



High Holy Days 5760

The Jewish New Year for the year 5760 begins Friday evening, September 10th. Services for erev 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 begins at 8:30 a.m. Minhah and Maariv will be at 7:00 p.m. Services for the second day of Rosh Hashanah also will begin at 8:30 a.m. Because the first day of Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat, Tashlikh will take place on the second day of the Yom Tov instead of the first day. We will meet at the Central Park Reservoir for Tashlikh at 5:45 p.m., followed by evening services at 7:00 p.m. All services this year will be at the Ramaz Upper School.

On Rosh Hashanah, we blow the shofar. It is a positive commandment to hear the shofar blasts on Rosh Hashanah. 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. *(Continued on Page 7)*

Or Zarua Celebrates the Joy of Sukkot

Five days after Yom Kippur, on Friday evening, September 24, the holiday of Sukkot commences. Sukkot is a festival rich in mitzvot, including the mitzvah of sukkah and the mitzvah of the lulav and etrog. It is a festival of joy to celebrate the completion of the Days of Awe, and one of the three pilgrimage festivals mentioned in the Torah.

Sukkot, occurring six months after Pesah, is integrally connected with the Exodus from Egypt. While Pesah celebrates the miracle of the departure from Egypt, Sukkot celebrates the forty-year journey through the wilderness that followed. The freedom of the Jewish

people came not merely from the moment of triumph while crossing the Red Sea, but also from the hard years of wandering in the desert, years in which the faith of the people was hardened and solidified. Without that profound faith, who could have survived the many years of desert wanderings. It is for this reason that some refer to Pesah as the holiday of faith, and Sukkot as the holiday of faithfulness. See Rabbi Y. Greenberg, *The Jewish Way: Living the Holidays* (Touchstone 1988), p.97.

In the time of the Temple, the crowning event of the holiday was the libation of water, the *nisuh hamayim*. The festivities associated with

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Etrogim and Lulavim for Sukkot

The joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Friday evening, September 24. 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 (*Muvchar*) \$42
Gorgeous (*Mehudar*) \$55

Orders may be picked up at the Or Zarua office on Thursday, September 23, between 10 am and 4 pm, or Friday, September 24, between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm.

Members may also call in orders no later than Wednesday, September 15.

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*) \$42 _____

Gorgeous (*Mehudar*) \$55 _____

Total: \$ _____

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____

Order Form: Must be received at the Or Zarua office by Wednesday, September 15

Congregation Or Zarua

A Conservative Synagogue
Founded 1989

ק"ה אור זרוע



Office: 1384 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10128
Tel: (212) 410-6041
Fax: (212) 410-2137
Synagogue: 127 East 82nd Street

Dr. Harlan J. Wechsler, *Rabbi*
Alisa Robbins Doctoroff, *President*

Newsletter Editor
Andrew Frackman

Talmud Class to Start After Simhat Torah

Rabbi Wechsler will resume teaching his weekly Talmud class on Wednesdays from 8 to 9:30 p.m. in the Or Zarua Beit Midrash, 1384 Lexington Avenue, beginning Wednesday, October 6th. This year the subject of study will be the sixth chapter of *Masekhet Berakhot*. This chapter is the Talmudic source for the Birkhot hanehenin, the large number of blessings – like “hamotzi” – which are said when enjoying the world. This is the subject: Reverence for God in a world of enjoyments.

The Talmud class is free to members and nonmembers alike, and may be joined at any time. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is not required.

Hesed Food Fund Needs Your Contributions

Congregation Or Zarua continues to feed Monday night dinner to 25 formerly homeless men living in a neighborhood shelter. Won't you please help by letting us have your contribution (as little as \$10 per month)? Make your check payable to Congregation Or Zarua, and specify that it is for the Hesed Food fund. Helping feed the poor is perfect preparation for the High Holy Days.

High Holy Day Tickets

High Holy Day tickets are currently being mailed to all new members and those who have renewed their membership for 1999-2000. Although tickets are not sold separately from membership, members may purchase additional tickets for visiting family members at a cost of \$150.

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

Selihot Initiates High Holy Day Season

Saturday evening,
September 4th

Time: 9 p.m.
Rabbi Wechsler will speak on
Mystical Repentance

10 p.m. - Service

Place: Temple Shaaray Tefila
250 East 79th Street
(entrance on 3rd Avenue)

Time is Running Out to Sign Up for 7-Session Hebrew and Mahzor Crash Courses

Rabbi Stephen Shulman —Jewish Chaplain at Memorial Sloan Kettering, seasoned Hebrew teacher and wonderful rabbi – will once again teach two courses: Beginners Hebrew and Introduction to the High Holy Day Mahzor.

