

Or Zarua

ELUL/TISHRI/HESHVAN 5771

NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 23:1

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

Yom Kippur at the Kotel

by Alan Nadel

Editor's Note: Congregants Alan and Yafa Nadel spent the High Holidays in Jerusalem last year (5770). This note, which Alan sent as an email to his friends and family, was written shortly after Yom Kippur. As a prelude to the High Holy Days, it is being shared with the entire Or Zarua community.

I came to Israel for a family wedding and, at the last minute, decided to spend Yom Kippur at the Kotel. Yafa's family looked at me weirdly (which they often do) because I decided to take a hotel room near the Old City rather than to stay with them—sort of the Israeli equivalent of a New Yorker's view of tourists who go to Times Square on New Year's Eve (*l'havdil*).

It was an amazing experience. Because Israel already changed their clocks, Kol Nidre began at 5:10 p.m. With only a 10-minute speech, we weren't finished until 9:00 p.m. As is customary at the Kotel, there were many minyanim. I tried different ones (Iraqi, Yemenite, Hasidic), but gravitated to the Carlebach minyan. Needless to say, there was lots of singing and it was especially meaningful while standing in front of the Kotel. In fact one could hear the different singing of the different minyanim, everyone reaching up to the Kotel in their own way.

Although there were many people, it wasn't particularly crowded. Many of us (Israelis, Americans, Canadians, Europeans) started to talk to each other before and after services. Although I went there alone, I left with many new friends. Rather than the very serious atmosphere that one feels in the U.S., I found the mood to be an unusual one, consisting of joy, solemnity and group repentance. People spoke in the plural of helping each other rather than the singular that one

thinks of with personal repentance. Standing at the Kotel I could almost sense what it must have been like in the days of the Temple.

After we finished davening, a few of us decided to walk around Jerusalem. No traffic is allowed on Yom Kippur, so the streets were full of pedestrians, families on bicycles and teens with rollerblades. I walked many miles until almost two o'clock in the morning just to enjoy the total peace, silence and dark of the city.

The weather here has been wonderful (80+ degrees every day with blue, cloudless skies). Because of the total lack of shade at the Kotel, it was too hot to stand in the heat and sun all day. I spent the daytime services at the Carlebach shul in the Jewish Quarter. It was a wonderful and meaningful service with a combination of singing and chazanut. The good news is that we finished Musaf exactly at 1:00 p.m. The bad news is that Shaharit started at 4:20 a.m. (it goes without saying that I was late, as usual).

I spent the short break walking near the Kotel and around the Jewish Quarter watching a parade of people before returning to Minchah at 2:00 p.m. From everywhere came the sound of song and prayer of different minyanim. Total strangers were wishing each other a *G'mar Chatima Tova*, those wearing talit and kittel as well as the tourists.

Neila started about 4:00 p.m., so I returned to the Kotel. As usual there were about 20 minyanim with whatever flavor you wanted. I alternated between Bnai Akiva and some Hasidim. In addition to those of us davening, many local Israelis started to join us so it was quite packed by the time of the shofar-blowing.

Of course, no one finishes at the same time. Nevertheless, everyone was

blowing shofarim within a minute or two of each other. I stood and listened to them with my hands on the Kotel, feeling as if the sounds were going through me. We were finished by 5:50 p.m., with everyone singing *L'shana Haba'a B'Yerushalayim*. A group was handing out bottles of juice and water together with bread, rolls and muffins on the plaza behind the Kotel. There was singing and dancing everywhere throughout the Jewish Quarter.

In the 10 minutes I walked from the Kotel to Yafo Gate, the city had come alive once again. There were cars everywhere and the stores were open.

Next year in Jerusalem!

DINNER IN THE OZ SUKKAH

**Erev Sukkot,
Wednesday, September 22**

Services begin at 6:15 p.m.

Dinner promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Please make dinner reservations by noon on
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
at 212-452-2310, ext. 39
or www.orzarua.org

**\$38 adults; \$15 children aged 5-12;
No charge for children under 5**

ADDITIONAL HIGH HOLY DAY TICKETS
are \$360 each. To order, contact
Luisa Paulino at lpaulino@orzarua.org
or 212-452-2310, extension 10.

ק"ק אור זרוע

Congregation

OrZarua

A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE
FOUNDED 1989

127 East 82nd Street

New York, NY 10028

phone: 212-452-2310 fax: 212-452-2103

www.orzarua.org

DR. HARLAN J. WECHSLER, *Rabbi*ANDREW J. FRACKMAN, *President*ALAN NADEL, *Treasurer*HARVEY M. BRENNER, FTA, *Executive Director*ILANA BURGESS, *Youth Education Director*CHARLES SPIELHOLZ, *Newsletter Editor*

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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 Andrew J. Frackman

We are approaching another Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I wanted to share with you my thoughts on some goals for this upcoming year, my last as president.

First, this year I would like each of us to focus on greater engagement with Or Zarua. We define ourselves as a "participatory congregation." That does not mean participation by just a few. We also have affirmatively chosen to be an intimate community of faith. Being small has many advantages, but it also demands more of its congregants than some other larger synagogues might.

Most important for Or Zarua is active congregant engagement with our avodah and tefilah, which constitute our core purpose as a community of faith. We offer something of tremendous value to our congregants—the opportunity to lead services and read Torah. But, for this model to work, we need more of us actively to engage in our services—to read Torah, to attend our daily minyan, and, if possible, to lead services. It means that more of us need to attend our music and nusah classes, so that we can participate at this more demanding level, even if we are not leaders.

