

**July 2010**

**Volume 35, Number 7**

**Tammuz / Av**

**5770**

The monthly publication for the  
community of

**Or Chadash,  
The Congregation of  
New Light**

In Chicago ....

**Our People,**

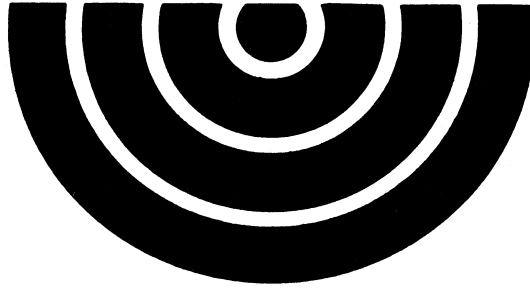
**Our Community,**

**Our Synagogue**

**Come Add  
Your Light  
To Ours!**

*A member of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame*

ק ה י ל ת א ו ר ח ד ש  
**CONGREGATION OR CHADASH**  
**CONGREGATION OF NEW LIGHT**



# The New Light

**Why I Serve**

*By Lilli Kornblum, OC Co-President*

Several years ago, Rabbi Victor Appell spoke to the congregation after Friday night services. He spoke about his experiences as a gay rabbi in a large mainstream congregation, and about being a 15-year-old boy who knew he was gay and knew he wanted to be a rabbi and didn't know he could be both. He told us that his emotional lifeline during those teen years was the small weekly ad CBST placed in *The New York Times* – the only evidence that he was not alone. When the time was right, he made his way to CBST and, as the expression goes, the rest is history.

A few weeks ago Or Chadash had a table at the Chicago Jewish Fest. Of our many visitors, several were gay people from outside the Chicago area. Their expressions of surprise and delight upon learning of our existence were gratifying and reminded me of 15-year-old Victor Appell and of my own days of confusion when I too believed that my gay and Jewish worlds could not co-exist. Some people

stayed to talk with us. Some of them tucked our information away and moved on quickly. I imagined them taking comfort from their discovery and drawing strength from knowing that when the time was right Or Chadash would be there, the way it was for me and the way CBST was for Rabbi Appell.

Much has changed since that Shabbat evening discussion. Rabbi Appell is no longer at temple Jeremiah. Instead he is on staff at the Union for Reform Judaism. Or Chadash has a different home, a different Rabbi, and many new faces, but some things haven't changed. Most important of all – we are still here for ourselves and for every person who is waiting to discover the joy of our existence and waiting for the right time to join us.

So, with gratitude I dedicate the two years of my Co-Presidency to the founders of Or Chadash and to the countless members who

## Cycles of Our Lives

### Happy Birthday

July 2	Allen Brown
July 3	Mindy Stillman
July 3	Morris Stroz
July 5	Greg Ostfeld
July 9	Pat Benjamin
July 11	David Morck
July 12	Bob Rosenstein
July 21	Irwin Drobny
July 22	Carla Cenker
July 22	Ramona Hernandez-Perez
July 23	John Griffith
July 25	Gary Liss
July 27	Joe Shure

### Thanks for the Oneg....

**Friday, July 2:** Oneg still available for sponsorship

**Saturday, July 3:** Lunch sponsored by Linda Preston in memory of her husband, Tim Preston

**Friday, July 9:** Oneg still available for sponsorship

**Friday, July 16:** Oneg sponsored by Irwin Drobny in memory of his parents, Ruth and Ben Drobny

**Friday, July 23:** Oneg sponsored by Ethel Meyer in memory of her mother, Hilda Meyer

**Friday, July 30:** Oneg still available for sponsorship

### July Service Schedule

**Friday, July 2:** Rabbi Larry Edwards and Judith Golden at 8 PM

**Saturday, July 3:** Saturday morning Shabbat service, 10 AM

**Friday July 9:** Rabbi Larry Edwards and Mindy Stillman at 8 PM

**Friday, July 16:** Bill Wahler, Judith Golden and Alan Amberg at 8 PM

**Friday, July 23:** Carla Cenker and Reuben Lewy at 8 PM

**Friday, July 30:** Mindy Stillman, Judith Golden and Alan Amberg

nurtured it and kept the doors open until I was ready. I will work to honor their vision, for the benefit of the current membership, and for all of the members yet to walk through our doors.