Beginning the day after Labor Day, you'll have the opportunity to either start from the beginning or to brush up in preparation for the High Holy Days. Classes will take place at the Or Zarua Beit Midrash, 1384 Lexington Avenue, on September 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15 and 16. The Beginners Class is scheduled from 7:00 - 8:00 PM; the Intro to the Mahzor class from 8:15 - 9:15 PM. Beginners text will be *Shalom Aleichem*; the Intro course will use the Harlow *Mahzor*, the edition used at Or Zarua. Both books are available at Feller's, 1205 Lexington Avenue (between 81st and 82nd Streets).

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

HOLIDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Rosh Hashanah

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

Yom Kippur

Sun. 9/19	6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Kol Nidre Service at Ramaz
Mon. 9/20	9:00 am - 7:46 pm	Yom Kippur Service at Ramaz
Note: Fast concludes at 7:55 p.m.		

Sukkot

Fri. 9/24	6:00 p.m.	1 st Night Service at Temple Shaaray Tefila
Sat. 9/25	9:00 a.m.	1 st Day Service at the 92 nd Street Y
	6:45 p.m.	2 nd Night Service at Shaaray Tefila
Sun. 9/26	9:00 a.m.	2 nd Day Service at the 92 nd Street Y
Fri. 10/1	6:00 p.m.	Shemini Atzeret Evening Service at Shaaray Tefila
Sat. 10/2	9:00 a.m.	Shemini Atzeret Service (Yizkor) at the 92 nd Street Y
	6:00 p.m.	Simhat Torah Evening Service at the 92 nd Street Y
Sun. 10/3	9:00 a.m.	Simhat Torah Morning Service at the 92 nd Street Y

1999

Temple Shaaray Tefila
250 East 79th Street
(entrance on 2nd Ave)

September

1999

92nd Street Y
1395 Lexington Avenue

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
					6:04 pm Minhah-Maariv (Shaaray Tefila) 7:08 pm Candlelighting	9 am Shaharit, Nitzavim-Vayelekh (92nd Street Y) 9 pm Selihot Lecture 10 pm Selihot Service (Shaaray Tefila)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Labor Day	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor (1384 Lex)	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor Course	6-7pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (Ramaz Upper School) 6:56 pm Candlelighting	8:30am-1pm Rosh Hashanah morning service (Ramaz) 7-8pm Rosh Hashanah evening service (Ramaz) 7:54 pm Candlelighting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30 am-1pm 2nd day Rosh Hashanah morning service 5:45-6:30 pm Tashlikh/Central Park Reservoir 7-7:55 pm 2nd day Rosh Hashanah evening service (Ramaz)	Fast of Gedaliah 7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor Course	7-8pm Beginners Hebrew Course 8:15-9:15pm Intro to the Mahzor Course	6 pm Minhah-Maariv (Shaaray Tefila) 6:44 pm Candlelighting	9 am Shaharit, Shabbat Shuvah (92nd Street Y)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5:41 pm Candlelighting 6:30-9:30 pm Kol Nidre Service (Ramaz)	9 am-7:46 pm Yom Kippur Service (Ramaz)				6 pm Sukkot 1 evening service (Shaaray Tefila) 6:30 pm Candlelighting	9 am Sukkot 1 morning service (92nd Street Y) 6:45 pm Sukkot 2 evening service (Shaaray Tefila) 7:32 pm candlelighting
26	27	28	29	30		
9 am Sukkot 2 morning service (92nd Street Y)	Hol Hamoed Sukkot	Hol Hamoed Sukkot	Hol Hamoed Sukkot	Hol Hamoed Sukkot		

1999

Temple Shaaray Tefila
250 East 79th Street
(entrance on 2nd Ave)

October**1999**

92nd Street Y
1395 Lexington Avenue

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 6pm Shemini Atzeret service, Hoshana Rabbah (Shaaray Tefila) 6:19pm Candle Lighting	2 9am Shemini Atzeret service-yizkor (92 nd Street Y) 6pm Erev Simhat Torah Service (92 nd Street Y)
3 9am Simhat Torah Service (92 nd Street Y)	4	5	6 8pm 1 st Talmud Class (1384 Lex)	7	8 6pm Minhah-Maariv (Shaaray Tefila) 6:07pm Candle Lighting	9 9am Shaharit, Bereshit, Hebrew School Shabbat classes (92 nd Street Y)
10 Columbus Day	11	12	13	14	15 5:55 pm Candle Lighting & Minhah-Maariv (Shaaray Tefila)	16 9am Shaharit, Noah Bat Mitzvah/Andrea Gentile (92 nd Street Y)
17	18	19	20	21	22 5:46 pm Candle Lighting & Minhah-Maariv (Shaaray Tefila)	23 9am Shaharit, Lekh Lekha (92 nd Street Y)
24A 7:30pm Book Club/ Journey to the Millennium by Abraham B. Yehoshua	25	26	27	28	29 4:37 pm Candle Lighting & Minhah-Maariv	30 9am Shaharit, Vayera (92 nd Street Y)
31						

CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions listed were received on or before August 13, 1999

Capital Campaign contributions are not listed.