To continue to try to foster greater congregant engagement with our tefilah, we are going to continue our music and nusah classes with Joey Weisenberg this year. These classes are not just for experienced daveners. All congregants are welcome and all will benefit from participating. We intend to restart our Torah reading classes in order to train more of us to read haftarat and Torah. I would also like to promote Hebrew literacy, or at least proficiency, among all of our congregants. There are, of course, other places in New York City where one can learn Hebrew. But, I believe that part of our mission is to bring congregants closer to our tefilah. To do so requires some Hebrew language proficiency. I am interested in whether there is any support for such an effort in our community, or whether we should just leave it to other institutions in New York

City. We are also going to focus more intensively on empowering our young members and teens to carry more responsibility for participating in the leading of our service, certainly Torah and haftarah reading. Our ultimate goal is to increase the number of congregants who can and do participate actively in our services. If any congregant has an interest in reading a haftarah or Torah portion or in learning how to do so, please contact me and look for announcements about our classes.

We also need more of us to engage in our programming—not merely attending, but participating in the organizing and, if possible, funding of events. The greater the congregational participation in the organizing of these events, the more successful the events will be. This positive engagement will reward not only the community but also those of you who choose to participate in this proactive way. For those of you interested in getting involved in programming or other activities, please contact me or Sara Stone. We have many opportunities for involvement and are eager to expand the circle of those members who work on these projects.

Second, we need to continue to enhance our programming for families and teens. Some of this we have already implemented. But we need to attend to this with vigor. We will have more family-oriented Friday night services and dinners and more teen-led services this year, as they both proved successful last year. We can do more, with additional funding. If you have an interest in this part of our communal life, also please contact me.

Third, we are going to continue to try to raise our external profile. To that end, we are looking again at our website and our Facebook presence. Particularly with respect to the latter, we need a volunteer to assist us—that is, someone who is familiar with the medium. We are also busy revising our Hebrew School brochure and have a number of other external focused items on our agenda. I should add that the congregation is very strong.

We had a balanced budget again last

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OR ZARUA YOUTH HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES 5771/2010

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, September 9 (First Day)

10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

2-4 years old (accompanied by an adult)
Kindergarten-Grade 1, Grades 2-3,
Grades 4-6, Grades 7 and above

Sunday, September 10 (Second Day)

10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

2-4 years old (accompanied by an adult)
Kindergarten-Grade 1
Grades 2-3
Grades 4-teens, Special Service

Kol Nidre

Friday, September 17

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Grades 1-3 and Grades 4-6

Yom Kippur

Saturday, September 18

1:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

2-4 years old (accompanied by an adult)
Kindergarten-Grade 1
Grades 2-3
Grades 4-teens, Special Service

A playroom will be open during all services for very young children who are accompanied and supervised by an adult. Children may not be left alone in this room.

High Holy Days, 5771/2010

The New Year, 5771, begins Wednesday evening, September 8. As has been our tradition, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services will be held at the Ramaz Upper School Auditorium, 60 East 78th Street (between Park and Madison Avenues).

All service times are listed in the box at right. If you require additional tickets, please contact Luisa Paulino at lpaulino@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, extension 10. Guest tickets are \$360 and include Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services.

Tashlikh will be held at the Central Park Reservoir on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Thursday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m., prior to the evening service, which begins at 7:00 p.m.

Or Zarua will also be offering Tefilat Chaverim in the second floor Ramaz Chapel, which only seats about 100 people, on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre. The smaller size provides a much more intimate davening experience. Or Zarua's Tefilat Chaverim focuses on interaction, singing, discussion and interpretation of history, prayers and customs. Participants include both novice and learned daveners.

No separate ticket is required to attend the Tefilat Chaverim, but you will need to make a reservation by contacting Luisa Paulino (lpaulino@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, extension 10) as soon as possible.

President's Message

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fiscal year (ending June 30), even with substantially expanded programming. But, we recognize the need to be visible in a city where there are many competing organizations and sources of Jewish enrichment.

Fourth, we have started on a long-term strategic plan to help us focus on the future of our community. This project has multiple parts and is a subject unto itself, but I wanted to share with you that we have committed to embarking on this strategic effort.

Finally, we are always thinking about ways to improve the quality of our services: High Holy Day, Shabbat, and weekday. As for the upcoming High Holy Days, you will see that we have purchased a new portable ark for use at Ramaz. We hope that this will enrich our tefilah. We have also made some changes in assignments, in an attempt to balance our strong participatory and egalitarian traditions with the need for high-quality leadership of services.

I will have more to say on these topics on Kol Nidre. Until then, I wish you all *l'shana tova tikatevu v'tekhatemu*.

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES 5771/2010

Wednesday, September 8

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Evening (Ramaz) 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 9

First Day Rosh Hashanah

Morning (Ramaz) 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Tashlikh 6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

(Central Park)

Evening (Ramaz) 7:00 p.m.-7:55 p.m.

Friday, September 10

Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Morning (Ramaz) 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Minhah/Kabbalat 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Shabbat (Or Zarua)

Saturday, September 11

Shabbat Shuvah

Shaharit 9:00 a.m.

Friday, September 17

Erev Yom Kippur

Minhah (Or Zarua) 1:30 p.m.-1:55 p.m.

