

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
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Adar I - Adar II 5763

March 2003



The Hard Work of Freedom

Rabbi Toba Spitzer

One of the things that I love about being Jewish is the yearly cycle of Torah readings. The practice of reading a set portion of the Torah (the Five Books of Moses) each week involves me in a journey that I get to revisit each year. During this time of year we are always somewhere in the book of Shemot/Exodus, making our way from slavery in Egypt to revelation at Mount Sinai. This is our people's birth narrative, our experience of emerging from the "narrow places" of Mitzrayim (the Hebrew word for "Egypt") and beginning a long, faltering journey towards national adulthood. This reading prepares us for Passover, our yearly retelling and re-experiencing of that moment of liberation.

What the Torah teaches us is that freedom consists of a lot more than being released from an oppressive situation. It turns out that it's harder to get *Mitzrayim* out of the Israelites than it is to get the Israelites out of *Mitzrayim*. From the start, our ancestors kvetched and complained, yearning to go back to a situation that may have been oppressive but at least was familiar. Their journey through the wilderness to a promised land was not only challenging on a physical level, demanding a certain level of faith and courage, but was also demanding on a moral and spiritual level. Like children, the Israelites desired security and a lack of responsibility. As the nature of their relationship to the mysterious God who had liberated them began to unfold, it became clear that becoming a free nation demanded quite a bit in terms of adherence to laws and standards. To become a "holy people, a nation of priests" involved learning and internalizing a set of norms meant to inculcate values of *tzedek* and *chesed*, justice and love, as well as a sense of awe for the larger Reality of which they were a part.

I am thinking about this now as so much in the world around us seems to defy these values that our tradition holds so dear. The continued lack of moral and courageous leadership in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, our own government's recklessness and arrogance in the interna-

tional arena, as well as the ongoing assault on hard-won gains by the environmental and women's movements, on our basic civil liberties, and on the very means by which poor people in this country are able to sustain themselves, is enough to cause even the strongest-hearted among us to despair.

The Exodus story, and the many examples of movements of men and women who preceded us in working for labor rights, civil rights, women's rights, and poor people's rights, are here to remind me, to remind us, that true freedom is not sustained without ongoing, relentless work. In traditional Jewish understanding, the Israelites were redeemed at the crossing of the Red Sea, but they were not truly free until they received the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This teaches that true freedom is gained when we take upon ourselves the commitments to do what it takes to create a different kind of society, a different kind of world.

It is a great irony that here in the United States of America, the great beacon of democracy, so many of us feel disempowered in so many ways—whether we are struggling to maintain our own jobs and livelihoods, or feeling voiceless in the political arena. The reality is that democracy, like the *mitzvot* of the Torah, takes constant effort and attention. We come together in community precisely because in community our collective voice is louder, and our efforts sustain one another. This does not mean that as a congregation we need to speak with one voice on any given issue. It does mean, however, that we should challenge one

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From the Board

Elizabeth Ross, CDT Secretary

The board last met on January 12 at the home of Nancy Gertz. Attending were Debbie Waber, Rabbi Toba Spitzer, Chayim and Judy Herzig-Marx, Roberta Carson, Tessa Goldsmith, Mark Farber, Marc Steinberg, Dan Halbert, Steve Siegel, Cheryl Sacks, Jon Gordon, Erica Streit, and Elizabeth Ross.

We discussed Set-up/Clean-up procedures for our Shabbat services and Holiday Celebrations. As our membership has increased, training new members and coordinating schedules has become a more time-consuming task than in the past. Over the last several months, the board has been discussing various approaches to this problem, including hiring someone to do the set-up work for us. Hiring someone would relieve Rabbi Toba of the need to make sure everything is in place for services and remove the burden of managing logistics from the House and Operation's committee. However, hiring someone might represent an erosion of the participatory nature of our congregation, and the significant expense would result in necessary trade-offs with other, perhaps more mission-related, budget items. It was decided that, on a trial basis, a member of the board or ritual committee will be present each Shabbat and holiday to help less-experienced members with the task.

We also received an update from the Personnel committee via Debbie Waber that while candidates are being interviewed, the full-time administrative assistant position is still open. Anyone who knows someone who might be interested in the job (only non-members are eligible) should contact Elaine Bresnick, chair of the Personnel Committee.

The board discussed methods of helping interested members to become involved with various committees. It was decided that the newsletter will run "Classifieds" for committees looking for new members. Committee Chairs were also urged to post announcements of their meetings on the "CDT-Announce" listserv so that members can become involved on an ongoing basis.

