



KOL HA'KEHILAH

THE COMMUNITY VOICE קול הקהילה



BALANCING AN IMPERFECT WORLD

Rabbi Boris Dolin

At the start of the pandemic, we began a new class in our community, *Musar in the Morning*. What began as a small group of people meeting twice a week online for study and reflection has evolved into a powerful spiritual and practical "tool kit" to make our way through these tough times. Life and death, love and anger, humor and eating, faith and fear, we have covered it all. While there are many lessons that we have gained from this experience together, the idea of "balance" has stayed strong. With so many emotions and so many challenges confronting us, knowing how to hold a sense of perspective, how to weigh our emotions and experiences, is so important.

Musar sees each person as having a collection of "soul traits", *middot*, or parts or essences of their inner self which make up their personality and soul. These include traits such as *rachamim*, compassion, *seder*, order, *bitachon*, trust, *shvil hazahav*, moderation, *nedivut*, generosity and more. Each person has all of these traits in them, but each person at different times has different amounts. There are no inherently "bad"

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Liz Freedman

Something that we discussed a few years ago during an opening Dvar Torah at a Board meeting when I was a relatively new Board member has stuck with me. Like many institutions, a synagogue is a living organism. In order to thrive, organisms need to grow and evolve rather than staying static. This metaphor lends itself well to our Reconstructing Judaism worldview, where we seek to adapt, modify and evolve to make our traditions more relevant and meaningful.

As we look at all that has changed over the past 3 years, we feel a need, and an opportunity, to reassess how we do things. Some of the needs of our membership have changed and we have found alternate ways of accomplishing certain aspects of shul life. To simply revert to how everything was done in early 2020 would be a waste of the potential to grow and evolve. The Board has been taking its role of strategic planning and vision seriously within this vein. Since the late summer, the Board has been working on both shorter-term and longer-term visions for Dorshei Emet.

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CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

Volume 6 No. 3

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Investing in Dorshei Emet

Executive Director: Cynthia Weinstein

My life before becoming the Executive Director of Dorshei was very different. I was a stay-at-home mom and an active volunteer for Nourrisource (a Quebec based breast feeding support group), my children's Jewish Day School, and the shul. However, before that, I had a career as an investment advisor at a large financial services firm in Montreal, where I worked for almost a decade before having kids.

Life is a series of changes and opportunities to reinvent yourself. At each stage, it's important to evaluate your priorities and decide where you invest your time, energy, and focus. At every stage, it's also important to look at your financial investments and see how they align with your current priorities.

The Dorshei Emet Annual Giving Campaign is an opportunity for you to invest financially in the shul. This investment will ensure that we can offer the components of Jewish life that make it much richer: programs, Jewish festivals, religious services, and lifecycle events. At Dorshei Emet these come in a unique "flavour" that is not available elsewhere in Montreal. So it's not only an investment in an institution; in this case, it's an investment in values and experiences that would be sorely missing from the city without Dorshei Emet.

Our Annual Giving Campaign ends after Purim, on March 31. On this holiday, we dress up and show a side

of ourselves that we don't reveal in our day-to-day lives. Of course, most of us choose a costume from what we have easily available in our closets. However, ideally, you use the holiday and costume choice to explore an aspect of your personality and life. Considering what your costume will be for Purim is analogous to your time at Dorshei, exploring and deepening your commitment and understanding of Jewish life.

Our campaign ends on March 31. This year, when considering the amount you will donate to the campaign, consider what Dorshei represents to you. What would your Jewish life look like if we were not here? The Annual Giving Campaign provides the funds we need to offer the elements you love about our shul.

In almost every newsletter article, I write about how to get involved. In addition to donating to the Annual Giving Campaign, we also want your energy and insight to help us steer the Dorshei ship. We are always open to new ideas and feedback. As I often tell Oria, our fantastic Program Director, "every good idea cannot come from us." Please call me to discuss your financial, intellectual, and emotional investments in the shul. Happy Purim!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DORSHEIEMET1
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE
DORSHEIEMET.COM FOR UPDATED NEWS AND
PROGRAM CALENDAR

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN



CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

18 Cleve Road, Hampstead, Quebec H3X 1A6



The Congregation Dorshei Emet Annual Giving Campaign is our primary fundraising effort. The campaign provides our greatest source of non-dues income, which is necessary to ensure the financial health of our community. In addition, this fundraising enables Dorshei Emet to continue to be the warm and welcoming shul we all love. We have so much to look forward to in the coming year and many opportunities to connect.

Dorshei Emet continues to be creative, flexible, and innovative. We continue to pray, learn, and socialize in person and on Zoom.

Only through your generosity (donations large and small) can we achieve our goals of spiritual fulfillment, cultural enrichment, exceptional educational programming, and appreciation of the joys of Jewish life.

Your participation in the Annual Giving Campaign is the reason we can be the inclusive community we have all come to know and love.

To donate see the link on our website dorsheimet.com, or call the shul office 514-486-9400.

Todah rabah and thank you for your generous donation!