Kol Nidre (Ramaz) 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 18

Yom Kippur/Yizkor

Services 9:00 a.m.-7:41 p.m.

Wednesday, September 22

Erev Sukkot 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 23

First Day Sukkot

Morning 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Evening 6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

Friday, September 24

Second Day Sukkot

Morning 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Minhah/Kabbalat 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

Shabbat

Saturday, September 25

Shabbat Hol Hamoed

Shaharit 8:45 a.m.

Wednesday, September 29

Hoshana Rabbah

Morning 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Erev Shemini Atzeret

Evening 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 30

Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor

Morning 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Erev Simhat Torah

Evening 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 1

Simhat Torah

Morning 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Minhah/Kabbalat 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Shabbat

Rabbi David Silber Lecture

The Shofar: Rejoice in Trembling



Our annual study session with Rabbi David Silber will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14. The title of Rabbi Silber's discussion will be "The Shofar: Rejoice in Trembling."

Lectures by Rabbi Silber, founder and dean of the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, have become a staple of Or Zarua's schedule of events in connection with the High Holy Days. Based on his past talks, we can count on an interesting and thought-provoking presentation which will enrich our understanding of a

key part of the Rosh Hashanah service.

The Drisha Institute, opened in 1979, offers an advanced program of Jewish studies for women, providing women full access to classical texts of the Jewish tradition and preparing women for leadership positions in Jewish education. A number of Or Zarua members have studied at Drisha. For the past several years, Drisha has also provided increasing opportunities for men.

Rabbi Silber also lectures and teaches in other venues. For twelve years he conducted a weekly Bible class at a midtown law firm.

We hope to see everyone at Rabbi Silber's presentation.

Eating in the Sukkah

Reserved dinner, free kiddush lunches and "bring your own" events

It is a mitzvah to eat in the sukkah during the Festival of Sukkot. Or Zarua is offering congregants several opportunities to have lunch or dinner in the sukkah on the roof of our building.

Dinner on Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, September 22

This meal requires reservations: \$38 for adults, \$15 for children aged 5 to 12, children under 5 are free.

SELIHOT

Saturday, September 4

8:00 p.m.

Sinful Desserts

Join us for an evening of community as we usher in the Yamim Noraim with a dessert reception.

9:15 p.m.

Study

Rabbi Wechsler will teach "Mystical Repentance in the Writings of Rav Kook." His source is Rav Kook's *Lights of Repentance*.

10:00 p.m.

Selichot Services

RSVP by Tuesday, September 14

Three Free Enhanced Kiddush Lunches Immediately After Services

Thursday, September 23

Friday, September 24

Saturday, September 25

No reservation required for free lunches

Two "Bring Your Own Dinner" Events

Friday, September 24

Saturday, September 25

Or Zarua will provide challah. You bring dinner and all service items, including beverages, plates, cups, napkins, and utensils. All food brought to the sukkah must be kosher. Congregants are asked to call the Or Zarua office in advance if they plan to eat in the Sukkah. Please include the number of people in your group when you make the reservation for "Bring Your Own Dinner."

If you wish to dine in the sukkah at times other than those listed above, please notify the synagogue office. We ask that you conclude your evening meal by 9:00 p.m. To make reservations for any event, call the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, extension 39, or email Dina Linsk at dlinsk@orzarua.org.

SLEEP IN THE SUKKAH

Saturday, September 25

All Or Zarua children are invited to participate in the mitzvah of sleeping in the sukkah starting after Shabbat at 7:45 p.m. A pizza dinner will be served, followed by a "make your own ice cream sundae" for dessert. There will also be ping-pong, pool, foos ball and board games plus a movie.

Have your parents RVSP to Ilana Burgess at ilburgess@orzarua.org by Friday, September 17.

ETROGIM AND LULAVIM FOR SUKKOT

The joyous holiday of Sukkot begins Wednesday evening, September 22. 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. Three different sets, each certified for use on Sukkot, are available:

- Special Sets (Aleph), \$80.00 each
- Choice Sets (Bet), \$70.00 each
- Standard Sets (Gimmel), \$60.00 each
- Lulav carrying case, \$10.00 each

If you wish to purchase a set, contact Dina Linsk (212-452-2310, extension 12 or dlinsk@orzarua.org) by noon on Thursday, September 2. We cannot accept any orders without payment.

The sets may be picked up at Or Zarua on the 5th floor on Monday, September 20 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fall into Art and Film

and welcome new members to Or Zarua

We will be welcoming new members to Congregation Or Zarua after services on Saturday, October 2, with a new art show in our social hall. The exhibit will feature 23 works of art created by Or Zarua congregant Caroline Golden Ilberman. The show opening will be accompanied by a Kiddush luncheon to both celebrate this exhibit and to welcome new members to our congregation. No reservations are required.

On Wednesday, October 20, the film "The Monster Among Us" will be screened at Or Zarua at 7:30 p.m. Special guest Allan Modell, the film's producer, will join a panel discussion on anti-Semitism in

Europe and the United States following the screening. This program will be open to the community. There is no charge to attend this event.

A magical evening awaits Or Zarua congregants at the Jewish Museum on Thursday, November 4. Congregant Brooke Rapaport, curator of the exhibit, will lead two tours of the exhibit, "Houdini: Art and Magic." This is your chance to learn the behind-the-scenes stories of how an exhibit comes together! Tours begin at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. promptly and are strictly limited to 20 people each. Please note that there are no exceptions per museum policy. The cost to join a tour is \$54. Please RSVP at 212-452-2310, extension 39.

