/98 birth of their fourth grandchild, Benjamin Perelson Gross. His parents are Lois and Stewart Perelson Gross. Marc Rosenblatt and Kathy Halton, and to Renee Rosenblatt, on the May 28th birth of twin children and grandchildren, Daniel Louis and Ann Ariel Rosenblatt

Condolences To

Cynthia Brodsky on the death of her mother, Edith Donner

Helen Ferszt on the death of her husband, Roger Ferszt

Susan Friedland on the death of her mother, Bertha Grossman

John Jankoff on the death of his mother, Edith Jankoff

Judith Lukashok on the death of her mother, Martha Berg

Book Club to Meet September 13

The Or Zarua Book Club will end its summer hiatus on Sunday, September 13th, at 7:30 pm, with a discussion of *Rubber Bullets: Power and Conscience in Modern Israel* by Yaron Ezrahi. This book, available in paperback and at the library, won a 1997 National Jewish Book Award. The New York Times said of it: "The best insight into the epic shifts now taking place in Israeli politics."

The meeting will be held at the home of Rochelle and Martin Spergel, 150 East 69th Street, who look forward to seeing you and any of your friends who are interested.

Please bring suggestions for books to

We Welcome New Members

Andrew Braiterman & Ronne Mandelker
Isaac & Marjorie Gad
Harvey Himmel and Beth Fisher
David & Judith Lewittes
Jeremy Posner
Renee Siegel

be discussed at future meetings. Some already proposed are: *Re-reading the Rabbis* by J. Hauptman; Isaac Bashevis Singer's *Shadows on the Hudson*, Philip Roth's *American Pastoral* and *Panthers in the Basement* by Amos Oz. If you have any questions, please call the Spergels at (212) 794-9305.

OZY SERVICES

Two Youth Services, the first for children ages 2 through 5 and the second for children ages 6 through 9 (no parents), are held on the lower level of the synagogue every Shabbat morning, beginning promptly at 11am and ending at noon. At the conclusion of the Youth Services, the children are escorted to the Sanctuary to join our congregants in the concluding hymns and Kiddush.

Congregation Or Zarua

1384 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10128

ק"ק אור זרוע