Hesed Food Fund

Donald Bernstein
Barry & Judith Schneider

Hesed Fund

Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler

Kiddush Fund

Michael & Meredith Katz, in honor of their
1st wedding anniversary

Herbert & Judith Lukashok, in memory of
her mother, Martha Berg, on her first
yahrzeit, and in honor of her daughter and
her children visiting from Los Angeles
Posner/Krulwich family, in honor of Leslie
Levison, with good wishes for her move
to Hartford

Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler in honor
of the 2nd birthday of their daughter Talia
Bernard & Leah Tolpin, in honor of his Bar
Mitzvah plus 50, and in memory of her
sister, Chana Ungar

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Eric Friedland

General Fund

Arthur & Willi Aeder, in honor of the birth
of Ephraim Kozodoy, son of Neal and
Maud Kozodoy

Shelley Binder, in memory of her beloved
father, Chaim Binder, on his yahrzeit

Helen Ferszt, in memory of her mother-in-
law, Eva Krigstein, on her yahrzeit

Elizabeth Goldberg, in memory of her son,
Ariel

Elizabeth Goldberg, with thanks for the Or
Zarua mezuzah

Omus & Jessica Hirshbein

Shirley Okrent, in memory of Reba Shelden,
Aaron Shelden's mother

Laura Resnikoff, in memory of Sharon Mor-
ris' mother, Lilly Savitsky

Leonard & Dorothy Rock, in memory of
Reba Shelden, Aaron Shelden's mother

Lisa Sayegh, in thanks for the aliyah in
memory of her father's yahrzeit

Laura Sloate

OZY Services

Two Youth Services, the first for chil-
dren ages 2 through 5 and the second
for children ages 6 through 9 (no par-
ents), are held every Shabbat morning,
beginning promptly at 11 a.m. and end-
ing 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.

Congratulations To

Shelley Doctors on the July 27th birth
of her grandson, John Richard Yoss.
Proud parents are Pamela and Eric
Yoss.

Uri and Dinah Evan for two major
events: The June 9th birth of their
grandson, Paul Joshua Horowitz,
child of their son Fred Horowitz and
his wife Arlene; AND the August
20th marriage of their daughter,
Tamar Evan, to Ayel Pikarsky.

Fred and Martha Mendelsohn on August
5th birth of the first grandchild, Lily
Johanna Mendelsohn Davis

Renato and Siu Ping Negrin on the April
18th birth of their daughter, Isabella
Ora Negrin.

Daniel & Suzan Rosen on the August
12th birth of their daughter, Mirina
Tzofia.

Or Zarua Book Club to Meet October 24

The Or Zarua Book Club will open
the fall season on Sunday, October 24th
with a discussion of *A Journey to the
Millennium* by Abraham B. Yehoshua.
Please call the office (410-6041) for the
location of the meeting, which will start
at 7:30 p.m.

We Welcome New Members

Craig & Marsha Basson
Evan & Tiffany Berger
Linda Eidelberg
Yitzchak & Jacqueline Frank
Robert & LouAnn Frome
Robert Gottesman & Trudy
Elbaum-Gottesman
Omus & Jessica Hirshbein
Robert & Miriam Karlin
Isaac & Sonia Kaufman
Neal & Beth Kotin
Joyce Schenkein
Sheldon & Arlene Simon

Condolences To

Phyllis Rosen on the death of her
mother, Rose Ortof

Phyllis Solomon on the death of her
mother, Adele K. Plovnick

Members, Reserve Now For Meals Under Our Sukkah

Members are invited to bring kosher
meals and enjoy dining in the garden
sukkah of the Synagogue office at the
following times:

Friday, Sept 24: Dinner after evening
services

Saturday, Sept 25: Lunch following
kiddush (which will
take place in the
sukkah)

Sunday, Sept 26: Dinner

Monday, Sept 27: thru Thurs., Sept. 30
Dinner only

Since space is limited, please call the
office (410-6-41) as soon as possible to
make reservations.

High Holy Days

5760 (Continued)

Since Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat, there will be no blowing of the shofar on the first day.

Kol Nidre services will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday evening, September 19th. Yom Kippur services, on Monday, will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Yom Kippur Fast concludes at 7:55 p.m.

