

# CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA 02465

617-965-0330

[www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org)

[office@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:office@dorsheitzedek.org)

Tammuz-Av-Elul 5762

July-August 2002



## Rabbi's Column

By Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Summer is a time of relaxation and of slowing down for many of us—a time for trips to the beach or the mountains, for kids to go to summer camp, for adventurous travels, or sitting in the backyard with a good book. In the Jewish calendar, summer is a darker time, corresponding both to historic events in our communal story and to the intense and often oppressive heat experienced in the land of Israel in these months. In the midst of the summer, on Av 9, we commemorate the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. The fast of Tisha b'Av has become a day to remember not only the destruction of the Temple but also a long list of Jewish experiences of oppression and exile. Tisha b'Av is preceded by three weeks of mourning, and is followed, during the latter part of the summer, by a time of reflection and preparation for the work of *teshuvah* (repentance or “turning”) that we undertake during the High Holy Days in the Fall.

Often I feel that the secular calendar and the Jewish calendar are profoundly out of synch when it comes to summertime. Backyard barbecues and bemoaning the destruction of the Temple just don't seem to go together; neither does a day at the beach seem to mesh with the reflective work of the weeks leading up to Rosh Hashanah. But this summer, as we approach the first anniversary of September 11, as our country grapples with what went wrong and what could have been done differently, and as hopes for a peaceful resolution of the Middle East conflict seem distant, perhaps the gap between Jewish time and our current experience is not so great. Perhaps this summer the traditional cycle of the Jewish year can help us as we grapple with present realities.

Tisha b'Av (which falls this year on July 18) provides the opportunity to enter fully into a commemoration of loss and grief, into the experience of unimaginable destruction, and then to move on from that experience in a conscious way. The culmination of three weeks of mourning practices that grow increasingly intense, Tisha b'Av is marked by a 24-

hour fast and a public reading of the Book of Lamentations, which recounts the destruction of the first Temple in 586 B.C.E. and the subsequent exile of the Jewish community.

On the Shabbat immediately following Tisha b'Av, we begin a period of seven weeks that are distinguished by the reading of special *haftarot* (prophetic texts) that speak words of comfort to the exiled Israelites. Then, three weeks after Tisha b'Av, the month of Elul begins (on August 9 this summer). The four weeks of Elul, leading up to the joyous celebration of the New Year, are a time of preparation for the work of “turning” that characterizes the ten days of *teshuvah* that stretch between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. During the month of Elul we begin to make amends, asking for forgiveness where necessary, trying to heal relationships that need healing. It is a time for remembering, for visiting the graves of parents and other loved ones. It is a time for giving *tzedakah*, for reviewing our charitable contributions of the past year and checking to see if we've given at an appropriate level. And it is also a time to think and reflect, to begin to identify those places where we're stuck, those aspects of ourselves that we want to focus on in the upcoming *Yamim Noraim*, Days of Awe.

One teaching of the Jewish summer is that just as we fully sit in the pain of destruction and exile, so do we turn fully

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into a season of preparation for the renewal that comes with the celebration of the New Year. This cycle of holy days teaches that our remembering and re-experiencing of times of great distress is part of a larger journey towards wholeness and healing. If Tisha b'Av commemorates moments in history when God's presence felt completely hidden from us, Elul is traditionally understood as a time when Godliness is quite near, beckoning to us to "return"—to our truest selves, to the Source of Justice and Compassion. That these two experiences can sit so close to each other in the calendar teaches us something about the nature of reality. Times of darkness can become openings to greater connection, if we are open to the possibility of new beginnings.

*Rabbi Spitzer is on vacation during the month of July. If there is an emergency and you need rabbinic assistance, please call Rabbi Spitzer's office voice-mail (617-454-0511)—there is information there about whom to call. Please refrain from sending e-mails to the rabbi during July if at all possible. If you need assistance from the congregation's Chesed Committee, please call Susan Manheim at 781-449-2984. Rabbi Spitzer will be available again in August for appointments and to return calls and e-mails.*

## Social Action News

*By Betsy Hinden*

The Tikkun Olam committee has begun a subcommittee to explore membership in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO). GBIO is a large organization that organizes social and political action around locally- and regionally- defined issues. In most recent years, GBIO has organized a dynamic and successful campaign to promote literacy and affordable housing in Boston. There is also a western suburb caucus that meets to discuss organizing around more local issues.