ANNA RAICHMAN New Hebrew School Teacher



Or Zarua's Hebrew School welcomes Anna Raichman, who will be teaching our Friday class for toddlers. The first session begins October 8.

Anna is an accomplished music and dance teacher. An Israeli, she will be continuing her music studies in New York. Anna will be teaching OZ toddlers songs and prayers for Shabbat and holidays. She will also be introducing the children to the weekly Torah portion through presentations, stories, discussions and art. We look forward to an exciting year for our toddlers.

Family and Youth Activities

September 2010

Monday, September 13 • 4:00 p.m.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

All children 5 years and older are invited to paint flower murals in the 6th and 7th floor lobbies.

Wednesday, September 22 • 7:30 p.m.

DINNER IN THE OZ SUKKAH

RSVP required. See page 4 for details.

Thursday, September 23 • 12:30 p.m.

Friday, September 24 • 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 25 • 12:30 p.m.

FREE KIDDUSH LUNCH IN THE SUKKAH

See page 4 for details.

Saturday, September 25 • 7:45 p.m.

SLEEP IN THE SUKKAH

RSVP required. See page 4 for details.

October 2010

Saturday, October 23 • 10:30 a.m.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

for 2nd grade and older. Service led by students, teachers and parents.

Pizmon Shabbaton

Hanukkah, December 3-5



This coming Hanukkah, Or Zarua will be hosting Pizmon, an a capella group formed by students from JTS, Columbia University and Barnard College with beautiful voices. The group is pictured above in the Cardiff Reform Synagogue, Cardiff, Wales, as part of their annual Musical Outreach Initiative. By traveling to Jewish communities around the globe, the singers bring spirit, song and unity to diverse Jewish populations. Pizmon will be joining Or Zarua for a Hanukkah Shabbaton, December 3 through 5, including a Friday night Shabbat Hanukkah dinner and a Shabbat Hanukkah Kiddush lunch. Meals are by reservation: \$38 for adults, \$15 for children aged 5 to 12, children under 5 are free. Please mark your calendars now!



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

September 2010 • Elul/Tishri 5771

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 • 22 Elul 7:00 am Minyan	2 • 23 7:00 am Minyan	3 • 24 7:00 am Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/ Kabbalat Shabbat 7:08 pm Candlelighting	4 • 25 9:00 am Shaharit Nitzavim-Vayeilekh 8:00 pm Sinfu! Desserts 9:15 pm Study with Rabbi Wechsler 10:00 pm Selihot
5 • 26 8:45 am Selihot and Sunday Minyan	6 • 27 Labor Day 8:45 am Selihot and Minyan Office closed	7 • 28 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	8 • 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat (Ramaz) 6:43 pm Candlelighting	9 • 1 Tishri Rosh Hashanah I 8:30 am Shaharit (Ramaz) 6:00 pm Tashlikh (Central Park) 7:00 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv (Ramaz) 7:48 pm Candlelighting	10 • 2 Rosh Hashanah II 8:30 am Shaharit (Ramaz) 7:00 pm Minhah/ Kabbalat Shabbat (OZ) 6:57 pm Candlelighting	11 • 3 Shabbat Shuvah 9:00 am Shaharit Ha'azinu
12 • 4 Fast of Gedaliah 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	13 • 5 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan Hebrew School begins	14 • 6 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 8:00 pm Rabbi Silber Lecture	15 • 7 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	16 • 8 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan	17 • 9 Erev Yom Kippur 7:00 am Selihot and Minyan 1:30 pm Minhah (OZ) 6:30pm Kol Nidre (Ramaz) 6:45 pm Candlelighting	18 • 10 Yom Kippur/Yizkor 9:00 am - 7:41 pm Yom Kippur Services Yizkor (Ramaz)
19 • 11 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	20 • 12 7:15 am Minyan	21 • 13 7:15 am Minyan	22 • 14 Erev Sukkot 7:15 am Minyan Hebrew School closed 6:15 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:36 pm Candlelighting 7:30 pm Dinner in Sukkah	23 • 15 Sukkot First Day 9:00 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch 6:45 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 7:37 pm Candlelighting	24 • 16 Sukkot Second Day 9:00 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch 6:15 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:33 pm Candlelighting "Bring Your Own" Dinner	25 • 17 Shabbat Hol Hamoed 8:45 am Shaharit 12:30 pm Kiddush Lunch "Bring Your Own" Dinner 7:45 pm Hebrew School Overnight
26 • 18 Hol Hamoed Sukkot 4 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	27 • 19 Hol Hamoed Sukkot 5 7:00 am Minyan	28 • 20 Hol Hamoed Sukkot 6 7:00 am Minyan	29 • 21 Hoshanah Rabbah 7:00 am Minyan 6:15 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:24 pm Candlelighting	30 • 22 Shemini Atzeret 9:00 am Shaharit Yizkor 6:30 pm Minhah/Ma'ariv Erev Simhat Torah 7:23 pm Candlelighting		



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October 2010 • Tishri / Heshvan 5771