Mark Farber presented a Finance Update, and we reviewed the overall status of our finances midyear. Expenses will be greater than expected for the year, mostly because of our need to increase our administrator position to full-time. However, forecasted fundraising revenues have been approximately doubled. If the fundraising committee meets their mark, we will end the year with a small

surplus. Mark gave committee chairs reports of their 5763 budgets, revenues, and expenses as a starting point for setting their proposed budgets for next year and asked Committee chairs to begin budget discussions within their individual committees. The budget will be discussed at board meetings in February, March, and April, and will be voted on by the membership at the May member's meeting.

Tessa Goldsmith presented an Education update. She and Rabbi Toba are working on a formal application for CDT to become a Me'ah site, and a March 5 "Taste of Me'ah" program is planned to introduce the program to interested members. Rabbi Toba expressed enthusiasm at the opportunity that Me'ah will provide to members wishing to undertake a two-year program of serious Jewish adult education.

In conclusion, on a personal note, I'd like to offer an apology to the community for the absence of this column over the last several months. As many of you know, my partner Caren has gone back to school to become a Veterinarian and I have taken a new clinical position. The adjustment period has been somewhat more difficult than anticipated, but I have reached a new state of equilibrium and you can expect this column to appear in the newsletter more frequently in the future.

Board meetings are open to all CDT members and take place on a monthly basis. The next Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 9 at 7:30 pm. Contact Debbie Waber for location.

Membership News

We welcome **Miriam Dellheim Baumel, Andrew, and Daniel Baumel**, who live in Newton Cen-

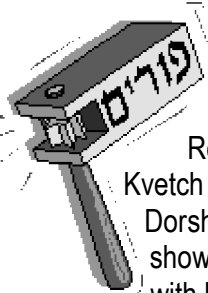
tre. They are expecting a new baby in early April. Daniel is two years old. He loves puzzles, geography and all forms of transportation. Miriam is originally from Poughkeepsie, New York. She is an adult nurse practitioner at a community health center in Dorchester. Her greatest joy outside of her family and friends is volunteering in Central America. She enjoys working out, playing tennis, reading, and traveling when time allows. Andy is a pediatrician in Framingham. He grew up in Rockville Centre, New York. He enjoys fencing, genealogy, orienteering, and break-dancing.

The Baumels are looking forward to becoming active members of the congregation and continuing to learn about Reconstructionist Judaism.



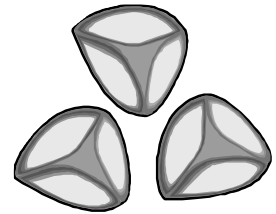
Purim Bash!

Monday, March 17, 7–9 pm, at the Unitarian Society



Remember Mishegas Impossible in 5760, Election 5761, and Star Kvetch in 5762? Don't miss the **March 17** Dorshei Tzedek Purim 5763 Spiel!

Dorshei Tzedek's Purim celebration is more than just a premier Broadway show: Join us for an evening of merriment, noshing, and booing Haman! The fun begins at **7 pm** with Purim *davening*, a costume parade with prizes, *Megillah* reading, singing with Kitot Aleph and Bet, and *hamentaschen*!



The fabulous Purim Spiel 5763 will begin at **8 pm**, followed by dancing and schmoozing. All ages are encouraged to dress up in costumes! And you can bring a little schnapps as well.

Mishloach manot ("sending gifts"): In keeping with the Purim tradition of sending gifts we ask you please to bring one plate of goodies (fruit, nuts, hamentaschen, candy, etc.) to exchange with another household.

As always, the producers of Purim Spiel 5763 are looking for people to sing, act, and help with costumes and sets! Kids from grade 3 and up and all adults are welcome to join in the fun. There are opportunities for everyone to participate!

If you are interested in being in the spiel, please contact our director Sheree Galpert at 617-558-8697.

Save these rehearsal and set building dates: **Sunday, March 9, 2 - 4:30 pm**, and **Sunday, March 16, 2 - 4:30 pm**.

Bring something to give to those in need, and clean out your cupboards before Pesach!

On Purim, it's customary to give gifts of food to those in need. Kitah Gimel (our third graders) will be collecting food donations for the Bristol Lodge, a food pantry in Waltham. Food collection will begin at our Purim party and continue until Tuesday, April 1. The following items are welcome: toiletries, canned fruits, veggies, soups, and jams. **Please, no pasta or baked beans.** Make a note to bring something with you to the party, to services, or to Hebrew school. Look for collection boxes by the Dorshei Tzedek office. Thanks! and Chag Purim sameach.

(The Hard Work of Freedom, continued from page 1)

another—and ourselves as a group—to remain engaged and hopeful, even when the forces arrayed against us feel at times overwhelming. Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan taught that the "religious stance," as he called it, is essentially a faith that the universe is fundamentally structured so as to be tending towards the right and the good. Without this faith, he argued, we fall prey to either cynicism or despair. Thus, in Kaplan's understanding, it is a profoundly religious act to be on the right side of that Godly tendency in the universe, working to repair that which is broken.