During these two years I will ask for your help. I will ask for your time, talent, money and ideas. I will ask for all of these with the one goal of remaining strong and vibrant. We don't know them yet, but a lot of people are counting on us.

### Services at Or Chadash: The Next Level

Larry Edwards and Judith Golden personally invite you to the next Service Leaders Workshop on **Sunday** afternoon, **July 11, from 1-5.**

Or Chadash has long been dedicated to a mix of lay and professional leadership. Those who volunteer to lead services offer a great gift to the congregation. We, in turn, want to be sure that those who stand before us, and before the ark, as *sh'lichei tzibbur* (representatives of the community) are continually developing both their skills and their knowledge of liturgy.

This workshop will try out a new format, combining training for both song leaders and service leaders. We will meet in the chapel, so that everyone will have an opportunity to stand on the bimah and practice.

If you are already a service or song leader, we invite you to join us to share your experience and enhance your knowledge. If you think you might want to join our volunteer corps, this is a required training before you lead a service. And if you think you would never have the nerve to stand up and lead a service, but would nevertheless like to enhance your understanding of the prayers, you are invited as well.

If possible, please let Larry Edwards know that you are coming, so that we can be sure to have enough copies of our handbook: [rabbiedwards@orchadash.org](mailto:rabbiedwards@orchadash.org).

### Join the Education Committee!

#### Help Us Develop Programs for 5771

*By Howie Aronson, Education Chair*

Or Chadash has had classes and other educational programs that many larger congregations could well envy. Help us to continue these outstanding offerings; bring your ideas and help us plan next year's programs by joining the Congregation's Education Committee. If you are interested, please send a message to [Office@Orchadash.org](mailto:Office@Orchadash.org).

If there are topics for classes and/or other educational programs that interest you (including topics that you might be interested in presenting yourself), please send them to [Office@Orchadash.org](mailto:Office@Orchadash.org).

## Pride Shabbat and Beach Service

Once again we had beautiful weather for a wonderful BBQ and beach service. More than 50 people attended and provided great side dishes to accompany our hamburgers and hotdogs. Then a short walk to the beach for our Shabbat Services.

A big thank you to David Morck and Judith Golden for a wonderful service on the beach.



## Our Mission

To provide a warm and affirming community where all Jews can feel welcome. To accomplish this mission, Or Chadash will:

**Remember** that it was founded as an answer to the prejudice that gay and lesbian Jews experienced in other synagogues;

**Strive** to ensure that no Jew experiences prejudice within our community;

**Maintain** affiliations with the Union for Reform Judaism and the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations;

**Build** strong ties within the greater Jewish community of the metropolitan Chicago area;

**Dedicate** itself to the basic obligations of Jewish life, including:

- **Respecting** the contributions of people of all generations
- **Sharing** the life-cycle events of its members
- **Celebrating** Shabbat and the holidays
- **Fostering** prayer with sincerity
- **Visiting** the sick
- **Comforting** the bereaved
- **Encouraging** the study of Torah

Congregation Or Chadash is a not-for-profit organization that is largely supported by contributions from its members and friends. Please remember us generously.

## July Social Event

*By Elise Miller, Membership Chair*

Or Chadash will be going to the Grant Park Music Festival to see “A Child of Our Time” on **July 24** at the Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. “A Child of Our Time” is Michael Tippet’s story written during World War II that explores an act of Jewish resistance.