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 • 25 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	4 • 26 7:15 am Minyan	5 • 27 7:15 am Minyan	6 • 28 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	7 • 29 7:15 am Minyan	1 • 23 Tishri Sinhat Torah 9:00 am Shaharit 6:00 pm Minhah/ Kabbalat Shabbat 6:21 pm Candlelighting	2 • 24 9:00 am Shaharit Bereshit Welcome Back Kiddush and Art Opening
10 • 2 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	11 • 3 Columbus Day 7:15 am Minyan <i>Hebrew School closed</i>	12 • 4 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Me'ah	13 • 5 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	14 • 6 7:15 am Minyan	8 • 30 Rosh Hodesh Heshvan I 7:00 am Minyan 6:00 pm Minhah/ Kabbalat Shabbat 6:10 pm Candlelighting	9 • 1 Heshvan Rosh Hodesh Heshvan II 9:00 am Shaharit Noah Bnei Mitzvah of Elliot and Tobin Bromberg
17 • 9 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 7:30 pm Book Discussion	18 • 10 7:15 am Minyan	19 • 11 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Me'ah	20 • 12 7:15 am Minyan 7:30 Film Screening: <i>The Monster Among Us</i>	21 • 13 7:15 am Minyan	15 • 7 7:15 am Minyan 5:59 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	16 • 8 9:00 am Shaharit Lekh-Lekha Bar Mitzvah of Harrison Moses
24 • 16 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 31 • 23 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	25 • 17 7:15 am Minyan	26 • 18 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Me'ah	27 • 19 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	28 • 20 7:15 am Minyan	22 • 14 7:15 am Minyan 5:48 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	23 • 15 9:00 am Shaharit Vayera 10:30 am Junior Congregation
					29 • 21 7:15 am Minyan 5:39 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	30 • 22 9:00 am Shaharit Haye Sarah

Or Zarua Elects New Board

Four new members begin their terms

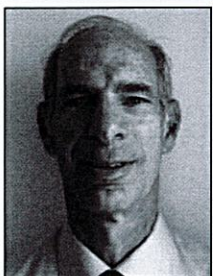
Arielle Friedman



Relatively new to the New York area, Arielle Friedman moved here two years ago after growing up in Philadelphia and living in Boston during college and medical school. She is currently an anesthesiology resident at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

She and her husband, Greg, became involved with Or Zarua after searching for a non-intimidating, egalitarian, but traditional synagogue on the Upper East Side. Arielle hopes to further her commitment to the synagogue and the surrounding Jewish community by helping Or Zarua create programming and religious activities that appeal to younger families in the area, and showcase the characteristics of the congregation that originally attracted her to the Or Zarua family.

Henry Glanternik



Members of Congregation Or Zarua for many years, Henry Glanternik and his wife, Karen, revere our rabbi for his erudition, commitment to passing on our rich Jewish tradition,

spirituality, and devotion to proper Halakhic observance. They are grateful to belong to a welcoming community determined to carry Jewish values beyond the synagogue into everyday life. Henry is committed as a Board member to preserving the essence of the synagogue for future generations. Henry particularly enjoys reading Torah at the daily minyan and regularly attends the rabbi's Talmud class on Wednesday evenings.

Henry is CEO of a company that owns, manages, and develops industrial and office buildings in several states. He has long been involved in community volunteer activities, both religious and

secular. Henry and Karen have travelled widely, but, of course, are most attracted to the State of Israel. Both of their daughters were privileged to celebrate their Bat Mitzvahs in New York City and the Holy Land.

Andrew Plevin

A member of Or Zarua for many years, Andrew Plevin found the synagogue when he was searching for a congregation that was deeply learned, egalitarian, warm in spirit and welcoming to visitors. He and his wife, Kendra, have a deep, personal connection with Rabbi Wechsler, who guided Kendra's study of Judaism and conversion to the Jewish faith, provided solace during shiva for Andrew's father, and celebrated the recent birth of their daughter. Andrew is interested in increasing the programming of Or Zarua and its appeal to couples and families who are looking for a shul that is both welcoming and provides opportunities to advance understanding of the Jewish faith.

Andrew Plevin is the co-CEO of an asset management firm that focuses on insurance-linked securities.

Dara Shapiro



Dara Shapiro joined Or Zarua three years ago because she and her husband, David, immediately connected with the traditional religious philosophy and the tremendous warmth of the congregation. Mother of two boys (ages 3 and 3 months), Dara is particularly interested in furthering Or Zarua's commitment to family programming and to making the shul a destination for young couples and young families, while maintaining the synagogue's primary purpose as a house of worship.

Dara works in licensing and marketing for an infant and toddler products manufacturer. She is looking forward to applying both her professional and personal skills to help make the Or Zarua community thrive.

SHABBAT DINNERS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**Friday, November 12
and Friday, January 14**
immediately following services

Join the OZ community for two special Kabbalat Shabbat services led by Sarah Klagsbrun with traditional Camp Ramah tunes, followed by a festive meal with singing. Guests and non-members are welcome.

Babysitting and children's activities will be provided.

Please make dinner reservations by
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8
AND MONDAY, JANUARY 10**
at 212-452-2310, ext. 39
or www.orzarua.org

**\$30 adults; \$10 children aged 5-12;
children under 5, no charge**

HEBREW SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 2010

- Mon 13** First day of classes
- Wed 22** Erev Sukkot (no classes)
- Thu 23** Sukkot (no classes)
- Wed 29** Erev Shemini Atzeret (no classes)
- Thu 30** Shemini Atzeret (no classes)

October 2010

- Mon 11** Columbus Day (no classes)

Spitzers Honored by Met Council

Helping fight poverty in New York with affordable housing

Congregants Linda and Jerry Spitzer were recently honored for their efforts on behalf of the Met Council in the fight against poverty in New York.