May each of us renew our own commitment to the freedom gained at Sinai, and to the vitality of our American democracy. May we strengthen one another in those commitments, and find new ways to make our voices heard and our values manifest.

Contacting the Rabbi: Rabbi Toba Spitzer does not have regular office hours but is available to talk about any spiritual, religious, or personal issues that you might want to discuss. Please call her directly to make an appointment at 617-454-0511. Rabbi Spitzer's office is at the Second Church, 60 Highland Avenue, just up the hill from The Unitarian Society.

Rabbinic Liaison Committee: The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists to insure the maintenance of a good relationship between our rabbi and the congregation. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Louise Enoch, Linette Liebling, or Mark Farber. These matters will be handled confidentially and appropriate solutions sought where possible.

Torah of Money

Wendy Gedanken

As Dorshei Tzedek begins its first Annual Nadiv Lev Campaign, the Torah of Money committee wants to create a community-wide discussion of the values that should shape all our activities regarding money, and specifically those activities concerning raising money.

In this issue of the newsletter, we look at two values that underpin the entire process:

- **Kedusha—Holiness.** *Kedusha* is the framework within which we function as a congregation: the understanding that we have made a mutual commitment to create holy community together. It is both the tent that envelops all the other values, and the foundation from which all the values spring forth. The value of *kedusha* implies that the way in which we go about raising our money should have its basis in Jewish values, that we will raise money for what we understand to be sacred purposes, and that our material life together as a community also has a spiritual component. *Kedusha* recognizes that money is neither good nor bad, but is a tool that can be used to help us do good or bad. *Kedusha* reminds us that money is a gift that we can use to further what is sacred in life.
- ***Ain kemach, ain Torah*—No flour, no Torah.** This saying from Pirkei Avot affirms the material basis—the “flour”—that underlies all of our “Torah,” our Jewish life. Jewish tradition values material wealth when it is used for holy and just purposes. Fundraising is a necessary and honorable activity in our community. It is a mitzvah both to ask and to give.

As always, we welcome your thoughts on this or any other aspect of the money issues facing our community. Comments and questions for the Torah of Money committee may be sent to Wendy Gedanken: wgedanken@hotmail.com. We hope to share your comments and questions in future newsletters. Next month's values: *B'tzelem Elohim*—Human Dignity and *Kehilla*—Community. Tikkun Olam.

Member's Meeting

Sunday, March 30, 7:15–9:30 pm
at the Unitarian Society

Join other Dorshei Tzedek households for study and discussion about the role of *chesed* (acts of caring) in the congregation, our community's values and how they relate to our "Torah of Money," along with other important issues. We want to hear your voice; please make every effort to be there!

School News

Reconstructionist Judaism in a Family Context Parent Discussion Group for Lower School Parents

Facilitated by Judy Herzig-Marx

Saturdays, 10:30 am – 12 pm: March 1 and March 22

What are the questions and issues that come up as your children begin their Jewish education? How can you feel empowered to bring Jewish values and practices into your family life? What is a Reconstructionist approach to Jewish practice?

Judy Herzig-Marx, LICSW, and founding member of Dorshei Tzedek Congregation and School, welcomes parents to discussion sessions following Torah Talk. This program is for parents of children in Gan, Kitah Aleph, and Kitah Bet. Other interested school parents are welcome on a space available basis. For questions, contact Cindy Shulak-Rome, 617-965-0330 x4, or school@dorsheitzedek.org.

School Closings Due to Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, check the school phone line (617-965-0330 x4) for a message as to whether classes have been cancelled, or tune to WBZ Radio 1030 AM or WBZ Channel 4 TV for cancellation announcements.

Tot Shabbat Program

Saturdays, 11 am – 11:45 am
March 22, April 12, and May 10

Our monthly Tot Shabbat program, geared for preschool children (parents also welcome) provides an introduction to Jewish songs, stories and holidays. Questions? Contact Cindy Shulak-Rome, Education Director at 617-965-0330 x4 or school@dorsheitzedek.org.

Shabbat Programs

Erev Shabbat Services

Upcoming dates: March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13

Once a month, from **8 pm to 9:15 pm**, join us for a musical and contemplative entry into Shabbat. All are welcome, but please note that this service is oriented toward adults and older kids.

Family Erev Shabbat Services

Upcoming dates: March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6

On the first Friday (usually—check the schedule) of each month from **6 pm to 7 pm**, join us for a musical, fun service, all ages welcome! **Storytellers needed:** If you would like to tell a story at one of these services, please call Rabbi Spitzer at 617-454-0511.