We will be gathering starting at **7pm for the show at 7:30pm**; please look for the Or Chadash flag. If interested in attending please contact Elise Miller at [membership@orchadash.org](mailto:membership@orchadash.org) so we can keep an eye out for you.

## Come Join Us!

*By Judith Golden,  
Cantorial Soloist*

Who at Or Chadash has the most fun preparing for the Days of Awe? The Choir!!

The Days of Awe will be here before we know it. If you love to sing, and can sort of carry a tune, and would like to engage with others in meaningful preparation for the Days of Awe, come join us.

## Days of Awe Dates:

**Wed. Sept. 8 Erev Rosh Hashannah**

**Thurs. Sept. 9 Rosh Hashannah**

**Fri. Sept. 17 Kol Nidrei**

**Sat. Sept. 18 Yom Kippur**

There will be 6 rehearsals on **Sunday afternoons 2:00 - 4:00**. (Dates TBD based on choir member availability.)

For further information, or to sign-up, contact Judith Golden via the office at Or Chadash.

## Thank You to Our Volunteers!

This past month Or Chadash was very busy -- we attended two festivals in the same weekend! Thank you to all our volunteers at Andersonville’s Midsommarfest and the Greater Chicago Jewish Festival. We met many new people who were interested in Or Chadash and filled out green cards as well as taking information about our congregation.

Our next street fair will be the North Halsted Market Days on **August 7 and 8**. If you are interested in volunteering for this event please contact Elise Miller or the Or Chadash office.

## Or Chadash Participates in Chicago’s Annual Dyke March

The first recorded Dyke March to take place in the United States was in Washington, D.C., in April, 1993. Since then, cities all over the United States and Canada host their own Dyke Marches in order to increase lesbian, bisexual, intersex and transgender visibility and to protest anti-gay legislation.

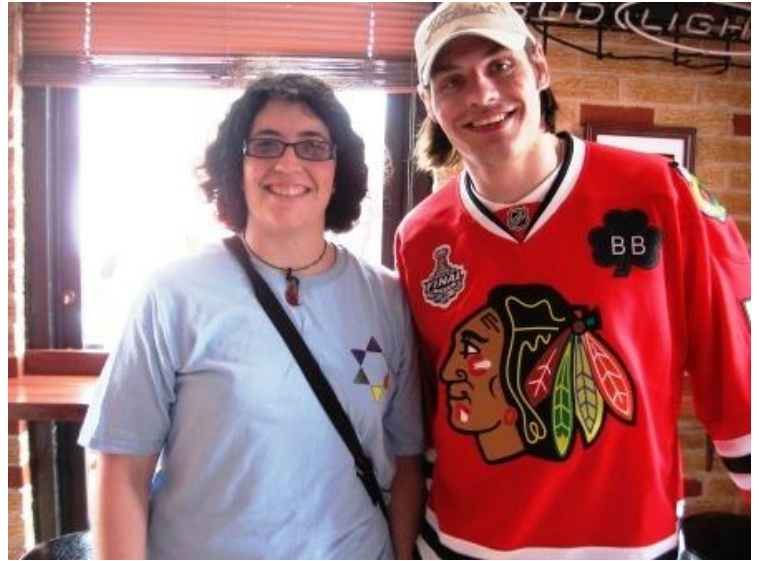
This year Chicago’s 18th annual Dyke March took place in the city’s South Shore neighborhood on Saturday, June 26. Women and male supporters of all races, religions, creeds and orientations marched as one toward a better future for us all. This event was attended by OC Membership Director Elise Miller and Social Action Director Laurie Grauer.



## Or Chadash, the Stanley Cup, and Pride Weekend



*Or Chadash temporary tattoos lookin' good in the Dyke March*



*Brent hangs out with Laurie at the Parade*



*Yaakov gets ready to ride*

The day started out looking bad, but just as the parade was to start the sun came out and it became a beautiful summer day to go for a ride, within sight of the Stanley Cup. Could not ask for more.



