

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465 617-965-0330
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Elul 5763 / Tishri 5764

September 2003



An Elul Reflection

Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Elul, the month leading up to the new Jewish year and the holiday of Rosh Hashanah, begins this year on August 29th. Traditionally, Elul is seen as a four-week period of preparation for the work of reflection, repentance, and resolve that we engage in during the *Aseret Yamei Teshuvah*, the Ten Days of (Re)Turning that extend from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur. If you think of those ten days as a sort of spiritual marathon, a time in which we make efforts towards redirecting our lives in ways that are healthy and positive, then the month of Elul could be considered the training period.

To train for anything properly, it helps to have some kind of schedule or check-list. Elul is a time to begin to attend to the various aspects of our life, to check in with ourselves on many levels. How am I doing physically—do I need to get more exercise, or deal with a nagging problem? How is my *zedakah* practice going—have I given to causes that I believe in, and to others in need, to the level that I should during the past Jewish year? How well have I been attending to my spiritual needs, however I understand them—do I take time during the week for myself, to sit, to walk in the woods, to do art, to play music, to pray? And how am I doing in relation to those around me? Is there any particularly difficult relationship that I can possibly take some steps towards healing? Is there any forgiving, or asking for forgiveness, that I might be able to do? These are the types of questions that we can begin asking ourselves as we prepare for the coming of the new year, our collective new beginning.

The Hebrew letters that spell “Elul”—*alef, lamed, vav, lamed*—have been read as an acronym for a famous line from the Song of Songs, “*Ani l’dodi v’dodi li*”—“I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine.” This has been interpreted to mean that during this month, the Jewish people and God turn towards one another in loving relationship. Elul is a time when the Source of Life, the Source of Forgiveness, is accessible to us in a special way. How can we understand this metaphor as Reconstructionists?

If we understand God/liness not as a Being or Person, but as a Power or organizing force that underlies all reality, then perhaps the meaning of “Elul” has to do with our own willingness to be received in love, to forgive ourselves and others from a spirit of compassion. During the Ten Days of Repentance we will be asked to do the hard work of examining our thoughts and deeds from this past year, with the intention of doing a bit better in the new year. The spirit of Elul teaches that we are not asked to judge ourselves or others harshly in this process: quite the opposite. We are to imagine this process as a movement in a relationship of love—a “turning towards” that implies acceptance and care. If we truly love others we are able to accept them as they are, even as we help them find ways to become their best selves. We are called to turn towards ourselves in this same spirit during Elul: to be honest in our self-assessment, to accept who we are, and to lovingly explore new paths towards healing and transformation. Similarly, we are called to turn towards those around us in the same spirit, asking for forgiveness where necessary, or extending forgiveness if we are able.

Loving another person is not a simple or easy task; neither is loving ourselves in this way. That is why I appreciate the imagery of “*Ani l’dodi*”—“*I am my Beloved’s, and my Beloved is mine.*” Jewish tradition teaches that the most fundamental aspects of the universe are “on our side,” as it were, during this special time of year. We need only align ourselves with those forces, and we will be helped and guided as we seek greater wholeness and peace for ourselves and for those around us.

I wish everyone a wonderful Elul, and I look forward to seeing you at our Rosh Hashanah services. *L’shanah tovah tikkateyvu*, may you be inscribed for a good and sweet year!

Contacting Rabbi Spitzer: *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 617-965-0330. Rabbi Spitzer’s office is at the Second Church, 60 Highland Street, in West Newton.*

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek Celebrates New Worship Space

*In mid-September, Congregation Dorshei Tzedek is moving to our new ritual space at 60 Highland Street, located up the street from the First Unitarian Society. Please join us in celebrating and dedicating our new space in three events on **September 11, 12, and 13.***

Thursday, September 11, 5:30 pm, meet at FUSN

At the close of our first day of religious school, we invite all CDT members to join us for a procession with our Torah scrolls from the First Unitarian Society to our new space at 60 Highland Street. The procession will be followed by a brief ceremony including the installation of our *mezzuzot*. We hope to get press coverage for this event, so join us if you can!

Friday, September 12, 8 pm, 60 Highland Street

This Erev Shabbat service will be our first welcoming of Shabbat in our new space. This Erev Shabbat service (oriented towards adults and older children) is an open house event for prospective as well as current members. (See pages 4 and 5.)

Saturday, September 13, 9:45 am, 60 Highland Street

We hope many members of the Dorshei Tzedek community will join us for this Shabbat morning service as we formally dedicate our new space as a place of prayer, study, and Jewish life!