Shabbat Morning Study

Winter/spring dates: February 8, March 15, April 12, May 10, and June 21

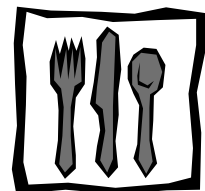


Join us once a month at **8:45 am** for a closer look at the weekly Torah portion with Rabbi Spitzer, seen through the lenses of commentaries both ancient and modern. No text study experience required! (Bring your own tea or coffee.)

Shabbat Luncheon

March 15, Unitarian Society

We appear to have started a new tradition at Dorshei Tzedek! In January, the Membership committee sponsored a luncheon after Shabbat morning services and the Ritual committee did the same during the weekend of our Community of Learners event. These luncheons were a wonderful opportunity for people to relax and enjoy the Shabbat together as a community. The Board will be sponsoring another luncheon after Shabbat services on March 15, to thank everyone who volunteers and works so hard to make our committees and our community work well. Please join us for a relaxing and delicious afternoon gathering. Any questions? Please contact Nancy Gertz, 617-969-5456 or ngertz@attbi.com.



Reconstructionist Haggadah

Finally, a Reconstructionist Haggadah for contemporary use! Rooted in tradition, yet accessible to all. This is a rich resource for the Passover holiday and for your seder. In one attractive, beautifully illustrated volume are the traditional prayers, biblical text, historical notes, song lyrics and a play for children to perform. Translations and transliterations included, and additional readings and commentaries offer varied perspectives. Special feature: four suggested outlines for seders with older children, young children, those who have grown up in different religious traditions, and focusing on the role of women in the Exodus story. For more information, visit www.jrf.org.

Adult Education

Taste of Me'ah

Wednesday, March 5, 7:30 pm
at Temple Hillel Bnai Torah in West Roxbury

Have you been contemplating some serious Jewish study? Are you ready for a journey through three thousand years of Jewish text, tradition and culture? Then Me'ah, 100 Hours of Jewish Learning, may be for you! Dorshei Tzedek has become a Me'ah site, in collaboration with Temple Hillel Bnai Torah and the Jewish Community Center (JCC), beginning in the coming Jewish year, 5764. To find out more about entering the Me'ah program, come to an introductory program on Wednesday, March 5, at 7:30 pm, at Temple Hillel Bnai Torah in West Roxbury (120 Corey Street, off of VFW Parkway). The evening will feature background information on the program, a "taste" of teaching from a Me'ah instructor, and an opportunity to ask questions of current Me'ah students. If you are interested in Me'ah but cannot attend the introductory session, please contact Tessa Goldsmith.

Me'ah is a Jewish adult learning program through Hebrew College. It runs October through May for two years, equaling roughly 100 hours of study (me'ah means 100.) The first year courses are Bible and Rabbinics; the second year covers Medieval and Modern Judaism. In the fall of 2003, Dorshei Tzedek members will have the opportunity to study in the Me'ah program at a discounted rate, in collaboration with members of Temple Hillel B'nai Torah and the JCC.

For those of you who are wondering what the experience of the Me'ah class might be like, here are some thoughts from other DT members who are now 3/4 of the way through the two-year program.

"The best way to express how I feel about my Me'ah experience is to liken it to another leg on my Jewish journey. What began when I joined Dorshei Tzedek a few years ago has now developed into something even more meaningful and rich. I am someone who did not have a very strong background in Jewish education or history when I started Me'ah, even though I went through Hebrew School, was Bat-Mitzvahed and even took a college course in Jewish studies. Each week of Me'ah brings with it new discoveries into a Jewish world I really had not thought much about before. The class, the teachers and the readings all add to the depth of the experience. And whether we are studying the Bible or Rabbinics, taking apart text, or learn-

ing about disputations in Medieval Spain, I feel as if my Jewish world is expanding. I'd heard of Rabbi Akiva, Bar Kochba, Maimonides, and Marranos, but when I was younger they were distant aspects of Jewish history that did not have meaning for me. Now as an adult, I feel these names and figures are attached to something and to a time that is a part of my history. Me'ah has helped me to find my place in the Jewish story. And we haven't even studied the Modern period yet!

Me'ah is a lot to take in, that is for sure, and you can get overwhelmed. But it is worth it, because now I feel like I have some understanding of where things fit. And I can always go back and reread the assigned material. In fact, I look forward to reviewing what we studied. I think that is the greatest gift that I take from Me'ah... the idea that I now have an even deeper connection to and love of Judaism. And the learning can continue."—Amy Mazur

"As an adult I have sought out Jewish learning in many ways, despite – or maybe because of - the fact that I was raised as a secular, cultural Jew, without much religious education. Over the years I have attended various workshops and courses - on Torah study, midrash study, Jewish folklore, Kabbalah and women in the Bible - along with doing my own reading and research for my work as a storyteller. But I was missing a real foundation of knowledge about Judaism. Participating in the Me'ah program has given me an overview of how Judaism as a religion and Jews as a people have evolved historically. It also has deepened my sense of identity as a Jew, spiritually and intellectually. I find myself making connections frequently, whether it is about the parshat being read at Shabbat services, or about the folktale that I have been telling for years that is suddenly illuminated in a new way.