*Hurry up and wait*

## **“Dog Days” Takes on New Meaning at Midsommarfest**

Our table at Andersonville’s Midsommarfest on Saturday, June 12 and Sunday, June 13 was a big hit in spite of a little bad weather.



*Elise, Sabina, and Samson enjoy meeting the crowds in Andersonville*



*Jay and Lilli brave the rain to tell people about Or Chadash*

And at the Jewish Festival in Morton Grove



*Carla and Mindy enjoy a day in the park*



## Vote for Your Own Tzedaka Charity for 2010-2011

This year, as opposed to organizing several tzedaka drives throughout the year, Congregation Or Chadash will collect tzedaka cans **throughout the year**, and in July 2011, all funds raised will be **equally divided** among three charities. One will automatically be the Rabbi's discretionary fund. The other two will be charities all OC members can vote on. One charity will go toward an organization that focuses its efforts in the Jewish community; the other will be one that focuses its efforts on the LGBT community. Members can send their votes or suggestions for additional charities to Laurie Grauer at [Office@OrChadash.org](mailto:Office@OrChadash.org).

**All votes/suggestions must be in by August 19.** Please note; this drive will **remain separate from our annual AIDS Walk/Run drive.**

### Suggestions for Jewish Charities:

- 1) **Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago**
- 2) **The Ark** -- provides free social and medical services to help distressed members of our Chicagoland Jewish family return to self-sufficiency.
- 3) **Chevra Kadisha of Chicago** -- a society of men and women who care for the dead from time of death until interment. They perform the ritual purification and the dressing in traditional shrouds in accordance with Jewish Law.

### Suggestions for LGBT Charities:

- 1) **Howard Brown** -- promotes the well-being of LGBT persons through the provision of health care and wellness programs, including clinical, educational, social service and research activities.
- 2) **Equality Illinois** -- they secure, protect and defend the rights of LGBTs in Illinois.
- 3) **Jewish Mosaic** -- they help the Jewish world become more open, accessible, and welcoming to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Jews and their families.

## Building Communities One "EL" Stop at a Time

Congregation Or Chadash will once again participate in Edgewater's Neighborhood Nights. The mission of this program is to cut down on loitering and to enhance community relationships between residents and local businesses. By offering free games, activities and refreshments to passersby, the program creates a positive atmosphere that promotes and empowers the community.

Last year, congregants donated their time, food, games, art supplies and coloring activities for all youth participants during the month of August. This years OC will volunteer on the following nights:

**Monday, July 26, 6pm-8pm:** Art Night: art competitions for all ages -- for this night, we will need volunteers, donations of art supplies and coloring pages.

**Wednesday, August 11, 6pm-8pm:** Taste of Edgewater: recipe swap -- for this night we will need volunteers, some killer Challah recipes and samples for folks to vote on!

For more information or to volunteer for either of these events, please email Laurie Grauer at [Office@OrChadash.org](mailto:Office@OrChadash.org).

### **Congregation Or Chadash**

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Chicago IL 60660  
(773) 271-2148

Email: [Office@OrChadash.org](mailto:Office@OrChadash.org)  
Website: [www.OrChadash.org](http://www.OrChadash.org)

Rabbi: Laurence Edwards  
Cantorial Soloist: Judith Golden

Co-Presidents:  
Bill Wahler and Lilli Kornblum  
Executive VP: Michael Helfgott  
Treasurer: Carol Goldbaum  
Webmaster: Marvin Levin

*Rabbi Edwards is available by appointment and can be reached via email:*  
[rabbiedwards@orchadash.org](mailto:rabbiedwards@orchadash.org)  
or phone (773) 326-1490

## **Night Ministry Drive Will Return in November!**

Due to the outstanding success and popularity of our earlier work with Night Ministry, Congregation Or Chadash will again team up with Night Ministry volunteers on **November 11**. In February of 2010, 15 congregants gathered together to pack 200 sack meals, 250 sandwiches and more than 200 toiletry bags. The following night, five frostbitten volunteers braved the Chicago cold to distribute the packages to the needy in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood.