FAMILY SHABBAT

MARCH 18

**10:30-12:00
MAKE IT HOLY**

APRIL 1

**FAMILY HAVDALAH
DETAILS TBA**

APRIL 15

**10:30-12:00
FAMILY SHABBAT
COUNTING THE OMER**

APRIL 29

**10:30-12:00
FAMILY SHABBAT
WELCOMING SPRING**

MAY 20

**FAMILY HAVDALAH
DETAILS TBA**

MAY 27

**10:30-12:00
FAMILY SHABBAT
SHAVUOT CELEBRATION**

JUNE 11

END OF YEAR GATHERING!

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Registration info will be in the weekly emails



In the Shadow of Dorshei

Communications Committee
Chair: Lewis Lurie

Having lived close by the shul for the past 30 years, "In the Shadow of Dorshei" is an occasional column about the people I've met and the experiences I've had during my daily walk around the neighbourhood.

Ch. 3 - You never can tell

We had crossed paths a number of times on Cleve Road - he always walking briskly, purposefully, me somewhat more moderately, less intently - initially not acknowledging each other, then nodding, eventually politely wishing each other Shabbat Shalom or Chag Sameach, depending, finally stopping one day to introduce ourselves. He looked to be mid-40's, obviously observant, but other than now having learned his name ("Alex") I knew nothing else about him, our interactions being courteous, but brief, and not revealing anything about our personal lives. He resided almost directly across from Dorshei, on the south side of Cleve. One afternoon, he asked me how many steps I'd taken that particular day, which was usually not more than four- to five-thousand, although, he revealed, his count was invariably close to 10,000, often more. Then, one Shabbat this past June, I went to an *aufruf* for the son of a friend of mine at the Adath Israel, on Harrow Crescent, a few blocks from our shul. I arrived just before torah reading, took a seat facing the *bimah*, the rabbi, his back to us, unrolling the torah scroll, his *shockling* and *davening* reminding me of my paternal grandfather, who died in the early 1950's, an austere, devout man - with whom I attended Shabbat services on a few occasions, accompanied by my father - and who *shocked* and *davened* similarly while chanting those frisson-inducing, centuries-old melodies. The rabbi soon pivoted to face the congregation and imagine my surprise when he turned out to be "my" Alex! After the service, at the *kiddish*, I approached him, shook his hand and, grinning widely, told him I had no idea he was a rabbi, and at such a long-established, highly-respected synagogue at that. He smiled back and said, "You never can tell!" He told me he was actually the auxiliary clergy, the regular rabbi being unable to attend that day. After a brief chat, I shook his hand warmly once again and started to take my leave, there being a few congregants lined up wanting to speak to him too. As I was leaving, he asked, "Did you walk here from home?" I said, "Of course." Smiling, he asked, "How many steps today?" I chuckled and said, "By the time I get back home, it'll probably be 7000, 7500." He said, "I'm impressed. That's more than your usual, no?" I nodded. He then asked, "You know how much I've done already today?" I shook my head. "About 8000. And the day is still young!"



Family Comfort with the Yizkor Book

Rebecca Morris
Yizkor Book Committee



Irene Schwab (left) and Rebecca Morris (right)



Though sorrow lingers, I have learned that love is stronger than death.

– Dorshei Emet Yizkor Book 5783, page 22

I'll be adding another name to Dorshei Emet's Yizkor Book this year: my aunt Irene Schwab, who died of cancer in October. Irene was an artist, an archaeologist, a writer, an academic, a feminist and an educator. She was my mother's outspoken and independent younger sister, a single mother to my twin cousins, a beloved figure and role model in my life. She lived in London, England, where her parents met as refugees from Nazi Germany. Sadly, Irene died on her own mother's *yahrzeit*. Before her death, I had mainly lost members of my grandparents' generation, and most of them were in their nineties. Irene was just 72.

When I flew to London after her death to be with my family there, I packed a copy of Dorshei Emet's Yizkor Book. Irene was not religious, but she was proud of her

Jewish heritage and came to Montreal in 2016 and again in 2019 to participate in the *b'nei mitzvot* of my children at Dorshei Emet. The Yizkor Book helped me learn the Mourner's Kaddish so I could recite this at Irene's funeral at Golders Green Crematorium in North London, where her ashes will lie in a rose bed beside my grandparents and great-grandmother.

Amidst the sadness of preparing Irene's funeral, my family was comforted by the poems, readings and rituals in the Yizkor Book. I'm also comforted to know that I can include her name in next year's Yizkor Book and add a personal memorial on Dorshei's online Memory Book.

All members will have the opportunity to add names to Dorshei Emet's 5784 Yizkor Book during the campaign this spring, which will run from early April to June 30th, 2023. All contributors are also invited to add photo, video and written

tributes to their loved ones on the online Memory Book. These can be submitted anytime and are maintained on Dorshei's ShulCloud website. Just get in touch with members of the office staff or the Yizkor Book committee if you need any help with your Memory Book submission.

My Aunt Irene was a wonderful person and a huge influence in my life, and I'm glad that I can share my memories of her with other Dorshei members.



Kudos for Kiddush!

Ilana Shiller
Kiddush Committee

The newly formed Dorshei Emet *kiddush* committee is looking into everything *kiddush* related. This includes food, the kitchen, and sponsored and unsponsored *kiddush*. Our goals include reducing the deficit related to food, reviewing and updating our *kashrut* policy and list of outside food purveyors, and updating and replacing old kitchen equipment while being as environmentally green as possible.