Rebecca Gifford from GBIO joined a small but enthusiastic group to begin the process. Future meetings will be announced. We know that CDT members are very busy these days and there is much to do, but this is a very exciting opportunity to connect with other congregations in Newton and the greater Boston area to promote social change. Please join us if you have **any interest** at all; there will be room for varying levels of commitment.

E-mail: [betsy.hinden@umassmed.edu](mailto:betsy.hinden@umassmed.edu)

Phone: 508-856-8630 Fax: 508-856-8700

## Notes from the June Members' Meeting

*By Elizabeth Ross*

80 members attended the June 2 members' meeting.

### Budget

Paul Hattis presented the proposed budget for 2003 and a current balance sheet. He reported that we ended this year in a surplus, largely because we did not hire a full-time Education Director as anticipated and instead Cindy Shulak-Rome served on a volunteer basis as Acting Education Director. The congregation thanked Cindy for her enormous effort. Issues concerning next year's budget were discussed. The motion to accept the budget was seconded and passed unanimously. Paul and the Finance Committee were thanked for their hard work.

### Education Director Search

Tessa Goldsmith reported that the Education Director search has yielded no acceptable outside candidates. Cindy Shulak-Rome and Elaine Pollack have therefore drafted a "Plan B" proposing that they step down from their roles on the Board and assume roles of Education Director and Master Teacher respectively next year on a 30-hour/week (combined for the two positions) paid basis. Tessa remarked that this "Plan B" has actually turned into a "Plan A": both Cindy and Elaine have guided our flourishing school since its inception, are fully grounded in Reconstructionist values, and have a history of successful past collaborations. In addition, Elaine has just completed her Masters in Jewish Education at Hebrew College, winning the highest academic award in her graduating class. The search will be opened up again at a future date. The membership expressed its approval of this plan, and Tessa and Jill Volk were thanked for their hard work on the Education Director search over the past year.

### Leadership

Cheryl Sacks and Linette Liebling presented the proposed slate for 5763 (see page 6). The motion to accept the slate was seconded and approved unanimously. Although leadership roles are now defined, Cheryl and Linette asked anyone wanting to get involved in a committee to contact them or the chair of any committee they might want to join.

Chayim and Judy presented gifts to the departing board members and those who are leaving off-board roles—Caren Smith (Personnel) Dan Rome and Michael Cohen

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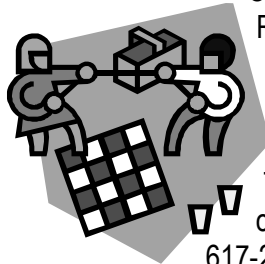
## Summer Shabbat Services

Shabbat morning services on **Saturday, July 13**, at **10 am**, will be at the home of Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome, 61 Winthrop Street, West Newton. Please call 617-965-5722 for directions.

Shabbat morning services on **Saturday, July 27**, at **10 am**, will be at the home of Deborah Waber and Steve Leonard, 70 Helene Street, Waban. Please call 617-965-0295 for directions.

In August, **Shabbat** morning services resume at The Unitarian Society and will be held on **August 17, 24, and 31**, at **9:45 am**.

## Young Families Picnic



Come together with other member families for a fun picnic on the banks of the Charles River in the Auburndale area of Newton. Diana and Richard Gomberg will host this event in their backyard, and will provide drinks, yummy desserts, and canoes! Bring your own picnic lunch. This event is designed for families of children ages 9 and younger, but older siblings are welcome.

The picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 7** from **10:30 am to 1 pm**, and will be cancelled if it rains. Please RSVP to the Gomers at [lilyfish@flash.net](mailto:lilyfish@flash.net) (preferably) or 617-243-9424 by July 3. Let them know if you or your older child would like to lead a children's activity.

## New Member Havdallah Potluck

Amazing but true: 29 households have joined Dorshei Tzedek since last July! Judy Hersch and Tim Rosa are inviting newer and older adult members (and infants) to their Newton home on **Saturday, July 20** at **7 pm**. Come put names and faces together and get to know this diverse and enthusiastic new group of members. Please RSVP to Judy at [hershj@juno.com](mailto:hershj@juno.com) or 617-332-2487 by July 15. Let her know if you're bringing a meatless appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert.