This year, our volunteer site will be Lakeview and our target population will be mostly homeless LGBTQ youth. Though all of us may be enjoying our time in the sun and the lack of a wind-chill factor, November is not that far away and committees are forming now! We need volunteers to gather donations, transport food, pack and distribute meals. If you wish to participate in this enormous mitzvah, contact Laurie Grauer at [Office@OrChadash.org](mailto:Office@OrChadash.org) today!

## **The Fast of Tisha B'Av**

Our observance of the fast of Tisha B'Av will begin on **Monday evening, July 19 at 8:00pm**. We will be meeting on the beach, just to the south of Emanuel, and will again be joined by members of Lomdim as we read and discuss the book of Lamentations. Tisha B'Av commemorates the destruction of the Temples and other calamities that our people have faced. Bring along a blanket to sit on and a flashlight to aid in your following of/participation in the reading.

## **Los Angeles 2010 20th World Conference of GLBT Jews August 13-15, 2010**

Conference registration is ongoing at [www.la2010.org](http://www.la2010.org), and is currently \$250 for members of our member organizations.

The World Congress is proud to welcome American Airlines as the official airline of LA2010. Please see their website, [www.la2010.org](http://www.la2010.org) for information about the 5% discount they are offering.

## **And Thank you**

Bill Wahler :

In honor of Alan Amberg's graduation and

In honor of Robin Sampliner and in thanks for a great year working together.

Rabbi Larry Edwards & Susan Boone:

In celebration of the graduation of Alan Amberg and

To thank Rick Greenthal for his years of service as OC Treasurer

Challenge Ourselves Fund

Rick Greenthal & Joel Fink in honor of Lee Griesbach's & David Miller's new home

A general donation from James Whetstone & Marvin Berns

Mark Bacharach in memory of his father, Leo A. Bachrach

Jay O'Reilly in honor of Alan Amberg on the occasion of his graduation

## **Or Chadash concludes its Samartina Housewares Drive**

The Samartina Housing Project is a collaborative venture between AIDS Foundation of Chicago and eleven other agencies. It offers housing to individuals living with HIV/AIDS who were formerly or recently homeless. For the entire month of June, Congregation Or Chadash collected pots, pans, towels and bed linens in order to help turn these housing projects into homes. Thank you to all who donated items and finances toward this great cause.



## Some Notes on Jews and Pride

*By Rabbi Larry Edwards*

I am writing this on Judy Garland's Yahrzeit, which always falls during Pride Week. I recently confessed to Dillie Grunauer that, back in June 1969, I was so unconnected to GLBT issues that the Stonewall Riots were not even a blip on the screen of my awareness. In this, I know that I am not alone.

In the American context, though, the logic of equal rights is very powerful, and we have come a long way in 41 years. During the past month or so I have become aware of the fact that major Jewish organizations are clearly on record in support of many of our issues, and I want to bring this fact to your attention.

The **National Council of Jewish Women** -- [www.ncjw.org](http://www.ncjw.org) -- organized and co-sponsored with us a panel on Jews and the LGBT community, and some of their members have expressed interest in joining us for the Pride Parade. "Laws and policies that provide equal rights for same-sex couples" is one of the principles they endorse.

The **American Jewish Committee** -- [www.ajc.org](http://www.ajc.org) -- is on record since at least 1994 "endorsing the right of gay couples who enter into civil unions to enjoy the same legal benefits and protections afforded to heterosexual couples" and "opposing the recently proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would restrict marriage to the union of a man and a woman."