Kiddush (or *kiddish*) is literally a blessing recited over wine or grape juice to sanctify Shabbat and Jewish holidays. Additionally, *kiddush* refers to a small repast held on Shabbat or festival mornings after prayer services and before the meal.

Our *kiddush* luncheon following Shabbat morning services is one of the best parts of Dorshei Emet. Now that we are allowed

to gather together, we humbly suggest that *kiddush* might be a way to attract more people to return to shul on Shabbat.

Importantly, it's not actually about the food! It's about community, being and sharing together. Sharing stories, laughing, meeting old friends and making new ones. *Kiddush* and the time spent schmoozing builds a strong vibrant community and connection. Clearly, there are people in this community who are unable to resume in-person connections (for a multitude of reasons). However, for the rest of us, with some precautions, we are able to gather. Let's move forward and gather for prayer, *kiddush* and other events as much as possible.

We are encouraging everyone who can to come and participate in being part of this beautiful tradition. Perhaps it is time to catch up on celebrations we missed during the last two years or so. *Bar* and *bat mitzvah* celebrants could host a *kiddush* to celebrate their coming of age in the community. They could invite friends and family to participate personally in their *simcha*, albeit one or two years later.

You can sponsor a *kiddush* to honor someone, remember someone, or celebrate a *simcha*, or a group can celebrate something they have in common. And, if none of the above work for you, then sponsor Just Because!

The DE *kiddush* committee is open to hearing your suggestions and comments. Please submit your ideas to KiddushDE@gmail.com.

Greening of the Shul Subcommittee

Since the fall newsletter, the Greening the Shul Committee continued with its information-gathering activities that culminated in a November presentation to the Board of Directors of our key findings and recommendations for improvement.

The presentation began with a reminder of the driving force of our Committee, through the inspirational words of Adrienne Sklar and Eva Echenberg, the initiators of this project:

"We fear for our planet. We fear for the future of our children and grandchildren because of the climate crisis. Individually each must best deal with the climate crisis, collectively we must also take action to address the problem. Our shul, like every other building, needs to "go green" and become more energy efficient. Our mandate is to look for ways in which we can make these changes to our building. Our building was inaugurated in 2002, and, twenty years later, it is appropriate to evaluate its "greenness" and how it might be adapted to current standards."

We then presented our findings that included environmentally sound practices already in place:

- Energy Star Certified office equipment
- Thermostats with night setback controls
- A strategy to replace lightbulbs with LEDs, for which efforts are underway
- A water-efficient irrigation system
- Use of washable and compostable dishes, glasses, and cutlery

This was followed by our recommended areas for improvement with a high priority given to:

- Replacing the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system as it nears the end of its life with energy-efficient components and, if possible, with filters that capture small particles, including viruses.
- Replacing aging kitchen appliances with energy-efficient appliances, following the Kitchen Committee's determination as to the kitchen's purpose.

Other areas for improvement include: a) replacing toilets with low flush toilets; b) installing programmable light switches where possible; c) ensuring the use of eco-friendly cleaning products.

The Board directed us to meet with the Chair of the House Committee to see how some of our recommendations could be factored into their development of a timeline for eventual renovations and improvements. The Board informed us that it will be "an 'items need to be replaced' type of plan, with the HVAC system being the most immediate." They also said that they have plans in the works for the kitchen and that our "extra pairs of eyes" will be helpful.

This meeting took place in December and we will be collaborating with the House Committee on actions to be taken in support of our Greening the Shul initiative. We look forward to reporting positive results in the near future.

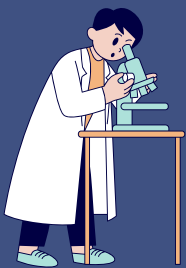
Article by Maureen McArar

Calling All Scientists


Purim

In The Lab


Monday, March 6, 2023 @ 6:15 PM




Megilah Reading




Costume Parade



Epic Mad Science Show



Purim Feast



Carnival Games

Registration Required. Details in the Weeklies.

Young Couples Update

Rabbi Boris Dolin

It has been wonderful over the past few years to see more young couples participating in Dorshei Emet programs and services. From new parents, to newlyweds, to children of members and participants in the Honeymoon Israel trip I led, we have a growing community of couples, along with singles and curious seekers who now are part of the Dorshei Emet family. This group is diverse and unique in their stories and connection to the Jewish community and now more than ever, we need to ensure that they find their place with us as they help lead us into the future.

Many of the couples whose weddings at which I officiate are what I now call "Jews and Those Who Love Them," where one partner is Jewish and the other is not. In nearly all cases, the non-Jewish partner does not connect deeply to another faith or religion and is fully supportive of their Jewish partner and of raising Jewish children if they choose to have them. Even more, I have found almost without exception that these couples are some of the most Jewishly connected, as they are able to think deeply about their identities, cultural background and even some of the "baggage" they may have grown up with related to their families, schooling or religious practices. Many of these couples participate in a workshop I teach for 18Doors, and others spend

time with me discussing these ideas. The pride and meaning that these couples find in being part of a liberal, accepting community such as Dorshei Emet is something that cannot be denied. The couples are ready and willing to participate in community programs and events, and now is the time to work even harder to make sure they find their place.