## All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck Dinner



On **Friday, August 9** at **6 pm**, we'll have an all-ages Erev Shabbat service, followed by a potluck dinner at 7 pm, at the home of Ellen Hemley and Mark Bronstein, 350 Auburndale Avenue, Auburndale. Please call 617-332-8424 for directions. After a musical service with story-telling we'll enjoy good food and schmoozing – so join us for this special summer Friday evening service! Please bring a vegetarian dish to share, enough for 8 – 10 people. Please note: in case of inclement weather, call the office at 617-965-0330 x1 for an update.

*(Members' Meeting, continued from page 2)*

(Fundraising), Clifford Goldsmith (Holiday Programming and Web), Karen Wasserman (Chesed, in absentia), Andrew Schiff (Membership Outreach, in absentia), Elaine Pollack (Ritual), and Cindy Shulak-Rome (Education Vice President) and thanked them for the wonderful contributions they have made to CDT in these roles. Debbie Waber presented a gift to Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx and expressed gratitude on behalf of the entire community for their leadership over the past two years.

### High Holy Days

Elizabeth Ross outlined the planning that has been completed thus far for the High Holy Days (HH) 5763. Cliff Cohen and Lissy Medvedow will chair this year's HH programs, and Tessa Goldsmith will chair the children's program. (see page 5). The board has recommended that this year each member of the community take on some task for HHs, so that no member of the community needs to miss large blocks of HH services. This is consistent with our Reconstructionist view of ourselves as producers, rather than consumers, of Judaism. Cliff, Lissy, and Tessa have planned leadership roles that are small and manageable compared to those in previous years, and are now in the process of recruiting people to assume these roles. They will train and support anyone who steps forward and especially hope that members who do not have board or off-board positions will step forward and volunteer to help out in larger roles. A sign-up sheet was passed around during the meeting, and members were also asked to contact Cliff, Lissy, and Tessa **soon** to talk to them further about getting involved.

### Space

The question of whether or not to place a bid on the Congregational Church in Newtonville was brought to the membership for a vote. Issues raised during the discussion included concerns about how large imbalances in the sizes of contributions necessary to purchase space might affect our community, and how having a building might affect the character of what we do. Members observed that we have gone through a values-based "Torah of Money" process to create an income-based dues structure that has functioned well, and have initiated a "Torah of Money II" that will guide us in creating a values-based capital campaign. Many members expressed faith in the strength of the values, process, and leadership of our community. The vote was called and was completed by anonymous paper ballot. 76 members voted "yes" and 4 "no" to approve the proposal authorizing the Board of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek to

make a proposal to purchase the Central Congregational Church in Newtonville.

### Postscript

Subsequent to the members' meeting, the Space Committee learned that a very large offer had been presented to the Congregational Church and we were invited to match this offer by mid-June. Because of the accelerated timeline and the unanticipated financial commitment, the leadership was forced to make a rapid decision, and concluded that it was not feasible or prudent for CDT to make an offer at this time. An e-mail describing these events in greater detail was sent to the membership.

## Ritual Committee Report

### Call for Readings for High Holy Days!

It's time to start thinking about the High Holy Days; one easy way to contribute is to share a meaningful poem or other brief reading. Here are two ways that you can contribute:

- Rabbi Spitzer is always looking for poems or other readings that are read as part of our services, and welcomes your input. If you have a reading on the theme of Creation/nature, freedom/liberation/social justice, forgiveness/repentance, renewal, or anything you feel is appropriate to the New Year and Yom Kippur, please send Rabbi Spitzer a copy at the Dorshei Tzedek office. We may not be able to fit every reading in this year, but your suggestions are welcome! Please include attributions with each piece.
- On Yom Kippur afternoon, there will be an opportunity for people to share readings/poems that respond in some way to the events of the past year, especially in light of the first anniversary of September 11 (which falls this year between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur). If you have something you'd like to share, please let Kelli Kirshtein (kellik@massed.net) or Michael White (mawcms@attbi.com) know by the end of August, so that we can have a sense of how many people want to participate. The readings should be no longer than two to three minutes when read aloud.

### Shofar Blowers Needed!

We will be sounding the shofar on the second day of Rosh Hashanah this year (because the first day falls on Shabbat), on Sunday, September 8th. If you are able to blow the shofar and either know the calls or are willing to learn, please let Rabbi Toba know! You can call (617) 454-0511 or e-mail [rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org).

# Prospective Members' Erev Shabbat Service and Open House

Please join us at **7:45 pm on Friday, August 23** for an Erev Shabbat service and talk about Reconstructionism. Our open houses for prospective members are a great way for potential members to learn about the congregation, meet current members, and have questions answered. Kiddush to follow. The event will be held at the Unitarian Society. For more information, call 617-965-0330 x1.