Linda and Jerry (right, behind the podium) are shown with their children and grandchildren upon the naming of an affordable housing building on East 77th Street after the Spitzers. It is the second Upper East Side building to be named after them. The Met Council provides critical services to New Yorkers in need and has raised community awareness of Jewish poverty. For more information, please go to www.metcouncil.org.



OZ Cemetery

Gravesites for Members

The Or Zarua section of Beth El Cemetery is located in Washington Township (Bergen County), New Jersey, just ten miles away from the George Washington Bridge. Beth El Cemetery is well maintained and landscaped with trees and shrubs. The cemetery's design provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the

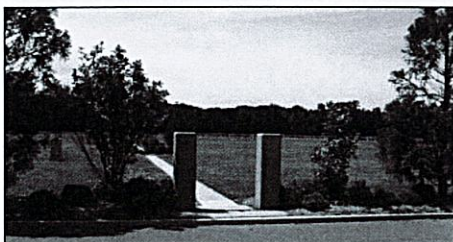


PHOTO BY HARVEY BRENNER

A view of the Or Zarua cemetery section.

values and aesthetics of Congregation Or Zarua. Gravesites within the Or Zarua section are available for sale solely to members of our Congregation. Burial is limited to persons of the Jewish faith. If you are interested in buying gravesites in the Or Zarua section, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext. 14.

Life Events

at Congregation Or Zarua

Members of our congregation are sometimes faced with painful, and, in some cases, tragic events in their lives. If you know of a member of the congregation who is coping with extended illness, hospitalization, or a death in their family, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310 so that Rabbi Wechsler can be informed. Press extension 14 for the executive director or extension 12 for the rabbi's assistant, Dina Linsk.

WELCOMING GUESTS

It is important for us as a community to greet guests and new members at our services to make them feel comfortable and welcome. Let's all make more of an effort in this regard. If you are seated next to someone whom you do not know, please reach out and introduce yourself. We should be sure to do the same at our kiddushim. Making this effort is consistent with our culture and will repay dividends.

WWW.ORZARUA.COM

- Listen to recordings of recent guest presentations at Or Zarua by Professor David Roskies of JTS, Rabbi David Silber of the Drisha Institute, Professor James Kugel of Bar Ilan University, and Professor Ruth Wisse of Harvard University.
- Hear Rabbi Wechsler's Selihot lectures on Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook's teachings on teshuvah.
- Introduce yourself to the Or Zarua Hebrew School's programs and classes for children in kindergarten through high school.
- Download melodies for many of Or Zarua's prayer services.
- View descriptions and schedules for all Or Zarua events.
- RSVP for Shabbat and holiday lunches and dinners, classes, lectures, and programs
- Check service times
- Sign up for the daily minyan
- Tune into the OZ Klezmer Band

Crafts Club Projects and Field Trips

by Terry Edelstein

This year the Crafts Club will be incorporating some additional projects and field trips. Our basic mission of creative craft production and community service through our Stitchery Project for the Jewish Board of Children and Family Services will be supplemented by a few "twists" with the intention of engaging the Congregation in a project.

On Sunday, November 7, the Crafts Club will be sponsoring a workshop entitled "Translating Text into Textile" with Heather Stoltz. Participants will engage with Jewish texts and prayer in a novel way as Heather guides them through a chevruta study, resulting in an artistic rendering of the text. Using a favorite prayer from the traditional liturgy, a personal prayer, or even a transformative experience as inspiration, the group is posed a series of questions to help them translate that prayer into a piece of fiber art. Even

those who enter the class skeptical about their artistic abilities are often pleasantly surprised by their resulting piece and are proud of their creation. No quilting, sewing or art experience is necessary.

A two-level quilt will be produced during the single, two-hour session from the 12" x 12" fabric collage squares which are developed and ironed on site. Then the fabric squares will be mounted onto a larger back with hooks to donate to the Jewish Board's group home as an artistic wall hanging.

To learn more about Heather Stoltz, please visit www.sewingstories.com.

The Or Zarua program committee will be providing a celebratory luncheon after the quilting bee. All workshop participants are invited to start their morning at the minyan followed by the congregational breakfast. Child care and activities for young children will be available during our quilting session. Older children are very

welcome to join the project in keeping with our regular knitting sessions, which are often an intergenerational experience. Please let the office know if you plan to participate so that we can be sure to have ample supplies and child support on hand.

Continuing into winter, we will be scheduling a Sunday morning field trip to a local knitting shop. With our knitting squares in hand, seated at the shop's large wooden table, a knitting class will be convened. A discussion of yarns, patterns and other adventures in knitting will be included. The specific Sunday will be announced in the November/December issue of the *Or Zarua Newsletter*. I hope we have sparked an emergent interest among many of you in the Or Zarua Crafts Club and look forward to welcoming you to our group.

The Or Zarua Crafts Club meets the first Sunday of each month. Our first meeting of the New Year will be Sunday, November 7 at 10:15 a.m.