Yet it also is clear that as members of a younger generation, they do not necessarily find their primary connection with Jewish life through religious services and programs. While still a potential connection point in the future, we are working hard to provide more social programs and also interesting and accessible learning opportunities for the couples so that they can find meaning and connection with community as they continue to grow their families. We hope that they can find strength from being with other young couples but also from connecting with the wonderful multi-generational family of Dorshei Emet.

With help from the CJA's Spark program, we now have an official Young Couples Havurah (group) facilitated by a participant who is helping plan programs and do outreach for the group. Over the next few years, I hope that the group will grow to be a core part of our synagogue life, providing a strong group of peers to support these couples as they make their way through the journey of life, but also keeping them connected with Jewish tradition, with learning and with the Dorshei Emet community.

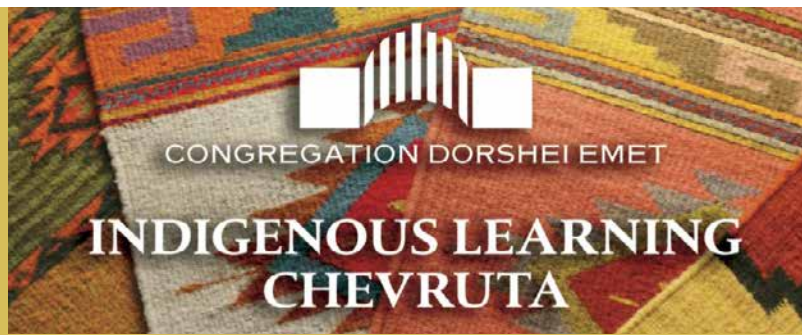
If you are part of a young couple, or know any young couples, let me know, and we can get them connected!

Dorshei Emet Second Night PASSOVER SEDER Thursday, April 6th, 2023

Join the community for a creative, musical and participatory seder along with a fully catered meal.

Everyone is invited!

Registration information and price
will be announced.



The year has been very rich and rewarding for members (and guests) participating in the programs offered by the Indigenous Learning Chevruta.

On October 27 the group organized a guided visit of the "ᐱᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ / Ruovttu Guvlui / Vers chez soi/Towards Home" exhibition at the Canadian Centre for Architecture.

The exhibition explored different notions of "home" in Inuit and Sámi communities as expressed by artists and architects from these two peoples. The first element of the exhibition, the porch, served as the introduction to the show, making this traditionally liminal space between public and private, where we paused and acknowledge being guests in these spaces.

We were invited into abstractions of their landscapes, under specially fabricated tents, and across metaphorical rivers as different artists, chosen by primarily Inuit and Sami curators, expressed what their space and space-making was to them. There were more traditional drawings and extensive installations, including a reference "library" of books, films and objects that visitors were encouraged to consult. Through photos, we acknowledged what would be considered "throw-away" landscapes locally - bus shelters, underpasses, etc. - that become gathering spaces for members of the Inuit community in transit between the north and south. There were sound installations including an entire radio program developed by Geronimo Inutiq, whose mother was a CBC broadcaster in the north. It was refreshing to see the work of Inuit and Sámi artists that doesn't conform to our traditional

notions of northern art - the overly familiar soapstone birds, bears and hunters.

Another interesting program planned for the 2022-23 programming year is our "Indigenous Lives" series. These are interview format talks with 3 Inuit, First Nations or Métis people who are actively involved in different organizations, carving out a place for Indigenous perspectives. These are vibrant, committed people whose work, both professional and artistic, is happening all around us. We are so excited to introduce them to you!

The Chevruta has also coordinated member participation in the 12-lesson "Indigenous Canada" Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) developed by the University of Alberta's Faculty of Native Studies. This course explores complex experiences faced by Indigenous peoples today from a historical and critical perspective, highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. Some of the topics include: the fur trade and other exchange relationships, land claims and environmental impacts, Indigenous political activism, contemporary Indigenous life, art and its expressions. Starting the week of January 23, participants signed up for the course on their own, but participate in a group discussion organized by the Indigenous Learning Chevruta, after every three lessons.

And last but not least, a visit to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is planned in early March to tour the exhibit "ᐅᓂᓐᓂᓐ TUSARNITUT! Music Born of the Cold". Hope to see you there!



Left:

Participants sitting in asinnajaq's "Nuna", a shelter that evokes the four elements.

Right:

One element of Joat Nango's "Sámi Architectural Library"





Dorshei Emet Ukraine Benefit Concert

Helen Binik

Last March, Rabbi Boris and I came up independently with the same idea for a shul concert in support of Ukraine. In the spirit of our highly successful 2016 Syrian refugee fundraiser, the concert that confirmed for Rabbi Boris that we were the congregation for him, we decided on something local - the new clinic established by Irv Binik and Nate Fuks, his Jewish Ukrainian colleague in the McGill Psychology Department. The clinic, whose goal is to offer free and desperately needed mental health care for Ukrainian refugees and their families in Montreal, had just opened with a waiting list of 70 people and it needed funds. I put together a band of shul musicians to start rehearsing for a sing-along and I put out feelers in the Montreal Ukrainian community to recruit musicians who would give us a taste of local Ukrainian musical production.