This past week I was invited to attend the board meeting of the **Anti-Defamation League** -- [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org). They wanted to be sure that I was aware of their various statements and amicus briefs on a range of issues. The ADL has joined amicus briefs that supported overturning Texas' Homosexual Conduct Law, Lawrence v. Texas (2003), and argued (unsuccessfully) against discrimination by the Boy Scouts. They are on record opposing the overturning of the right to same-sex marriage in California, repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and in support of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). The local chapter even plans to have a float in this year's Pride Parade.

And this letter from my colleagues -- <http://ccarnet.org/index.cfm>? -- addressed to the Review Working Group: "The **Central Conference of American Rabbis**, the world's largest organization of Jewish Clergy representing nearly 2000 Reform Rabbis, supports the repeal of the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy in the strongest terms possible."

I take note of this very partial list to remind us that most of the organized Jewish community is with us on these issues. Perhaps there are ways we can support their efforts to support us.



*A group of which you can be proud*

**And so ends another Pride Weekend....**



**Our People,  
Our Community,  
Our Synagogue,  
And our Rabbi**

Become a fan on Facebook

# July 2010

## Congregation Or Chadash

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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<p><i>18</i></p> <p>7 Av</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><del>12 pm Visit to Holocaust Museum in Skokie</del></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px; background-color: yellow;"> <p>Postponed</p> </div>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>8 Av</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>8 pm Tisha B'Av service with</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px; background-color: yellow;"> <p>Service will be at Or Chadash</p> </div>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>9 Av</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>10 Av</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>11 Av</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>12 Av</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>8 pm Shabbat Service</p> </div>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>13 Av</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>"A Child of Our Time" concert at Millennium Park, meet at 7</p> </div>																																																																																				
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<p><b>1</b> 21 Av</p>	<p><b>2</b> 22 Av</p> <p>7:00 Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b> 23 Av</p>	<p><b>4</b> 24 Av</p>	<p><b>5</b> 25 Av</p>	<p><b>6</b> 26 Av</p> <p>8 pm Shabbat Service</p>	<p><b>7</b> 27 Av</p> <p>10 am Morning Service followed by light lunch</p> <p>Market Days</p>																																																																																																	
<p><b>8</b> 28 Av</p> <p>1:30-3 pm Mussar Group in Library</p> <p>Market Days</p>	<p><b>9</b> 29 Av</p>	<p><b>10</b> 30 Av</p>	<p><b>11</b> 1 Elul</p> <p><b>Rosh Chodesh</b> <b>Canceled</b></p> <p><del>6-8 pm "Taste of Edgewater Recipe Swap" Neighborhood Watch</del></p>	<p><b>12</b> 2 Elul</p>	<p><b>13</b> 3 Elul</p> <p>8 pm Torah Service</p> <p>Los Angeles World Congress of GLBT Jews</p>	<p><b>14</b> 4 Elul</p> <p>Los Angeles World Congress of GLBT Jews</p>																																																																																																	
<p><b>15</b> 5 Elul</p> <p>Los Angeles World Congress of GLBT Jews</p>	<p><b>16</b> 6 Elul</p>	<p><b>17</b> 7 Elul</p>	<p><b>18</b> 8 Elul</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9 Elul</p>	<p><b>20</b> 10 Elul</p> <p>8 pm Shabbat Service</p> <p>Possible BBQ?</p>	<p><b>21</b> 11 Elul</p>																																																																																																	
<p><b>22</b> 12 Elul</p>	<p><b>23</b> 13 Elul</p>	<p><b>24</b> 14 Elul</p>	<p><b>25</b> 15 Elul</p>	<p><b>26</b> 16 Elul</p>	<p><b>27</b> 17 Elul</p> <p>8 pm Shabbat Service</p> <p>Possible BBQ?</p>	<p><b>28</b> 18 Elul</p>																																																																																																	
<p><b>29</b> 19 Elul</p>	<p><b>30</b> 20 Elul</p>	<p><b>31</b> 21 Elul</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jul 2010</th> <th colspan="7">Sep 2010</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Jul 2010							Sep 2010							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3			1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30		
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