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Jewish High Holidays on the Go

OurJewishCommunity.org Delivers Interactive, Video-Streamed Services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, with Access on Computers, Smartphones and Tablets

CINCINNATI (Sept. 15, 2014) – For the seventh straight year, award-winning online synagogue OurJewishCommunity.org will video-stream interactive Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 24-25) and Yom Kippur (Oct. 3-4) services. OurJewishCommunity.org has been a trendsetter since its launch as an online synagogue in 2008.

In the past six years, tens of thousands of participants have taken part in the High Holidays via OurJewishCommunity.org, and this year the number is expected to increase. Participants can access the services on their computers, smartphones and tablets.

Rabbi Laura Baum of OurJewishCommunity.org says, “We’ve heard from people who have listened to services on their iPhones while driving, enjoyed the holidays on a tablet while at the beach, watched on a laptop in a hospital bed or gathered with friends in their living rooms to watch the services projected on their flat screen TVs. Our goal is to make Judaism as accessible as possible.”

While OurJewishCommunity.org streams most of the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services live from its sanctuary in Cincinnati, a special, pre-recorded memorial service featuring a slideshow with photographs is available on Yom Kippur afternoon. Rabbi Robert B. Barr, of OurJewishCommunity.org, explains: “This is one of the most moving parts of the High Holidays. It’s a beautiful way to honor those who have been part of our lives and to remember them during the holiday season.” People may submit photos via email (memorials@ourjewishcommunity.org) to the memorial service anytime before Sept. 26.

OurJewishCommunity.org is active year-round, not just during the High Holidays. It offers informal online Shabbats, podcasts, YouTube videos, discussion boards, educational resources, holiday e-cards, recipes and more. Since its launch in 2008, OurJewishCommunity.org has reached hundreds of thousands of people, and it has for three consecutive years been named one of the 50 most innovative Jewish organizations in North America by the Slingshot Guide, a Zagat-style guide for Jewish organizations.



OurJewishCommunity.org is a global outreach initiative of Congregation Beth Adam in Cincinnati, Ohio. During its 34-year history, Beth Adam has written liturgy for the Jewish holidays that expresses a contemporary and modern Jewish experience. It gives voice to Judaism's ever-unfolding religious experience and promotes the values of intellectual honesty, open inquiry and human responsibility.

The services will be live-streamed at www.Facebook.com/OurJewishCommunity in addition to at www.OurJewishCommunity.org with Facebook and Twitter chats. iPhone, iPad and Android users can download the free OurJewishCommunity.org app and watch services there.

Dates/Times:

Wed, Sept. 24, at 8:15 p.m. ET (Rosh Hashanah Evening)

Thu, Sept. 25, at 10:30 a.m. ET (Rosh Hashanah Morning)

Thu, Sept. 25, at 1:30 p.m. ET (Rosh Hashanah Children's; pre-recorded)

Fri, Oct. 3, at 8:15 p.m. ET (Yom Kippur Evening)

Sat, Oct. 4, at 10:30 a.m. ET (Yom Kippur Morning)

Sat, Oct. 4, at 1:30 p.m. ET (Yom Kippur Children's; pre-recorded)

Sat, Oct. 4, at 4:00 p.m. ET (Yom Kippur Memorial; pre-recorded)

To join the free community and view any of the services, visit www.OurJewishCommunity.org or www.Facebook.com/OurJewishCommunity.

About OurJewishCommunity.org

OurJewishCommunity.org is the world's first contemporary online synagogue. Launched on September 1, 2008, OurJewishCommunity.org reaches hundreds of thousands of individuals in all 50 states in the United States and more than 180 countries. The online community features blogs, audio podcasts through iTunes, video podcasts through YouTube, streaming holiday services, discussion boards, holiday eCards, recipes, educational materials for all ages and more. We have more than 3,000 followers on Twitter (www.twitter.com/JewsOnline and www.twitter.com/Rabbi) and OurJewishCommunity.org has almost 30,000 Facebook fans (www.facebook.com/ourjewishcommunity).



Laura Baum, Rabbi, OurJewishCommunity.org

As a Founding Rabbi of OurJewishCommunity.org, Rabbi Laura Baum works to engage Jews through social media and other technology. Baum was named one of the 50 most influential female rabbis by the Jewish Forward and has been featured in the New York Times, CNN.com, the Wall Street Journal, and the Jerusalem Post. An expert on social media and the changing needs of the Jewish community, she is a popular speaker on a range of topics.



Rabbi Baum was ordained by Hebrew Union College in 2008 and earned a M.B.A from Xavier University in 2012. She graduated from Yale University in 2001 Summa Cum Laude, with distinction in the Psychology major and Phi Beta Kappa.



Robert B. Barr, Rabbi, OurJewishCommunity.org

Rabbi Robert B. Barr, ordained by Hebrew Union College in 1981, is the Founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Adam in Cincinnati, Ohio. Under his leadership for the last 34 years, Beth Adam has grown from six members to more than 300. The congregation has a significant voice and is a resource for liberal Jews worldwide. Rabbi Barr first imagined the online congregation and has played a continuing role in its development, including his weekly podcasts (“Barr’s Banter”), which are available on iTunes.

Rabbi Barr is active in the leadership of many Jewish organizations and has twice served as president of the Greater Cincinnati Board of Rabbis. Recognized by his peers as a leader in the evolution of modern, liberal Judaism, his writings have been published in journals, books and web sites around the world.

High Resolution Photos available upon request.