All of the past learning that I have done has been augmented by the perspective that the Me'ah curriculum provides- it's as if all of the pieces are falling together, and building on one another. Other Me'ah students and I often talk about how this program only makes us realize how much more there is to study. People from a whole range of educational and religious backgrounds attend, and there is something for all, on many levels. Jewish learning is like a deep well -we can dip in over and over and always find new meaning or insights to sustain us. I highly recommend the Me'ah program as one way adults can keep growing and learning."—Cindy Rivka Marshall

Adult Education

Roots of the Conflict: Modern Israeli History

A Talk by Mitchell Silver

Sunday, March 9 at 10:30 am
at the Walker Center, Newton

In addition to being a Dorshei Tzedek member, Mitchell has been the Educational Director of the I.L. Peretz School of the Brookline Workmen's Circle since 1992 and the Cultural Director of Camp Kinderland since 1989. He is the author of *Respecting the Wicked Child: A Philosophy of Secular Jewish Identity and Education* and the unpublished manuscript *The Veterans of History: A Young Person's History of the Jews*. Mitchell writes and speaks frequently on Jewish subjects and has taught philosophy at UMass/Boston since 1982. The Walker Center is located at the corner of Grove and Hancock Streets in West Newton, ½ north of the Riverside MBTA (go to www.walkerctr.org for directions).



Torah Leyning Class

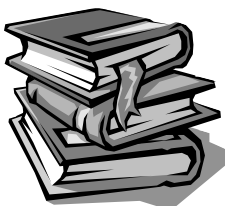
Starts Monday, March 24 at 8 pm at the home of Elaine Landes, Newton

Back by popular demand! If you can read Hebrew, but never learned Torah trope, here is your opportunity. Elaine Pollack will be teaching a course on torah *leyning* beginning Monday, March 24 at 8 pm at the home of Elaine Landes. The class will run for about six weeks. Elaine has taught Torah trope to many *b'nai mitzvah* students, both in our community and at surrounding congregations. She uses methods that work well for children as well as adults. If you are looking for a new challenge in achieving Jewish literacy, learning to *leyn* may be the next step for you. Please let Elaine know if you are interested in the course by e-mailing her at elainep315@attbi.com. Also, if you are able to host this class in your dining room, please contact Elaine as soon as possible. Space is limited for this session, but the course will be repeated.

Bat Mitzvah of Elizabeth Holohan

Please join us on **March 8**, when our daughter Elizabeth Rachel becomes a Bat Mitzvah. Elizabeth is a student at the Winsor School, where math and history are two of her favorite subjects. She enjoys playing a variety of sports, in addition to acting and studying jazz dance.

For her *tikkun olam* project, Elizabeth is sponsoring a book drive for the Harbor School, in Dorchester, whose library budget has been cut for next year (*see below*). We look forward to seeing you at the celebration of our *simcha*!—Sharon Gorberg and John Holohan



Harbor School Book Drive

Elizabeth Holohan is organizing a book drive for The Harbor School, a pilot middle school in Dorchester. Books and/or Mead-style composition books can be dropped off at the First Unitarian Church in a box located by the door to the sanctuary.

Send items to be published in future newsletters to dtnews@yahoogroups.com. Thanks!

The Newsletter Committee:

Dan Halbert, Josh Herzig-Marx, Karen Engels,
Tim Rosa, and Susannah Zisk

Contributions

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

General Fund

Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg

In honor of Carole Slipowitz and Family

Augusta Henry

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Holohan

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Steven Siegel and Theresa St. John-Siegel

School Fund

Abby Cohen and Stuart Snyder

In honor of Miranda and Bobby's Marriage

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek: through contributions to the General Fund, or to targeted funds such as the School or the Holy Book Funds. In addition, donations can be made to 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 of 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 Spitzer directly at 617-454-0511 if you are in need of financial assistance.

Mazel Tov

To Dr. Janice Fine, on receiving her Ph. D. from MIT in Political Science!

Have you recently had a *mazel tov* moment? Let us know! Please notify the Newsletter (dtnews@yahoo.com) of life cycle events, significant accomplishments, or other moments you would like to share with the Dorshei Tzedek community.

Condolences

To Dorie Fried, on the death of her brother, Andy Fried. May his memory be for a blessing.