Dorshei Tzedek Offices and Telephones

You can now find the Dorshei Tzedek Administrative Office and Rabbi Toba Spitzer's office at The Second Church, 60 Highland Street. The main number for the congregation remains the same, 617-965-0330. This is also now the number at which you can reach Rabbi Toba (the old 617-454-0511 number is no longer operative). To reach the religious school, call 617-965-5443; the religious school office remains at 1326 Washington Street in the First Unitarian Society.

Building Access

The 60 Highland Street building has two entrances. Our prayer space is most directly accessed through the Highland Street entrance, and parking is often available directly on Highland Street. However, if you park in the parking lot off Highland Street, you may also use the side door. To find the administrative office or Rabbi Toba, enter through the door that opens onto the Highland Street side parking lot (there is an additional parking lot off Chestnut Street).

There is also a wheelchair-accessible entrance to the offices and to the prayer space. **If you require wheelchair access, please contact the administrative office during the week prior, as this entrance requires advance arrangements.**

House and Operations in the Coming Year

James Kaplan

I hope you had a wonderful summer. As the new person responsible for coordinating House & Operations, I wanted to write to let everyone know that since we will have a permanent prayer space, setup and cleanup will be changing substantially. In fact, perhaps we should call it something different! If you have any suggestions, let me know and we'll post them in a future issue of the newsletter.

Here are a few of the changes. Chairs, tables and books will already be in place, so the role of set-up/clean-up people will be easier. People assigned to regular services will be responsible for providing and setting up Kiddush, and making sure the building is locked before they leave.

There will also be fewer responsibilities on B'nei Mitzvah days; set-up and clean-up will both be handled by 60 Highland Street's cleaners, and food will be provided by caterers. The main role of people assigned on those days will be to provide general assistance and to serve as ushers. If you have any questions, please email me at jameshkaplan@hotmail.com or call me at 617-393-0216.

High Holy Days

Harvest Dinner & Selichot Program

Saturday, September 20

60 Highland Street, Fellowship Hall

Dinner: 6-7:45 pm, Selichot Study and Service: 8-9:30 pm

On **Saturday, September 20**, our hosts at the Second Church have invited us to join them for a potluck Harvest Dinner. Please bring a veggie/dairy dish to share (enough for 10-12 people). **If your last name begins with A-J, please bring a salad; from K-P, a dessert; Q-Z, a main dish.** Following the dinner, at **8 pm**, we will begin our preparations for the High Holy Days with a *Selichot* program of study, singing and reflection. Traditionally, *Selichot* services initiate the process of praying for forgiveness and reconciliation. This is a great opportunity to begin thinking about the process of *teshuvah*, "turning/returning," and about our goals for the coming new year.

Yamim Noraim/High Holy Days

Solomon Schechter Day School, Wells Avenue, Newton

We will begin welcoming the New Year 5764 on **Friday, September 26** with a musical Erev Rosh Hashanah service appropriate for adults as well as older children. Our Rosh Hashanah services continue on **Saturday, September 27** and **Sunday, September 28**. On Sunday afternoon, we will hold a *tashlikh* service at the Newton City Hall pond, a ritual in which we symbolically release our transgressions.

On **Saturday, October 4**, Shabbat *Shuvah*, we will hold our usual Shabbat morning service on this special Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This service will be at 60 Highland Street (not at the Solomon Schechter location).

Yom Kippur begins with the Kol Nidre service on **Sunday, October 5**, and we continue with a full day of services on **Monday, October 6**. A light Break Fast of bagels and juice will be served at the conclusion of Yom Kippur services.

If you have not yet received a mailing containing details about High Holy Day services and reservation forms, please call the Dorshei Tzedek office at 617-965-0330 (leave a message in voice-mailbox 1 if no one is in the office). Members, you may also visit the members' area of our website to reprint the mailing.

High Holy Days Children's Programming

Preparations are well underway for an exciting program for children for the High Holy Days. A rich variety of age appropriate activities will focus on the same themes the adults will be thinking about in their services: *tefilah* (prayer), *t'shuvah* (turning and returning), creation, and responsibility. Parents are welcome at the children's and youth services, which begin at 10:30 am the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning (at other times, there are other activities available).

We welcome parent involvement and encourage parents to spend some time with their child/ren in the childcare rooms. We also invite non-parents and teens to help out. We have given much thought to creating fun activities, appropriate to the holidays we are celebrating. There will be things to do indoors as well as outdoor games if the weather permits. If your child does not want to participate we ask that you keep your him or her with you. This will help us maintain a warm positive atmosphere in the different age groups and help other kids derive meaning from our activities.