There was concern voiced in the congregation that Covid would prevent our concert from getting off the ground. However, by the time November 26 rolled around, it looked like our community was ready to party! Around 170 people showed up and the atmosphere was electric.

Our talented Ukrainian guests, all of whom performed as volunteers, proved to be stellar, showcasing very different genres of Ukrainian music. Pianist Oksana Zotova brilliantly

performed two pieces by the contemporary composer Myroslav Skoryk. Olena Zubkova's soprano soared in an aria from the opera *Natalka Poltavka* and her passionate folk song about her homeland, "Behind Forests and Mountains," brought tears to our eyes. The a cappella duo Murmurosi enchanted us with village folk songs in haunting harmonies, rare music to hear in concert. And for a real change of pace, the band Chaban & Vovk treated us to such a lively rendition of traditional dance music that we couldn't keep our feet still. In the words of their accordionist, "We had a blast performing and it was a joy to see people up and dancing to our set!!!"

Our shul band kept the momentum going. With inimitable Mark Bassel on guitar and vocals, talented Eric Caplan on keyboard and vocals, our very own Rabbi Boris on guitar and vocals, Hernan Ciecha keeping us in line on drums, rock-solid Ken Elman on bass, and me on vocals and percussion, we had the room rocking with a set of favourite pop tunes. We had a blast too!

So, with the help of the shul office staff and a generous grant from the Azrieli Foundation, the evening was a roaring success and we're proud to have raised \$6,400 for the McGill Clinic. Thanks to all for your enthusiasm and generous donations.



Shul band left to right: Mark Bassel, Helen Binik, Hernan Ciecha, Eric Caplan, Ken Elman, Rabbi Boris



Soprano Olena Zubkova and pianist Oksana Zotova



A cappella duo Murmurosi in national dress

WHO WE ARE

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 Diane Sasson
 Eric Shostak
 Marilyn Takefman

Please feel free to contact Cynthia Weinstein, Executive Director, to learn about the many opportunities in our dynamic committees.
executivedirector@dorshei-emet.org
 or (514) 486-9400.

Committees:

Finance Committee:

Chair – Howard Ellner

Budget Subcommittee:

Chair – Howard Ellner

Fundraising Committee: *Open*

Yizkor Book Subcommittee:

Chair – Bernie Weinstein

House & Maintenance Committee:

Chair – David Hill

Security Subcommittee:

Chair – David Hill

Minhag Committee:

Chair – Jodi Lackman

Communications Committee:

Chair – Lewis Lurie

Human Resources Committee:

Chair – David Hill

Cemetery Committee:

Chair – Howard Berger

Nominating Committee:

Chair – Elana Cooperberg

Social Justice Committee/Tikkun Olam:

Chair – Susan Stock

Greening of the Shul Subcommittee:

Chair – Maureen McAn

Greening Your Life Subcommittee:

Chair – Susan Stock

Ukrainian Support Working Group

Chair – Susan Stock

Anti Racism Learning and Action Subcommittee

Chair: Beth Blackmore

Empty Bowls:

Chair – Sarah Dolin

Membership Committee:

Chair – Marilyn Takefman

Gemilut Hasadim Subcommittee:

Chair – Toby Shainbaum-Pollak

Yahrzeit Subcommittee:

Chair – Ellayne Kaplan

Programming Committee: *Open*

Children's Programming Subcommittee:

Chair – *Open*

Adult Education Subcommittee: *Open*

Indigenous Chevruta:

Co-chairs – Diane Sasson & Ronit Yarosky

Speaker's Series: *Open*

Kiddush Committee:

Chair – David Hill

Email – KiddushDE@gmail.com

Governance Committee:

Co-chairs – Martin Boodman & Nora Kelner

23 The Great Hamentashen Happening - 7 pm

MARCH

- 6** Megillah Reading & Purim Party - 6:15 pm
- 12** Shalom Chant - 4 pm
- 18** Family Shabbat – Make It Holy - 10:30 am
- 21** Miriam Cup Workshop - 7 pm
- 28** Indigenous Lives - 7 pm ZOOM
- 30** Charoset Making Workshop - 7 pm

APRIL

- 1 Family Havdalah - 7 pm
- 5 Erev Passover – Dorshei Emet office closes at noon
- 5 First Seder – Passover
- 6 Dorshei Emet office closed
- 6 Second Seder @ Dorshei Emet
- 7 Dorshei Emet office closed
- 8 Family Shabbat – Counting the Omer - 10:30 am
- 10 Dorshei Emet office closed – statutory holiday
- 12 Dorshei Emet office closed
- 13 Dorshei Emet office closed
- 13 Pesach Yizkor Service/Speaker:
Judith Nemes Black - 10 am
- 18 Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom Ha Shoah
- 19 Bookclub - 1 pm
- 25 Yom Ha Zikaron
- 26 Israel Independence Day Yom Ha'atzmaut
- 28 Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration - 6:30 pm

MAY

- 7 Empty Bowls - 3 pm
- 9 Lag B'Omer
- 12 Kabbalat Shabbat Around The World:
Caribbean - 6:30 pm
- 17 Bookclub - 1 pm
- 18 Pre-Shavuot Cheesemaking Workshop - 7pm
- 22 Victoria Day – Dorshei Emet office closed
- 25 Erev Shavuot
- 26 Dorshei Emet Office closed
- 26-27 Shavuot
- 27 Ruth Richler Memorial Lecture: Speaker – Andrew
Marantz - 7:30 pm

JUNE

- 14** Jewish Journeys Information Night - 7 pm

* Dates are subject to change, and more events may be added. Please check our Weekly Announcements, Facebook page or Website for updates.