Chesed

The community of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek sends blessings and prayers for healing, refuah *sh'lemah*, to Barbara Ayres, Lynne Brandon and Francis Greenberg. May healing and comfort come soon to you and those who help to care for you.

If you or someone in your household is ill or needs support around healing or sickness, please contact Rabbi Toba Spitzer (617-454-0511) or Susan Manheim (781-449-2984).

Todah Rabah

A **big thank you to everyone** who worked on the Community of Learners' (COL) program. First and foremost to Cindy Shulak-Rome and Clifford Goldsmith, and to the rest of the COL coordinating team: Rabbi Spitzer, Tessa Goldsmith, Steffi Karp, Lauren Gibbs, Sharon Gorberg, Cindy Rivka Marshall, Marcia Okun, Judy Hersh, Kelli Kirshtein, Elaine Pollack, and Ellie Goldberg. Also thanks to Miranda Phillips for teaching a special Shabbat class for children. Thank you to the Ritual Committee for sponsoring the Shabbat lunch: Elaine Pollack, Michael White, Kelli Kirshtein, Dan Rome, Matilda and Ed Bruckner, Marc Steinberg, Cindy Bittker, Caryn-Amy King, and Elizabeth Ross.

To the entire Dorshei Tzedek community -- thanks to all of you for the comfort and support you gave during the period after my mother's death. I appreciate every act and gesture, from attending *shiva minyan*, to paying a visit, to bringing food, to just stopping and expressing condolences. Thank you all—*Chayim Herzog-Marx*



March Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Set-up/Clean-up and Notes
Sat Mar 1	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Vayakhel - Shabbat Shekalim</i>	Matilda Bruckner (c), Joshua Lieberman
Sat Mar 1	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Alef and Bet Classes	
Sat Mar 1	10:30 am - 12 pm	Reconstructionist Judaism in a Family Context: Parent Discussion Group for Lower School Parents	(see page 4)
Sun Mar 2	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Dalet Family Education Program	
Wed Mar 5	7:30 pm -	Taste of Me'ah <i>at Temple Hill B'nai Torah</i>	(see page 6)
Fri Mar 7	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service	Elizabeth Carver, Peter Hess (c)
Sat Mar 8	9:45 am - 12 pm	Bat Mitzvah of Elizabeth Holohan Shabbat Morning Service - <i>Parshat Pekudei</i>	Karla Hailer-Fidelman, Paul Hattis (c)
Sat Mar 8	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Alef and Bet Classes	
Sun Mar 9	10:30 am	Roots of the Conflict: Modern Israeli History A Talk by Mitchell Silver	(see page 7)
Sun Mar 9	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program	
Fri Mar 14	6 pm - 8 pm	Kitah Bet Shabbat Dinner	
Fri Mar 14	8 pm - 9:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service	Geri Blitzman (c), Rick Glassman
Sat Mar 15		<i>NO Kitot Alef and Bet Classes</i>	
Sat Mar 15	8:45 am - 9:40 am	Torah Study with Rabbi Spitzer	(see page 5)
Sat Mar 15	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Vayikra - Shabbat Zakhor</i>	Laurie Gould, Rob Greenly (c)
Sat Mar 15	12 pm - 1:30 pm	Shabbat Luncheon <i>Sponsored by the DT Board</i>	(see page 5)
Mon Mar 17	7 pm - 9 pm	Purim Party (see page 3)	Marc Steinberg (c), Rob Saper, Dana Leichter, Jamie Katz, Willa Kuh, Tim Rosa, Lisa Levheim
Tue Mar 18		Purim	
Wed Mar 19	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Education: Telling Our Stories: A Spiritual Autobiography Workshop	(see page 5)
Sat Mar 22 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Tzav - Shabbat Parah</i>	Jeffrey Green, Elana Eisman (c)
Sat Mar 22	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Alef and Bet Classes	
Sat Mar 22	10:30 am - 12 pm	Reconstructionist Judaism in a Family Context: Parent Discussion Group for Lower School Parents	(see page 4)
Sat Mar 22	11 am - 11:45 am	Tot Shabbat	
Sun Mar 23	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Hay Family Education Program	
Wed Mar 26	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Education: Telling Our Stories: A Spiritual Autobiography Workshop	
Sat Mar 29	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Shemini - Shabbat Hachodesh</i>	Sherwood Ives, Steffi Karp (c)
Sat Mar 29	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Alef and Bet Classes	
Sun Mar 30	7:15 pm - 9:30 pm	Member's Meeting	Stan Fleischman, Laura Katz (c)

Events and services are held at the First Unitarian Society of Newton, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, unless otherwise noted. An asterisk (*) denotes Rabbi Spitzer's weekend off. Free child care is available during Shabbat morning services in the large classroom near the office on the first floor.