## Selichot

**Saturday, August 31, 8:30 pm-10:45 pm**

*at Temple Hillel Bnai Torah, 120 Corey Street, West Roxbury (off of VFW Parkway)*

In preparation for Rosh Hashanah and the Aseret Yamei Teshuvah (Ten Days of Repentance), we will come together with members of Temple Hillel Bnai Torah for text study, ritual, and songs of the High Holy Days. This is a great opportunity to get ready for the High Holy Days with Rabbis Toba Spitzer and Barbara Penzner. The program will begin at 8:30 with havdallah, followed by text study and a service combining music of the High Holy Days with opportunities for reflection. Join us!

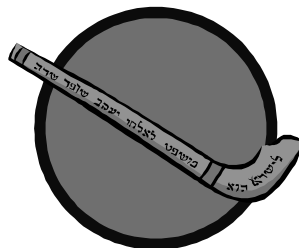
## High Holy Days 5763

The High Holy Days come early this year:

<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 6</b>
<b>Rosh Hashanah Day 1</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 7</b>
<b>Rosh Hashanah Day 2</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 8</b>
<b>Kol Nidre</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 15</b>
<b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 16</b>

Keep an eye out for our High Holy Days mailing and please send in the form by the deadline.

As Reconstructionists, we are producers rather than consumers of Judaism. This year we hope that every adult member of our community will participate in High Holy Days services by volunteering for a large or small task. If you have not done so already, it is not too late to contact Cliff Cohen and Lissy Medvedow to see how you might get involved. If you are interested in helping out with the Children's program, please contact Tessa Goldsmith.



## Congregation Dorshei Tzedek Slate for 5762-5763

As approved at the Members' Meeting of June 2 (see page 4)

### Executive Committee

President: Debbie Waber  
 First Vice President: Chayim Herzig-Marx  
 Vice President of Education: Tessa Goldsmith  
 Vice President of Membership: Roberta Carson  
 Finance: Mark Farber (sharing responsibilities with Paul Hattis and Jonathan Gordon)  
 Secretary: Elizabeth Ross  
 Immediate Past President: Judy Herzig-Marx

### Board of Directors

Fundraising: Steve Siegel  
 Holiday Programming: Marc Steinberg  
 House and Operations: Ellen Pashall  
 Inreach: Judy Hersh  
 Member at Large: Nancy Gertz  
 Newsletter: Dan Halbert

Outreach: Erica Streit  
 Ritual: Michael White  
 School Committee: Jill Volk  
 Social Action: Betsy Hinden  
 Space: Cheryl Sacks and Steve Siegel

### Off-Board

Adult Education: Ira Schor  
 Chesed: Linette Liebling and Susan Manheim  
 High Holy Days: Cliff Cohen and Lissy Medvedow  
 Listserv Owner: Paul Carson  
 Personnel: Elaine Bresnick  
 Public Relations: Dinah Moeller  
 Rabbinic Liaison: Linette Liebling, Mark Farber, and Louise Enoch  
 Torah of Money: Wendy Gedanken  
 Web: To Be Announced

## House and Operations

*By Ellen Pashall*



We are reorganizing regular assignments for our congregation to reflect more fully the tasks that need to be shared to keep our congregation running. We need these volunteers because we are falling short on:

- Keeping the kitchen neat and clean.
- Keeping our supplies orderly to know our inventory.
- Being able to make purchases in a timely fashion.
- RSVPs on setup assignments.

If anyone has a bad back, can't come on weekends, or prefers not to do the setup work for a service or program, consider volunteering for one of the following jobs:

- One month (can be reevaluated): Checking to see if people have RSVP'd about their setup assignments and calling to remind them 10 days before to make sure they remember to complete their tasks.
- One month (can be reevaluated): Making sure that the kitchen is neat (organizing supplies) and checking inventory once or twice.

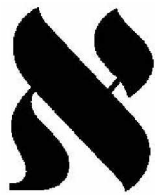
Please email Ellen Pashall, [epashall@aol.com](mailto:epashall@aol.com), if you are interested. The Unitarian Society asks us to keep our items in the kitchen in the cupboards and off the counter top, as they expect everything to be cleaned out over the summer. We are also trying to determine what additional supplies we might need for emergencies, such as medical supplies, fire extinguishers, and flashlights. Please contact me if you have any knowledge or experience in this area, or are interested in finding out more information. We need your help to provide as safe an environment as possible!