If you have not already volunteered to assist for a half-hour in the childcare program, please email Abby Cohen at cohen-snyder@rcn.com regarding your availability. During this time you may be asked to help out with an activity we have prepared such as a craft project, reading a story or playing a game with a group of kids.

We look forward to spending the High Holy Days with you and your children.

L'shanah Tovah U'metukah!—Children's High Holiday Programming Committee

Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Boguslaw Kaufman

at the first Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton

Please join us on **September 6 at 9:45 am** as our son Alex is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Alex, an eighth-grader at Brown Middle School, has been an active member of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek for the past six years: attending Hebrew school, playing wall-ball before and after class, and enjoying many class pizzas and ice-cream outings. Alex is a great big brother and son. He is an avid baseball enthusiast and player, enjoys playing the piano, beating the computer, telling jokes, and hanging with friends. For Alex's *tikkun olam* project he has been volunteering at the Bristol Lodge, a soup kitchen for low-income and homeless adults, and at Sanders Lodge, a transitional house for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. He will continue this work in the coming year.—*Janet Boguslaw and Howard Kaufman*

Open Houses

Interested in learning more about Dorshei Tzedek? Come to a Shabbat service and open house event! Meet our rabbi, learn about Reconstructionism, and meet current members.

Erev Shabbat Services

September 5, 6 - 7 pm, FUSN

September 12, 8 - 9:30 pm, 60 Highland Street

We invite prospective members to experience Shabbat services with the Dorshei Tzedek community at two special Erev Shabbat celebrations in September. On September 5, join us for a musical, kid- and family-friendly service, and on September 12, help us inaugurate our new prayer space at a Friday night service (oriented towards adults and older children).

Prospective Member

Bagel Brunch and Study with the Rabbi

Sunday, October 26, 10 am

60 Highland Street

Come nosh while you study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer, learn about Reconstructionism, and meet current members. This is a great opportunity to find out about what it means to become a member of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek.

Adult Education

Preparing for the High Holy Days

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Wednesday evenings, 7:45-9:15 pm

September 10 and 17, 60 Highland Street

Do you ever feel lost at High Holy Day services? Are you looking for a structured way to prepare yourself for the work of *teshuvah*, "turning" or "repentance", that we focus on at this time of year? Join Rabbi Spitzer for a two-session class that will look at some of the special liturgy for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and provide an opportunity for personal reflection in preparation for the *Yamim Noraim*, the Days of Awe.

Shabbat Morning Study

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday mornings at 8:45 am, 60 Highland Street

Fall dates: October 25, November 22, December 20

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! (You may want to read the weekly Torah portion in advance.)

The Holy Days Don't End with Yom Kippur... Sukkot & Simchat Torah are coming!

After getting a clean start on the new year, we celebrate a week of Sukkot, *zman simchateynu*, the time of joy! If you've never set up a *sukkah* yourself, this could be your year—*sukkah* "kits" are available on-line and at the Israel Book Store in Brookline, and are fun to set up and eat in! If you think you'd like to try to set up a *sukkah* but have some questions, don't hesitate to call Rabbi Toba (617-965-0330) or our Holiday Coordinator, Marc Steinberg (617-527-8343). We'll be setting up the new and improved Dorshei Tzedek *sukkah* at the Unitarian Society, as in years past, after Yom Kippur.

In the meantime, please mark your calendars for these events:

We will welcome the Sukkot holiday with an Erev Sukkot celebration on **Friday, October 10, at 6 pm**; on **Saturday, October 18**, we will mark the end of Sukkot with a special Shemini Atzeret service on Shabbat morning, followed by Simchat Torah celebrations at **5 pm** (for families with younger kids) and a service for adults and older kids at **7:30 pm**.

Shabbat Programs

IMPORTANT NOTE: Services in our new space at 60 Highland Street, in West Newton Square, will begin on September 12. Services prior to this date will be held at the First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street.

All-ages Erev Shabbat Services

September 5 (FUSN, Open House—see page 3), November 7, December 5, 6 - 7 pm

Join us for a musical, all-ages service to welcome Shabbat the first Friday of each month (except in October, when we will be celebrating Erev Sukkot on Friday, October 10).

Erev Shabbat Services

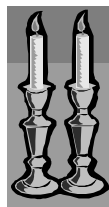
September 12 (Open House—see page 3), October 24, November 14, December 12, 8 - 9:30 pm

Each month we welcome Shabbat with an evening of song, prayer, and reflection—please join us!