Setup/cleanup people: The coordinator for your event is labeled "(c)".

Please contact that person to coordinate your work at least 10 days before the event.

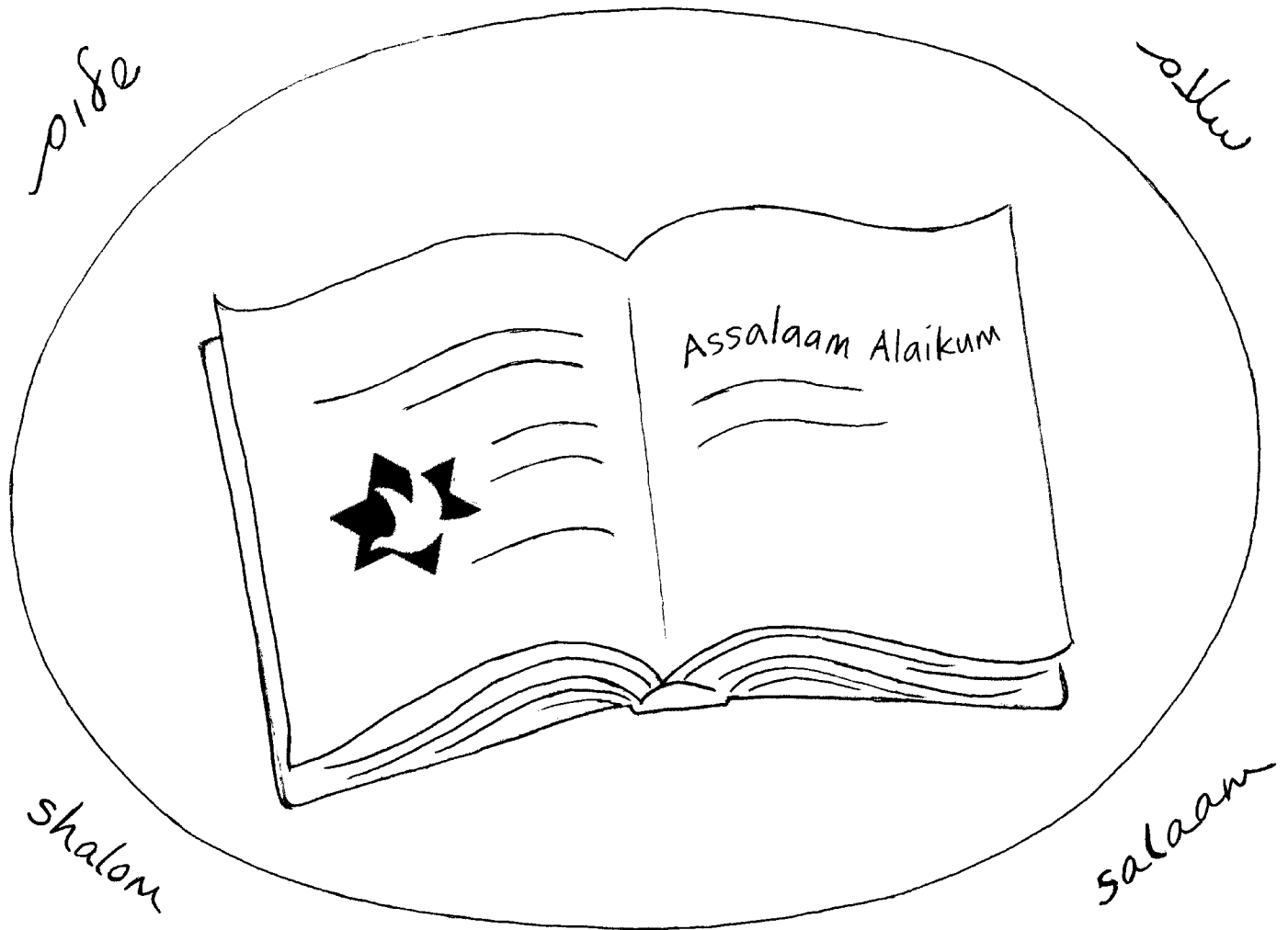
No Fragrances, Please: So that Dorshei Tzedek services and events are accessible to all of our members and guests, we ask that people refrain from wearing fragrances (perfume, scented oils, cologne, etc.) to all Dorshei Tzedek events. While pleasant to some, these fragrances can cause illness to those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



March Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Set-up/Clean-up and Notes
Wed Apr 2	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Ed: Telling Our Stories: A Spiritual Autobiography Workshop	
Fri Apr 4	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service	Jerry Friedman (c), Linda Hsu
Sat Apr 5	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Tazira</i> Kitah Vav Siyyum Class to lead services with Rabbi Spitzer	Michael Kajen (c), Jonathan Kahn-Leavitt
Sat Apr 5	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Alef & Bet Classes	
Sat Apr 5	6 pm - 8 pm	New Member Orientation/Havdallah	Andrew Compaine, Lauren Gibbs, Erica Streit (c)
Sun Apr 6		Passover Program	TBA
Sun Apr 6	2 pm - 4:30 pm	Fundraising for Friendship's Way <i>the religious school's "gently used" book sale and more</i>	(see page 11)
Fri Apr 11	6 pm - 8 pm	Kitah Aleph Dinner	
Fri Apr 11	8 pm - 9:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service	Jeff Behrens, John Holohan (c)
Sat Apr 12	8:45 am - 9:40 am	Torah Study with Rabbi Spitzer	(see page 5)
Sat Apr 12	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Metzora - Shabbat Hagadol</i>	Nancy Gertz (c), Jeff Katz
Sat Apr 12	11 am - 11:45 am	Tot Shabbat	
Sun Apr 13		Kitah Zayin Family Outing	
Sun Apr 13	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program	
Sun Apr 13	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Vav Family Education Program	
Tue Apr 15		<i>No Classes through April 28 Pesach and Spring Break</i>	
Wed Apr 16		<i>Pesach: First Seder</i>	
Sat Apr 19	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Pesach</i>	Lynne Brandon (c), Hilary Marcus
Wed Apr 23	9 am - 11 am	7th day of Pesach Yizkor service	
Sat Apr 26	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <i>Parshat Acharei Mot</i>	Jacqueline Fleischman, Stephen Zisk (c)
Tue Apr 29		<i>Religious School Classes Resume</i>	



Friendship's Way Fundraiser

The Dorshei Tzedek Religious School is sponsoring a Fundraiser/Educational Event on behalf of Friendship's Way, an after-school program in Jaffa, Israel for at-risk Jewish and Arab youth. The fundraiser will be held at the Unitarian Society building on **Sunday, April 6, from 2 - 4:30 pm**. Friendship's Way is a unique program that provides much needed educational and social services in a context of mutual respect between Jews and Arabs. Demand for their services increased 275% this past year, but they have been severely limited in meeting this need because of lack of funds.

The main vehicle for fundraising will be a "gently used" book sale. Each grade in the school is taking on a specific project for the fundraiser. Kitah Dalet will be taking responsibility for the book collection, which will occur the week prior to April 6th. Dalet students will be contacting the congregation in March with specifics about where to donate books. The school is hoping that as many congregants as possible will donate books. In addition to the book sale, students will be selling book-marks, baked goods, and Middle Eastern food they have made. There will also be a slide show given by Rabbi Toba about Friendship's Way, a story reading of children's books with Arab/Jewish friendship themes, and a room designed to inform visitors about Jaffa, Israel. Please be thinking about books you and your household would be willing to donate, and please attend this wonderful community event. If you are interested in working with the school on this *tikkun olam* project, please contact Barbara Shatkin at 617 964-3121.

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

Attention All Dorshei Tzedek Teens!

Want to meet more Jewish kids? If so, the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO) is for you. Since 1922, BBYO has been bringing together Jewish youth from all over the world. It's an opportunity to meet tons of new people, form long-lasting relationships, become involved in helping your community, and have lots and lots of fun! Thousands of Jewish teens from around the world have become involved and so can you! Please contact Julia Pashall (617-332-0068) for more information.

The Outer Limits: Defining Ethical Boundaries of Biotechnology Research

*March 9–10 at Hebrew College
and Andover Newton Theological School*

Join a distinguished group of the nation's leading researchers and thinkers as they address the question: Do lifesaving treatments such as genome therapy fundamentally alter the course of nature, with dangerous, unforeseen consequences? Presented by the Wilstein Institute of Jewish Policy Studies and the Interreligious Center on Public Life. For more information, call 617-559-8793 or e-mail wilstein@hebrewcollege.edu.

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless Lobby Day

*March 13, 9:30 am–2:00 pm
at The State House, Beacon Hill*

This Lobby Day will include a keynote address by Robert Reich, panel discussions on homelessness and affordable housing, a legislative briefing, and meetings with state legislators. To make your voice heard on issues of homelessness and affordable housing, contact MCH at 617-423-9162 x109 or e-mail Dianeymch@aol.com.

Shirim L'Hayyim: Songs in Celebration of Life

Sunday, March 23, 4:00 pm at Temple Israel in Boston

This benefit concert, featuring Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller and local cantors and musicians, will support the new Mayyim Hayyim Community Mikveh. For more information or to order tickets, e-mail mayyim.hayyim@verizon.net or call 617-244-6506.