## **CONGREGATION OR VESHALOM**





# Congregation Or VeShalom seeks a Full-Time Cantor

### Who We Are:

Congregation Or VeShalom (OVS), with its rich and diverse year history, is located in the rapidly growing intown Atlanta neighborhood of Brookhaven, and currently serves over 350 member households. Founded in 1914 by families primarily from the Mediterranean Island of Rhodes and Turkey, OVS is known for its distinctive heritage, often counting multi-generational families among the membership. Over time, our congregation has attracted families from Sephardic communities around the world as well as Ashkenazi Jews from the United States. The tradition of our synagogue is Sephardic; however, our membership today represents a wide variety of religious practices and varied levels of personal observance within Judaism.

As the oldest Sephardic synagogue in the Southeast, we have the unique feature of a religious service that offers both separate and mixed seating sections (a Tri-chitzah). We believe it is our responsibility to foster Sephardic ritual, Jewish learning, and service to OVS members, the greater Atlanta community, and the State of Israel. We strive to be a place where the wisdom of Judaism is conveyed and applied to improve our lives in today's complex and questioning world.

Our lay leadership is dedicated to OVS and eager to achieve the goals laid out in our December 2018 Strategic Plan. We are financially stable and debt-free with a generous membership. OVS is centrally located in a geographically convenient community filled with young Jewish families and single professionals, many of whom are not yet affiliated.

#### Overview of the Position:

As part of our strategic plan, the congregation is excited about the ongoing process of engaging children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of our founding members, as well as attracting new young families. The successful applicant will have an open-minded outlook to partner with our professional team and lay leadership to build off of our strategic plan.

OVS is a progressive Sephardic congregation. This means that we are paving a new path for the community and the Sephardic world all at once. OVS will be a laboratory of cutting-edge innovative Jewish and Sephardic experiences. Through the work of our leadership team, OVS offers services, programs and opportunities that are targeted to various demographics and interest groups, but the overlap will permit people to enjoy programs that are not even targeted to them.

The Cantor will report directly to the Rabbi and work collaboratively with other synagogue staff and leadership on developing educational programs and services to help OVS become a destination and gathering place for our current and future members.

We envision this job to be primarily on Shabbat/Holidays with some evening/Sunday teaching/tutoring hours. Initially, we are focusing on Shabbat and Holidays as the primary responsibilities of the successful applicant. Significant weekday flexibility to pursue outside opportunities.

# **Essential Responsibilities:**

- Chant the majority of the Torah reading each week (Full Kriyah)
- Assist Rabbi in training new Torah and Haftarah readers to involve more congregants.
- Train all B'nai Mitzvah candidates.
  - As interest grows, plan and execute adult B'nai Mitzvah classes.
- Along with a cadre of Lay Members, lead Friday evening and Saturday services.
- Coordinate with Rabbi on leading services for all Holy Days: Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, Purim, Pesach, Shavuot and Tisha B'Av
  - Exact responsibilities on the High Holidays will be worked out with the chosen candidate.
- When the Rabbi is out of town, the Cantor will lead services along with other Lay Leaders and be on call for pastoral needs and funerals.
- Coordinate with Rabbi on all services, meetings, and teachings.
- Maintain the highest quality of courtesy, friendliness and service toward members, visitors and other staff.

### **Qualifications:**

- Mastery of and experience with Sephardic Nusach and pronunciation
- Cantorial training from an accredited institution or documented proof of equivalent experience of said training
- Previous pulpit experience preferred
- Familiarity with new and innovative modes of tefillah

# **Compensation:**

Salary: \$45-50K

Benefit Package: Negotiable

Housing available as part of compensation package

**Start Date:** Fall 2023 with flexibility