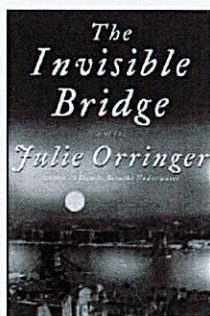
Or Zarua Book Discussions

The Invisible Bridge by Julie Orringer on Sunday, October 17

Please join us for our next Or Zarua book discussion

on Sunday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Or Zarua's library. We will talk about Julie Orringer's first novel, *The Invisible Bridge*, which follows her best-selling short-story collection, *How to Breathe Underwater*.

The Invisible Bridge is a grand love story set in Budapest and Paris, an epic of three brothers—Andras, Tibor and Matyas Lévi—whose lives are ravaged by war, and a chronicle of the Levi family's struggle to survive it. The story begins as Andras Lévi leaves Budapest in autumn 1937 to study architecture in Paris with a



scholarship, one suitcase, and a mysterious letter he promised to deliver to C. Morgenstern on the rue de Sévigné. Very quickly, the characters draw us into their lives until, as *The New Yorker* magazine writes, "this family has become our own."

Michael Chabon, author of *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* wrote: "To bring an entire lost world—its sights, its smells, its heartaches, raptures and terrors—to vivid life between the covers of a novel is an accomplishment; to invest that world, and everyone who inhabits it, with a soul, as Julie Orringer does in *The Invisible Bridge*, takes something more like genius."

The following book discussion will be December 12. If you would like more information on Or Zarua book discussions or have a book suggestion, please contact Reed Schneider via the Or Zarua office or at 212-860-8611.

RABBI WECHSLER TEACHES ON SIRIUS XM RADIO

Sundays at 3:00 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m.



Rabbi Wechsler is on SIRIUS XM Stars Radio twice each Sunday. Subscribers to SIRIUS Radio can access the program, "Rabbi Wechsler Teaches," on Channel 102, and XM Radio subscribers can tune in to Channel 155. Non-subscribers to SIRIUS Radio can obtain a free, three-day trial at www.sirius.com.

The Or Zarua Community

Fund contributions received between June 1 and July 31, 2010

Mazal Tov

Midge and Norman Podhoretz on the birth of their grandson, Isaac Podhoretz
Dara and David Shapiro, on the birth of their son, Zachary

Condolences

Our deepest sympathy to:

Susan Gotbetter, on the death of her sister, Marion Gotbetter
Ruth Sherman, on the death of her mother, Emma Schlesinger
Jerome Spitzer, on the death of his mother, Ray Spitzer
Ellen Wetter-Brenner, on the death of her father, Martin Wetter

May they and their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

General Fund

Robin Adelson and Jeffrey Shinder, in honor of Ezra Micah Amichai and Carly's wedding
Willi and Arthur Aeder, in memory of Wolf Aeder, Sophie Aeder, George Golden, Hattie Golden, Milton Aeder and Marvin Aeder
Ethel Bass-Weintraub and Barry Weintraub, in memory of Morris Bass
Robin Blumenthal, in honor of Carly Helene and Ezra Micah Amichai's wedding
Emily Braun and Andrew Frackman
Cynthia Brodsky, for yahrzeit
Bobbi and Barry Collier, in memory of Bobbi's mother, Florence Gelfand
Rosalind Devon
Laurie Dien and Alan Yaillen, in honor of the professionals and staff of Or Zarua:
Rabbi Wechsler, Ilana, Harvey, Dina, Luisa, Anthony, Laurence and Ronson
Laurel and Ran Eisenbruch
Audrey and Barry Feldman, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding
Joanne Feerman, in honor of Ezra and Carly
Beth Fisher and Harvey Himel, in memory of Zygmunt Himel
Laura Fisher and Adi Raviv
Mechele and Sander Flaum, in memory of Sander's mother, Rose Flaum
Carol and Arthur Goldberg, in memory of Lillian Smith
Roz Goldberg and Alan Bandler
Ruthe and Ronald Golden, in memory of Max Golden, Sally Golden and Harry Feigenbaum
Sharon and Scott Greenstein, for yahrzeit
Susan and Roger Hertog, in memory of Katie Reinfeld
Adele and Mel Ilberman
Ronnie and John Jankoff, in memory of their parents
Rachell Maidenbaum Gober
Brenda Goldman, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding

Sherry Jacobson, in memory of Marion Stern, mother of Diana Goldin
Aliza Kaplan, in memory of Varda Jupiter
Clarita and Abraham Kaufman, in memory of Aron Kaufman
Margret and Steven Magid, in memory of Edith Magid
Benjamin Marcus, in memory of Estelle S. Marcus
Rachel and Larry Norton, in memory of Marion P. Stern, mother of Diana Goldin; in honor of the birth of Jocelyn Rose Stadin, granddaughter of Audrey and Richard Stadin; and Carly and Ezra's wedding.
Lesley and Jay Palmer, in honor of Laurie Dien and Alan Yaillen for creating OZ's teen-led services
Elizabeth Philipp, in honor of Mark Somerstein and Ezra and Carly
Charlotte Schwartz, in memory of Sidney Schwartz
Dara and David Shapiro, for the strength and good health of Zachary Morris Shapiro
Vera and Robert Silver
Rabbi Harlan J. Wechsler, for yizkor