Save the date: New Members Reception to Take Place November 4

You'll want to circle Thursday, November 4th on your calendar. That's the date for our New Members Reception, always a highlight on the Or Zarua social calendar. It's an opportunity not only to welcome our new members (defined as anyone who has joined the congregation since November 5, 1998, the date of last year's reception!), but to purely and simply socialize with one another in a warm home setting.

Invitations will be sent to all members early October. Letting the office know whether or not you'll be able to attend will be helpful in planning for food and drink.

OZ Celebrates Sukkot (Continued)

the nisuh hamayim were known as the simhat beit hashoe'vah, since the waters that were used in the ceremony came from the pool of Shiloah in the city of David. The intense power of the ceremony is reflected in the Talmud, Tractate Sukkah (53) (translation taken from E. Kitov, The Book of Our Heritage, vol. 1, p. 179):

"Men of piety and good deeds used to dance before them [the lamps] with lighted torches in their hands, and sing songs and praises. And Levites without number with harps, lyres, cymbals and trumpets and other musical instruments were there upon the fifteen steps leading down from the court of the Israelites to the court of the women, corresponding to the fifteen songs of ascents in their Psalms. It was upon these that the Levites stood with their instruments of music and sang their songs. Two cohanim stood by the upper gate which led down from the court of the Israelites to the court of the women, with two trumpets in their hands. When the cock crowed they sounded a teki'ah, a truah, and again a teki'ah. When they reached the tenth step they sounded a teki'ah . . . They proceeded sounding their trumpets until they reached the gate which led out at the East; they turned their faces from East to West and proclaimed: 'Our Fathers who were in this place (stood) with their backs toward the Temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the East, and they worshipped the sun toward the East, but as for us, our eyes are turned to the Lord.' Rabbi Yehudah stated, they used to repeat (the last words) and say 'we are the Lord's and our eyes are turned to the Lord'."

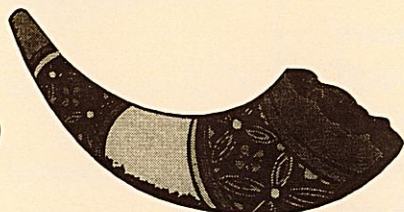
Our traditional, but somewhat less exotic, services will commence on Friday evening with Minhah and Maariv at 6:00 p.m. Shaharit services both days will start at 9:00 a.m., with Minhah and Maariv services at 6:45 on Saturday evening. Morning services will be at the 92nd Street Y. Evening services at Shaary Tefila on 79th Street. Please remember that on Shabbat we do not daven with lulavim and etrogim.

Each year, we build our congregational sukkah in the garden of the Synagogue office. Or Zarua's Hebrew School will decorate the sukkah during the day before the holiday. Please contact the office for further information.

Members of the Congregation who would like to bring kosher meals to the sukkah during Hol Hamoed may make reservations with the Or Zarua office. Because of space limitations and logistical considerations, we ask that you contact the office as soon as possible to make your reservations.

Shemini Atzeret commences on Friday evening, October 1, with services at 6:00 p.m. at Shaaray Tefila. Shaharit services, including Yizkor services, will be at 9:00 am on Saturday morning at the 92nd Street Y.

We will close our celebration of the holidays with Simhat Torah. The dancing and singing will start on Saturday evening, with services at 6:00 p.m. We will continue with Shaharit services at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. Both services will be held at the 92nd Street Y.



A new chapter...

The last service in Or Zarua's building on 82nd Street has taken place, closing a chapter in the life of our congregation. Unbelievably, 5 years have passed since we moved into the building. It has been a very productive time for us. We have grown (we are now a congregation of more than 350 members!) and changed, adding a Kabbalat Shabbat service, adult education offerings, and a Purim spiel among other programming. And though we had always intended to build a bigger space on the site, during the time that we have lived and grown within it, this old building – with all of its idiosyn-

crasies and inadequacies – has become our home, a part of us. It has been good to us and for us; it has enabled us to grown and live.

Now, after years of planning and fundraising, we are ready and excited for the new chapter to begin. If our congregation could flourish in a space that offered so little, just imagine what wonderful things will happen when our resources are so considerably expanded! When it is completed, our new home will rise 7 stories, housing our sanctuary, school, offices, library, social hall, and to top it all (literally!) a sukkah. With the contract signed for construction and

a loan contract not far behind, the process of building our new home is expected to start at the end of August. The contract anticipates a 13-month construction period – with any luck we will be back home on 82nd Street by the end of 2000.

While the Capital Campaign continues, we want to thank the many members of the congregation who have contributed their time, thought, creativity and care – and dollars – for making this new chapter possible. We eagerly look forward to celebrating what we will have accomplished together at our first Shabbat in the new building.

Congregation Or Zarua
1384 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10128

ק"ק אור זרוע