## Adult Education

### Adult Hebrew Class at Dorshei Tzedek

Gain a better understanding of the Hebrew language as it is used in the prayer book, the Torah, and Jewish life by studying Hebrew with a great teacher in an informal yet rigorous setting. The class will begin with the Hebrew alphabet (including reading/writing script letters) and use the textbook, *The First Hebrew Primer for Biblical Hebrew*, plus excerpts from the Hebrew prayer book. Those comfortable with the aleph bet (including script writing) and wishing to start later in the 10-week session should contact Natasha Shabat at [NShabat@post.Harvard.edu](mailto:NShabat@post.Harvard.edu).



**Textbook:** Simon, Resnikoff, and Motzkin: *The First Hebrew Primer, Third Edition: The Adult Beginner's Path to Biblical Hebrew*, published by EKS. Available at Kolbo and the Israel Book Shop for about \$35.

**Time:** Monday nights 8 – 9 pm for 10 weeks starting **October 7, 2002**.

**Cost:** Members: \$75; non-members: \$150

**Enrollment:** Minimum 5, limit 15; preference given to CDT members

**Registration:** Contact [office@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:office@dorsheitzedek.org).

## School News

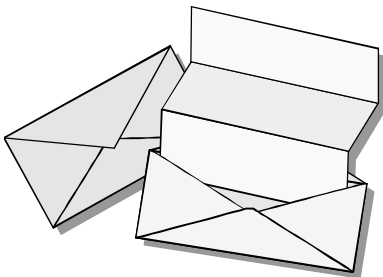
By Cindy Shulak-Rome

### A Heartfelt Thank You

I was overwhelmed at our recent Education Committee meeting to be presented with a wonderful gift. Last June I jumped in to the role of acting Education Director of our school, to plug the hole left by the departure of Judith Wolfman. Over the course of the year, through the experience of getting to know the children in our community and working with our gifted and dedicated teachers I found myself more and more attached to the work of shaping and directing our school. I am delighted that, together with the help of Elaine Pollack as Master Teacher, I will be continuing as Education Director for the coming year.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you, not only for the lovely gift, but for the many words of support and appreciation that so many of you have expressed over the past year. Here's to another year of *Torah Talk* and other wonderful Jewish learning opportunities! Todah Rabah.

### School Registration for 2002-2003



Watch your mail for the school registration packet. Please be sure to send your materials in as soon as possible. It is extremely important that all registrations are returned by the **July 31** deadline. We cannot adequately plan for staffing and space needs if we do not have the registration materials.

If you are interested in enrolling in our school and have not received registration materials, please call Claudette, our administrator, at 617-965-0330 and ask to have the information sent out to you.

## Contributions

*We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:*

### General Fund

**Nancy Cohen and Michael Gertz**

*In honor and appreciation of Chayim and Judy Herzig-Marx' fabulous tenure as co-presidents. Todah Rabah and Yasher koach to both of you!*

*In honor of all of the members of the Executive Committee and Board, committee chairs and other volunteers who have served for the past year, all of whom have made sacrifices of their personal time, family life, etc. to attend meetings and work on behalf of the whole membership. We thank you all.*

*In honor of Debbie Waber's new position as President of Dorshei Tzedek. We are definitely in good hands!*

*In honor of Efrem Goldberg, with heartfelt blessings and prayers.*

**Susan B. Edelstein**

*In appreciation to Rabbi Spitzer and the Congregation, with gratitude to the community, as I prepare for my move to New York.*

**Francis Greenberg**

*With thanks for the lovely Shavuot meal, which was delivered anonymously. Thank you!*

**Delores and Ken Kimmel**

*In honor of the birth of Danya to John Dubrow and Andrew Compaine*

**Emanuel Koenigsberg**

*In appreciation for the support and comfort that the members of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek have given to the Goldberg family during Efrem's illness*

**Jesse and Terry Koenigsberg**

*In appreciation for Rabbi Toba and the Congregation's kindness towards Jesse's sister and her family (Ellie and Efrem Goldberg) at this difficult time for them. It is good to know that they have such great friends.*

**Elizabeth Ross and Caren Smith**

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Alan J. Greenfield, M.D. and Paul Kowal**

*In honor of the birth of Danya Miriam Dubrow-Compaine, daughter of Drs. John Dubrow and Andrew Compaine*