Special Tikkun Olam Shabbat Morning Service

*September 20, 9:45 am
60 Highland Street*

On September 20, there will be a special Shabbat morning service whose theme will be social justice. The GBIO Committee is sponsoring a luncheon and discussion afterward, highlighting our individual and communal relationships to these issues and the potential role of CDT in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization. Please join us for this exciting opportunity!





Nadiv Lev



We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

General Fund

Lynne Brandon

In memory of William Spitzer

Amy Brodesky and Rex Flynn

In memory of William Spitzer

Beth Brooks and Hankus Netsky

In memory of Ben Gailing

Matilda & Edward Bruckner

*In memory of our parents and
in gratitude of the Dorshei Tzedek Community*

Jacqueline and Stan Fleischman

With thanks to Ellie Goldberg for sharing Eloise, and to Cindy Marshall and Kathy Pillsbury for the baby things

Wendy Gedanken

*In gratitude for the individuals who comprise
the Dorshei Tzedek community*

Lauren Gibbs

*In honor of my great father, Edward F. Kook,
who would be 100 this year*

Joshua Herzig-Marx and Carla Naumburg

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

*In honor of the wedding anniversary of
Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx*

In honor of our new space

Carol Hemley

In memory of my husband David Hemley

Debbie Hemley

In memory of Mimi Soko, grandmother of Mark Bronstein

Doug Hersh and Sarah Little

In recognition of the good work of the Nadiv Lev committee

Betsy Hinden and Karen Wasserman

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

Barbara and Shelly Isaacs

In memory of Frances Berley and Milton and Vivian Isaacs

Laura and Joel Katz

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

Hope Kellman and Jim Fennell

In memory of William Spitzer

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

In honor of Isaac Carlen becoming an Eagle Scout

Kelli Kirshtein, Wendy Angus,

Benjamin Angus-Kirshtein

*In honor of Elaine Pollack's innumerable contributions
to Dorshei Tzedek*

Esther Kohn

In memory of William Spitzer

Cindy Marshall and Katharine Pillsbury

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's ceremony of
commitment*

Lissa Kennedy Mcburney

In celebration of the birth of Amy Rebecca Baumel

Ruth Paris and Robert Saper

In memory of Isaac Paris and Louis Saper

Dan Rome and Cindy Shulak-Rome

In memory of Bill Spitzer

*In honor of the B'nei Mitzvah of Hadass Silver, Sophie Strass-
berg and Laura Greenly*

*In honor of the 5753 teaching staff: Miranda Phillips,
Rachel Gutter, Lesley Chapman, Ilana Blatt-Eisengart, Steve
Lewis, Meg Berenson, and Elaine Pollack,
with gratitude and appreciation for your
dedication and hard work*

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

*In honor of Leah Brooks-Netsky's Bat Mitzvah
and Alex Kaufman's Bar Mitzvah*

Andrew Schiff and Susan Manheim

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried's
ceremony of commitment*

Jo Ann Share and Rochelle Weichman

For the yahrzeit of JoAnn's father, Harry Share

Shoshana Simons

*In honor of Dr Robert Gensler of Chestnut Hill Chiropractic
whose gentle, powerful approach helped me more than I had
believed possible*

Carol Sklar

In honor of John, a stranger who helped us on Mt. Monadnock

Carole Slipowitz and Dan Halbert

In memory of William Spitzer

Holy Book Fund

Lisa and Deb Levheim

*In honor of Elaine Pollack's acceptance
into Rabbinical School*

*In honor of Caren Smith's completion of her first year
in Vet School*

In honor of all the B'nai Mitzvah for 5763

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Andrew Compaine

Jeff and Roberta Fortgang

In memory of William Spitzer

Julie and Paul Fox

In memory of William Spitzer

Ezra and Allison Hausman

*In appreciation of Rabbi Spitzer's wisdom and guidance for
Shana's Bat Mitzvah*

Amy Mazur

Rabbi Barbara Penzner

In memory of William Spitzer

Stuart Snyder and Abby Cohen

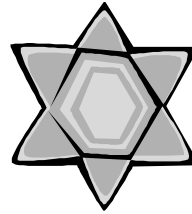
In memory of William Spitzer

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 617-965-0330 if you are in need of financial assistance.

When sending a contribution, 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. Mail to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, 60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465.

Community Resources

Jewish Family & Children's Service offers a variety of support services, including groups for those who have experienced pregnancy loss, support groups for new parents and interfaith families, and a social/spiritual/cultural group for Jewish adults with psychiatric conditions. For more information, call 617-227-6641 or visit their website at www.jfcsboston.org.