Passover Yizkor Service

**THURSDAY,
APRIL 13TH
10:00AM**

Speaker :
DE Member
Judith
Nemes Black
PERSONAL
REFLECTIONS ON
THE SHOAH

*REGISTRATION INFO
WILL BE IN THE WEEKLIES*



The Ruth Richler Memorial Lecture Presents

An Evening with Andrew Marantz

Saturday, May 27 @ 7:30 PM

Andrew Marantz is a staff writer at The New Yorker where he has worked since 2011. His work has also appeared in Harper's, New York, Mother Jones, the New York Times and many other publications. A contributor to Radiolab and The New Yorker Radio Hour, he has spoken at TED and interviewed on CNN, MSNBC, NPR and many other outlets.

RABBI'S MESSAGE, CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

traits, so the practice of musar is to know how to weigh and utilize each trait as we interact with the world around us.

For example, for some of us humility and patience come easily, but we also know that there are times when we need to fight or protest, or when we need to stick up for ourselves and our values. We do our best to show *kavod*, honor to others, yet we also know that there are certain people who have caused so much suffering for us that showing this trait will only cause more pain.

Our lives are a constant mix of embracing and struggling with these parts of ourselves, and we all do it a little bit differently. We are asked to walk our individual spiritual paths, knowing that not only do we have all of these traits at different levels and at different times, but that everyone else does too.

Our *musar* discussions in class have been powerful, and we explore both the blessings and the challenges we encounter in our lives with sensitivity and strength. It has been wonderful to share stories of life and relationships in a safe and supportive space, and I think we all have found comfort in knowing that so many of us are experiencing similar situations and spiritual trials. One ultimate truth that has come to light is that we are constantly reminded that we are imperfect, beautifully imperfect, and that this is just the way it should be. This is not just a statement of spirituality, but also a very practical one. In our relationships, in our politics, in our deepest held beliefs, we simply do not hold all the answers. Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz writes in The Thirteen Petalled Rose:

The Jewish approach to life considers the person who has stopped going -- who has a feeling of completion, of peace, of a great light from above that has brought them to rest -- to be someone who has lost their way. Only for someone whom the light continues to beckon, for whom the light is as distant as ever, can be considered to have received some sort of response.

As we head into the spring, and another season of growth and change, let us gather strength from our imperfections and wisdom from the joys and the challenges of life.



Yom Ha'atzmaut @ Dorshei Emet
Friday, April 28, 2023 6:30 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Potluck Dinner
Yom Ha'atzmaut
Celebration and Activities



Bring an Israeli dish - vegetarian, dairy or fish - warm, cut and ready to serve, that will feed 10 people. Falafel, hummus and pita will be served.

Registration Required. Link in the weekly and website



EMPTY BOWLS 2023
NEW FORMAT

proceeds benefit Le Dépôt

May 7

3:00-3:45
Speaker from Le Dépôt
 Learn about food insecurity issues in Montreal, the efforts of Le Dépôt and how you can help.

3:45-5:00
Schmoozing, Choosing and Snacking
 Choose a handmade bowl or mug made by a local potter to take home. Enjoy delicious snacks and the raffle while listening to festive live music.

*Donations start at \$25.00.
 Registration is required and will open in March.*

18 Rue Cleve
 Hampstead, QC H3X 1A6



CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

DORSHEI CHANUKAH IN PHOTOS

Aviv Laor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

In the short term, we are reviewing our kiddush, kitchen and kashrut/catering policies to ensure that we are meeting both the current needs of our members who are planning simchas and the realities of in-person attendance for services. We are also looking inward to review our Board structure in order to improve our efficiency as well as our inclusiveness, including the role of the non-Jewish members of Dorshei Emet. This incorporates developing guidelines for committees to improve how they liaise with the office and their accountability with the Board.

In the longer term, we are beginning to work on where we see ourselves in 5+ years, how we use the building, and where we fit in the wider community. We cannot ignore trends in membership - in terms of numbers and demographics and in terms of changes in what some of our members, and potential members, expect from membership. These are not easy issues to tackle, but important ones. We're approaching them in manageable steps. We have held a few Board strategy sessions dedicated to this exercise, which included background articles about synagogues and studies about Jews in Canada and the U.S., sharing our personal views and concerns along with the anecdotal feedback continuously shared with us by members, and prioritizing areas to explore further. We've put together committees to address the shorter term policies and a task force which includes several past presidents to begin the hard work of longer term visioning. The next steps will involve more direct input from the wider congregation.

I would like to remind you that our Annual Giving Campaign is in full swing and every dollar received assists us in reaching our goals and planning for the incredible future that I know we can attain, both in the short and long term. Only with financial security can we plan ahead and put our vision into practice.