Hesed Fund

Mimi and Barry Alperin
Susan and Stanley Alt, in memory of their parents, Mannie and Dorothy Alt, and Joseph and Celia Benbasset
Shelley Binder, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding, and in memory of her father, Chaim Binder, and Ray Spitzer
Robin Blumenthal, in honor of Diane Okrent and Aaron Sheldon's 25th anniversary, and mazal tov to Audrey and Richard Stadin on the birth of their granddaughter, Jocelyn Rose Stadin
Pamela and Mark Gold, mazal tov to Audrey and Richard Stadin on the birth of their granddaughter, Jocelyn Rose, daughter of Kim and Jonathan Stadin
Mina Greenstein, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding
Janet and Simon Katz, in honor of Audrey and Richard Stadin on the birth of their granddaughter, Jocelyn Rose Stadin
Dina Linsk, in honor of the wedding of Rabbi Ezra Amichai and Carly Fleisher
Suzan and Daniel Rosen
Helene Ruddy, in memory of Gerald Ruddy
Judith and Barry Schneider
Linda and Jerome Spitzer, in memory of Rose Kirsten, beloved mother of Linda and Jerry Spitzer
Lynda Wertheim
Helene and Michael Wolff, in honor of Diane Okrent and Aaron Sheldon's 25th anniversary

Hevra Kadisha

Phyllis Brochstein, in memory of her mother,

Judith Buchman-Ziv, and her father, Harry K. Buchman

Linda and Jerome Spitzer, in honor of Vera Silver, for being there in their time of need
Nora and Barry Yood, in memory of David Yood and Eleanor Vine

Kiddush Fund

Anonymous, in honor of the Talmud Class
Judith and Rabbi Robert Golub, in honor of their 30th anniversary; their son Chanan's marriage to Sivia Kahn last August; and their daughter Yonit and son-in-law Yosef Serkin's departure to Israel on Aliyah
Diane Okrent and Aaron Shelden, in honor of their 25th anniversary
Members of the Or Zarua Board, to celebrate the marriage of Ezra and Carly
Elizabeth Philipp, in honor of Thomas Philipp Moriarty's Bar Mitzvah
Vera and Robert Silver, in honor of Shira's Bat Mitzvah
Audrey and Richard Stadin, in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Jocelyn Rose Stadin
Linda Wertheim, in celebration of another year of good health

Kosher Food Pantry

Susan and Stanley Alt, in memory of their parents, Joseph and Celia Benbasset, and Mannie and Dorothy Alt

Ma'ot Hittim

Joanne and Marc Ashley
Carol and Philip Goldsmith
Joanne and Marc Ashley
Carol and Philip Goldsmith

Minyan Fund

Carol and Philip Goldsmith, in memory of their son, Jim

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Carol and Henry Glanternik, in appreciation of Talmud study
Carol and Philip Goldsmith, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding
Allen Mayer, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding
Brooke and Richard Rapaport, in honor of Ezra and Carly's wedding
Janean Ries, in honor of Carly and Ezra's wedding
Dara and David Shapiro, in honor of Ezra and Carly's wedding
Vera and Robert Silver, in honor of the OZ Klezmer band, who played at Shira's Bat Mitzvah

Youth Department Fund

Carol and Philip Goldsmith, in memory of Jack Newman

**CONGREGATION OR ZARUA**

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New York, NY 10028-0807

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CONGREGATION OR ZARUA OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Friday 🕍
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

The Or Zarua office is closed Saturday and Sunday as well as on Jewish and federal holidays.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

A View of Morning Minyan at Or Zarua

by Burt Biderman

“You don’t have to be Jewish to enjoy Levi’s real Jewish rye” was the slogan for Levi’s, and one of their ads showed a Native American man eating a piece of rye bread.

Taking that idea a step further, I maintain that you don’t have to read Hebrew to enjoy morning minyan at Or Zarua. I attend the morning service (Shaharit) at Or Zarua at least twice a week and read the prayers in English. My familiarity with Hebrew is not great enough for the service to be meaningful for me if I attempted to read the Hebrew text. I follow the service in English and have used a variety of the different Siddurim that are offered in the Sanctuary.

I have found that the roughly 45 minutes to one hour I spend at the morning service to be a great time to spend with

myself, my thoughts, my prayers, and my reflections regarding what I am grateful for and how I can do more to show my appreciation.

I can read a prayer 100 times over and, with each reading, I will have a new thought or I will see a word that I had not noticed before. For me, it is a wonderful way to start the day. I am also happy to be able to “make a minyan” when someone has the need to say Kaddish. Morning minyan is really a little community. In addition to the prayers, there is also learning from the Rabbi’s D’var Torah. Lively discussion on many issues occurs at the breakfast immediately following the conclusion of the service.

An added feature is that as you put a dollar into the Tzedakah box, you realize that there is no other place to get 45 minutes of “reflective time” for that price.

As I opened with the thoughts of one

commercial, let me close with a paraphrase of a commercial for a men’s clothing store: “You’re gonna love the way you feel at Or Zarua’s morning minyan—I guarantee it.”

Editor’s Note: If you want to be part of the minyan on any given morning, all you need to do is attend. If you want to help sustain the Or Zarua minyan, please sign up for a given day or two each month by contacting Sheldon Adler at sadler@skadden.com.

TALMUD CLASS

8:00 p.m. Wednesdays
beginning October 6
in the Or Zarua library

Classes are taught by
RABBI WECHSLER

No prior knowledge of Talmud, Hebrew or Aramaic is required.