### School Fund

**Nancy Cohen and Michael Gertz**

*In honor and appreciation of Cindy Shulak-Rome, for her gifts that keep on giving!*

*Thank you for all of your efforts with the school this year, and all the years of hard work and dedication to the Board and Executive Committee.*

*In honor of Elaine Pollack's graduation from Hebrew College. We are so blessed to have your guidance and spirit among us.*

**Elizabeth Ross and Caren Smith**

*In honor of Elaine Pollack's Graduation from Hebrew College*

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek: contributions can be made to the General Fund, or to targeted funds like the School or the Holy Book Funds. In addition, donations can be designated for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. This fund is not part of the congregation's operating expenses and is administered solely by the rabbi. Monies in this fund are used for *tzedakah* in the greater community, for special needs at the congregation (e.g., to buy books or help pay for an adult education program), and, most importantly, to help out congregants in need. Donations to this fund are encouraged, in addition to (not instead of!) your contributions to help support the congregation. Checks should be made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, but marked as intended for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. Please contact Rabbi Toba directly if you are in need of financial help at 617-454-0511.

Please send contributions to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA 02465. Please include a note with the names of the donors and the dedication if any, as you wish them to be printed in the newsletter.



## JRF News

### New Executive Vice President

Jewish Reconstructionist Federation (JRF) has announced the appointment of Judy Bitman Wortman as its new Executive Vice President. Ms. Wortman currently serves as the Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, a position that she has held for almost 10 years. She has had a long and distinguished career in other Jewish communal service posts. In addition, Ms. Wortman has previously been an active member, and an officer, of Reconstructionist congregations. She begins her work on September 1. Those who plan on attending the JRF Convention will have an opportunity to meet Ms. Wortman at that time. The convention will be held in Montreal, November 8 – 10. For more information, visit the JRF website at [www.JRF.org](http://www.JRF.org).

### Reconstructionist Divrei Torah

JRF has recently reorganized and enlarged the *divrei torah* section of its website. See <http://www.jrf.org/recondt.html>. More than one hundred *divrei torah* are now available.

## Dorshei Tzedek in Cyberspace



Over the summer, the Web Committee will be making many enhancements to our Web site, which now resides at [www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org). Watch your email for notification of changes as they happen. For a password to the members' area, please contact Dan Halbert ([halbert@world.std.com](mailto:halbert@world.std.com)). If you are interested in helping out with the Web site, please contact Elizabeth Ross ([elizabeth\\_ross@attbi.com](mailto:elizabeth_ross@attbi.com)).

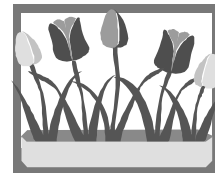
All official congregational announcements should be posted to the "CDT-announce" list. If you have something you would like to post there, please send it to Paul Carson, the CDT list owner ([p-carson@ti.com](mailto:p-carson@ti.com)) or Elizabeth. The listserv for informal exchange of ideas and information among members of Dorshei Tzedek is [cdt-list@shamash.org](mailto:cdt-list@shamash.org). For questions regarding the listservs, contact Paul Carson.



## Todah Rabah

To Judy Hersh, Cindy Marshall, Nancy Osher-Blumberg, Elaine Pollack, Lisa Port-White, Audrey Roth, Laura Willis, and Susannah Zisk for organizing a wonderful retreat; to Elaine Pollack for making "Shabbat: Just Do It" T-shirts for everyone who attended; and to Marsha Wasserman to leading the fabulous art project.

To Congregation Hillel B'nei Torah and Rabbi Barbara Penzner for the loan of a Sefer Torah while ours was being repaired.



## Mazel Tov



Andrew Compaine and John Dubrow are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Danya Miriam Dubrow-Compaine. She is healthy, lovely, and just too sweet! She was born on May 30, 2002

at 10:29 pm, weighed 7 lbs. 13 oz., 20 inches long, and with a full head of hair. Both Daddy and Poppa are filled with gratitude and feel so incredibly blessed!

Mazel Tov to Laura Willis on her new appointment at MIT!

Send items to be published in future newsletters to [dtnews@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dtnews@yahoogroups.com). Thanks!

—The Newsletter Committee: Dan Halbert, Josh Herzig-Marx, Tim Rosa, and Susannah Zisk.