Chag Purim sameach & Chag Pesach sameach!

Donor Recognition

5783 (October 26, 2022 - January 12, 2023)

GENERAL FUND

Carmela Aigen, wishing a Refuah Shlema to Marshall Weinstein
Mary & Jerry Aronovitch, in honour of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff's 1st anniversary

Fran Bacal, in honour of Paul Horowitz's special birthday
Reva Bercovitch, in memory of Fannie Silverstone Kastner z"l
Paola Ciambella, to mark the yartzheit of Charles Nuez z"l on February 5, 2023.

Joelle Dayan & Harvey Mandelker, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Joelle Dayan & Harvey Mandelker, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l

Maurice Douek, on the Bat Mitzvah of Joelle Dayan

Ricki Goldstein & Jack Shlein

Sheila Greenberg, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Judith Mendelsohn

Viviane Sananes, in honour of Joelle Dayan's Bat Mitzvah. Mazel tov!

Diane & Robert Sasson, to mark the yahrzeit of Maurice Schouela z"l, Rebecca Sasson z"l, Jacques Sasson z"l

Kenneth Silver, in honour of the aufruf of his children Jason Silver and Nina Solis

Phyllis Schnarch, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l

Mina Stark, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l

Dorothy Stober, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Judy Kenigsberg

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in memory of Leila Resnickoff z"l, great-aunt of Ronit Yarosky

Marylin Wolfe, in honour of Joelle Dayan's Bat Mitzvah

Laura Yaros & Elizabeth Blackmore, in memory of a dear friend, Judy Kenigsberg z"l

Albinna Zatulovsky, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Joelle Dayan

MEIR IFERGAN B'NEI MITZVAH FUND

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Leila Resnickoff z"l, great-aunt of Ronit Yarosky

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Elisabeth Albert z"l

Liz Freedman & Avrum Warshawsky, in honour of Jonathan Goldstein becoming Bar Mitzvah

Liz Freedman & Avrum Warshawsky, in honour of Max Bergman becoming Bar Mitzvah

Liz Freedman & Avrum Warshawsky, in honour of Jonathan Gabriel Knecht becoming Bar Mitzvah

Pearlann Goldenberg, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l, who loved life and had a smile and hug for everyone

Pearlann Goldenberg, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg, one of the sweetest women

Dorothy Stober, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Dorothy Stober, in honour of the 80th birthday of her cousin Fred Wiseman

RABBI RON Z"l MEMORIAL FUND

Carmela Aigen, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Judy Kenigsberg

Carmela Aigen, in appreciation of Bram Freedman

Carmela Aigen, in memory of Mark Mendelson z"l, a Machzor has been donated in his memory.

Carmela Aigen, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Carmela Aigen, in memory of Myra Hoffman Rothman Barovick z"l, mother of Sheindl Rothman

Miriam Keesel, wishing Carmela Aigen a Refuah Shlema

Deborah Levitan, in memory of Saretta z"l & Ben Levitan z"l

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Mark Mendelson z"l

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Eleanor Bonder, to mark the yahrzeit of her brother David Goldenblatt z"l

Eleanor Bonder, to mark the yahrzeit of her mother Sema Goldenblatt z"l

Philip Ehrensaft, in memory of Morris z"l and Edith Ehrensaft z"l

Kolman Kenigsberg, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Judy Kenigsberg

Barry Lazar & Celina Segal, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Marlene Levine, to mark the yahrzeit of Sidney Levine z"l

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in appreciation of Rabbi Boris and Sarah, and their kind Shabbat invitation

Laurie & Jeff Usheroff, in honour of Gabriel Knecht's Bar Mitzvah

TZEDAKA FUND

Gloria Barski, in memory of Martha and Hyman Kamichik

Judith Nemes Black & Dragan (Emile) Svarc

Maria Sarai & Michael Esar, in honour of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff's wedding anniversary

Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in memory of Alvin Segal z"l, may his memory always be a blessing. Our community has been so greatly enhanced and blessed by his presence and grace.

YOUTH & CHILDREN PROGRAMMING FUND

Myriam Avetisyan & Sarkis Kalaygi, in honour of Jonathan Goldstein's Bar Mitzvah

Ruth & David Flickier, in honour of Cynthia Weinstein, Executive Director

Pearlann Goldenberg, in honour of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff on their 1st wedding anniversary

Toby Moneit & Robie Hockenstein, in appreciation of Rabbi Boris in supporting Samuel and his family in the journey to his Bar Mitzvah

Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in honour of Jonathan Goldstein's Bar Mitzvah

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in honour of Joel King's 75th birthday

PROGRAMMING FUND

Terry Ades & David Brown

Eleanor Bonder, in appreciation of Indigenous program Dec. 6th, 2022

Freya Gordon, in honour of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff's 1st anniversary

Gaby Niloff

Bridget O'Connor, in appreciation of the Dorshei Emet programming

Rachel Pariente, in appreciation of Shalom Chant Nov. 27, 2022

Rosa Richter

Carol Shiller

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in appreciation of Gershon Hundert, his generosity and sharing his vast knowledge with the DE community

Renee Wolanski, to wish Chag Sameach to the Laor family!

Thank you for allowing me to participate in the Chanukah Paint Night. Your shul is very welcoming, and I had a great time.

Cynthia Weinstein & Aviv Laor, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l, the Queen of the Dorshei Emet thank you cards and a wonderful volunteer for the office. We will all miss her.

Lynne Williams, Looking forward to excellent programming in 2023

KIDDUSH FUND

Paola Ciambella, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Peggi Cohen & Mark Rabinovitch, in honour of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff's first anniversary. Mazel tov!

Janet Garmaise, in honour of Judy Kenigsberg's Bat Mitzvah

Miriam Kessel, on the anniversary of Marilyn Takefman and Teddy Goloff

Miriam Kessel

Lois Lieff, to wish a Refuah Shlema to Jack Goldberg

Ila Novak, in honour of Joelle Dayan's Bat Mitzvah

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Anne Nachfolger Cohen z"l, dear mother and mother-in-law of Peggi and Mark. May her memory be a blessing.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Judy Kenigsberg. Mazel tov! Thank you for sharing this milestone with the DE community.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in honour of Jonathan Goldstein's Bar Mitzvah. Mazel tov Jonathan and your beautiful family. Thank you for bringing life and joy to your Dorshei community.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Betty Jean Blackmore z"l, may your mother's memory be forever a blessing.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Gusztav Kalman z"l, Sally Rabinovitch Fineberg z"l, and Marvin Fineberg z"l, may the memories of your family members be forever a blessing in your heart.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, on the anniversary of Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff. Mazel tov on reaching this milestone and thank you so much for sharing your anniversary with your Dorshei community.

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Dr. Sam Rabinovitch z"l, dear father and father-in-law of Mark Rabinovitch and Peggi Cohen

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Natalie Rosenhek z"l

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Lawrence Lazar z"l, dear father of Barry

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Harold Lecker z"l

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Hilton Hill z"l

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Anna Cohen Schwartz z"l

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in memory of Sylvia Bond z"l

Bernie & Sandy Weinstein, through CN's Railroaders in the Community program, in recognition of his many hours of volunteering

Bernie & Sandy Weinstein, on the Bat Mitzvah of Joelle Dayan

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in memory of Esther Hirsch z"l

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in memory of Judy Kenigsberg z"l

UKRAINIAN SUPPORT FUND

Joelle Dayan & Harvey Mandelker, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of Judy Kenigsberg

Leanne Lieblein & John Harrod

Maureen Webster & Abe Hamerman

Dana Hearne

Mona Baumgarten & Jonathan Cohen

BARRY FRANK MEMORIAL FUND

Rosana & Eric Caplan, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

Ronit Yarosky, on the Bat Mitzvah of Joelle Dayan

GEMILUT HASADIM FUND

Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in memory of Leila Resnickoff z"l. May her light continue to shine.

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Pierre Toth z"l

ISADORE AND SARAH GOLDSTEIN FUND

Judy Berger & Will Richardson, in honour of Jonathan Goldstein's Bar Mitzvah

MANNY BACH TORAH FUND

Audrey & Mark Berner, in memory of Ernest Chonchol z"l

MEMORIAL FUND

Freda Greenbaum, in memory of her cousin Judy Kenigsberg z"l. The congregation was very dear to her heart.

Donations are also welcome to:

LAVY BECKER FUND

MACHZOR FUND

SIDDUR FUND

SIMCHA FUND

SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

TIKKUN OLAM FUND

The deadline for the Donations page for the spring newsletter is April 21, 2023.





Jewish Journeys @ Dorshei Emet

**A Bar or Bat Mitzvah
is more than just an event
- it is a journey.**



Dorshei Emet takes the B'nei Mitzvah process one step further with our **Jewish Journeys Program**.

Our interactive approach serves to foster Jewish identity and build relationships. We offer a mix of informal learning, youth group style fun, and family activities. Opportunities for a child to explore and discover what being Jewish really means.

Designed for pre-B'nei Mitzvah girls and boys in grade 6 or 7.

- Limited Spots Available -



**Join us for our Info night on
June 14 @ 7:00 PM on Zoom.**

**Our Program begins after
the High Holidays 2023.**

**For more information
or to register contact:
Cynthia Weinstein
executivedirector@dorshei-emet.org**

PRE - SHAVUOT MOZZARELLA CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOP

MAY 18 2023, 7:00 PM



IN-PERSON - REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
EMAIL PROGRAMDIRECTOR@DORSHEI-EMET.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

A vibrant tropical beach scene with several palm trees leaning over a sandy shore. The ocean has white-capped waves breaking onto the beach under a bright, sunny sky. The overall color palette is warm, with oranges, yellows, and blues.

CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

Kabbalat Shabbat Around The World *Caribbean*

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023, 6:30 PM

Join us for a Kabbalat Shabbat service, followed by a potluck dinner, music and dance and lots of fun.
Family Freindly. Registration Required.

Calling All Scientists



Purim In The Lab

Monday, March 6, 2023 @ 6:15 PM



Megilah Reading



Costume Parade



Epic Mad Science Show



Carnival Games



Purim Feast

Registration Required. Details in the Weeklies.