### Jewish Family & Children's Service Sponsors Support Groups

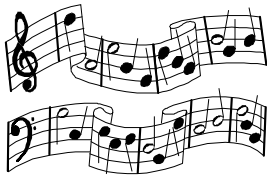
Jewish Healing Connections sponsors two ongoing support groups:

**Drop-In Jewish Spiritual Support Group**, offering psychological and spiritual support for anyone who is living with illness and those caring for loved ones living with illness. The group meets the **first and third Thursdays of each month, 10 am – noon**, at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton Street Newton Center, Room 201.

**Drop-In Bereavement Support Group**, offering psychological and spiritual support for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one. The group meets **every Monday, 11 am – 12:30 pm**, at the JCC, Room 201.

There is no fee for either group. For more information, call Marjorie Sokoll at JF&CS, 617-558-1278.

### Shabbat Tapes Available



Sung by Rabbi Toba Spitzer, Dorshei Tzedek has available audio tapes of: (1) the Friday evening Family Service and (2) our regular Shabbat morning service. To order either or both tapes, please send payment of \$6/tape (includes shipping) to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA 02465.

### Dorshei Tzedek Mission Statement

Dorshei Tzedek is a Reconstructionist Congregation dedicated to creating a caring and inclusive community, and to enhancing Jewish practice and learning in the lives of our members. As our name implies, we are seekers-of meaningful spirituality, of serious Jewish learning, and of social justice.

Consistent with Reconstructionist philosophy, we are committed to seriously engaging with Jewish tradition, challenging that tradition, where need be, and building on the tradition in creative ways. We do this in order to enhance our own lives as contemporary Jews and to perpetuate our bond—and our children's bond—to our heritage. We view education for ourselves and our children as fundamental to Jewish life.

We are a participatory congregation, encouraging all of our members to take an active role in some aspect of our congregational life. Our rabbi is our partner in this endeavor, and is both teacher and participant in our community. We value diversity in our congregation, and welcome all those who share our commitments.

Finally, we affirm the concept of mitzvah as obligation, acting on our Jewish values through deeds of *tzedek* (social justice) and *gemilut chasadim* (loving kindness), both within our congregation and in the larger community.

# July-August Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Set-up/Clean-up and Notes
Sun July 7	10:30 am – 1:30 pm	<b>Young Families Picnic</b> <i>at the Gomberg residence</i>	(see page 3)
Thu July 11	7:30 pm	Discussion group on Israel and the Middle East	<i>Members only</i> <i>Contact Louise Enoch for location</i>
Sat July 13	10:00 am	Shabbat Morning Service * <i>at the Shulak-Rome residence</i>	(see page 3)
Mon July 15	7:30 pm	Middle East subcommittee of the Tikkun Olam committee — <i>at the Hemley-Bronstein residence</i>	<i>Members only</i>
Sat July 20	7:00 pm	<b>New Member Havdallah Potluck</b> <i>At the Hersh-Rosa residence</i>	(see page 3)
Sat July 27	10:00 am	Shabbat Morning Service * <i>at the Waber residence</i>	Kelli Kirshtein, M. Forman (see page 3)
Fri Aug 9	6:00 pm	<b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck dinner</b> <i>at the Hemley-Bronstein residence (see page 4)</i>	Caren Smith and Elizabeth Ross
Sat Aug 17	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Services	Sue Pearce, Andy Adler, Susan Manheim
Sat Aug 23	7:45 pm	<b>Erev Shabbat Service and Prospective Member Open House</b> (see page 4)	Idit Klein, Jodie Sugerman-Brozan, Dinah Moeller
Sat Aug 24	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service *	Betsy Hinden, Jonathan Magaziner, Jill Volk
Sat Aug 31	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service	Ilana Mainelli, Susan Bernstein, Lisa Schneier
Sat Aug 31	8:00 pm	<b>Selichot service</b> <i>at Hillel B'nai Torah</i>	(see page 5)

Events and services are held at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, unless otherwise noted. An asterisk (\*) denotes Rabbi Spitzer's weekend off (July vacation included; see page 2). Free child care is available during Shabbat morning services in the large classroom near the office on the first floor. This summer, childcare will resume with the August services.

**No Fragrances, Please:** So that Dorshei Tzedek services and events are accessible to all of our members and guests, we ask that people refrain from wearing fragrances (perfume, scented oils, cologne, etc.) to Shabbat morning services and adult education sessions. While pleasant to some, these fragrances can cause illness to those who are chemically sensitive. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek  
1326 Washington St.  
West Newton, MA 02465