Condolences

To Sarah Little, on the death of her mother, Elizabeth Little. May her memory be for a blessing.

Todah Rabah

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek offers its thanks to the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston's Commission on Jewish Continuity for their financial support of our Renaissance Educator position at the religious school, and for a tuition subsidy for the *Me'ah* class which we are sponsoring with Temple Hillel B'nai Torah.

A huge todah rabah to all those who made our office move from the Unitarian Society to 60 Highland Street so efficient this summer! Thank you to everyone on the Space Committee who made this move possible, especially Cheryl Sacks for her negotiating skills, and Laurie Gould for overseeing the move. Thanks also to Wendy Frankston, shlepping coordinator, and the awesome moving team of Ora Gladstone, Miranda Phillips, Lisa Schneier, and Bill Shorr; our incredible hi-tech consultants/technicians Charles Frankston and Dan Halbert, and the generous donation of staff time from The Telluride Group, run by our very own Jeff Behrens and Lori Rutter; and to Amy Gordon and Lisa Schneier for their furniture contributions. Thanks also to everyone at the 60 Highland Street for their efforts in making this move as smooth as possible, especially Peter Rosser. More thank you's will be upcoming for our move into our new *davvening* space! The Religious School is grateful to Liz Umlas and Tom Kuh of KLD for donating furniture for our new school office. Special thanks also to Clifford and Adam Goldsmith and Ben Rome – our schleppers extraordinaire- who made themselves available on very short notice to dissemble and move several pieces of furniture on a hot summer day! Many thanks!

Refuah Sh'lemah

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

School News

Welcome Back!

We'll be welcoming everyone back to school soon! Please mark your calendar with these important start-up dates!

Kitot Gimmel-Vav (3rd thru 6th grade)

Thursday, September 11: First day of class, 3:45 pm

Kitah Zayin (7th Grade)

Tuesday, September 16: First day of class, 6:15 – 8:15 pm

Kitot Aleph and Bet (1st and 2nd grade)

Friday, September 12: Family Shabbat dinner, 6:15 pm

Saturday, September 13: First day of class, 10 am – noon

Gan (Parent-Child Kindergarten Program)

Sunday, October 26: First class, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Dedication Ceremony

On **Thursday, September 11**, our first day of school, all of our classes will be joining in a special celebration to dedicate our new prayer space at 60 Highland Street. We will leave FUSN at **5:30 pm** to proceed with our Torah scroll to our new space. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us in the processional at 5:30 or meet us at 60 Highland Street. (See page 2 for more on dedication events).

School Openings

Our Religious School currently has a few openings in our Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grade classes. For more information about our school contact Cindy Shulak-Rome, Education Director, at 617-965-5443.

Youth Education Committee

Our new Youth Education Committee has a number of great projects that we plan to build on and develop this coming year. One of our goals for the coming year is to launch our own Reconstructionist Youth Group, *No'ar Ha-dash*, together with Temple Hillel B'nai Torah, a newly affiliated Reconstructionist congregation in West Roxbury. We are also working to start a Junior Congregation, to investigate sending a group of our teens to *Panim al Panim*: the Institute of Jewish Values in Washington D.C., and to enhance our Shabbat Morning programming for our tots. We have dreams and goals, but we can only accomplish them with your help! If you are interested in helping out on one of these projects, or learning more about what the Youth Education Committee will be doing this year, please contact Janet Boguslaw, committee chair, at boguslawj@att.net.

Board Meeting Notes

Dan Halbert (secretary for a day)

The Dorshei Tzedek Board met on July 17. Debbie Waber reviewed the organization of the congregation officers, the Executive Committee, and the Board. Each Executive Committee member is a liaison to several related Dorshei Tzedek committees.

Cindy Rome will continue as our Education Director next year.

Steve Siegel reported that the Nativ Lev campaign was (at the time of the Board meeting) in its final two weeks. At that time, we had about \$10,000 left to raise, and about 50 households were yet to contribute to make 100% participation. The campaign is needed to support general operating expenses of CDT.

Erica Streit reported that we now have about 150 member households. Three households joined in June, and several more are interested. There will be three prospective-member events in September and October (see page 11).

This year we will consider whether we will join GBIO, the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, as one of our major Tikkun Olam initiatives (see page 11).

Rabbi Spitzer will be taking her sabbatical starting after the High Holy Days of 2004, and will return for the High Holy Days of 2005. Ora Gladstone and her Rabbinic Liaison Committee will take responsibility for organizing rabbinic support during Toba's absence.

The Space Committee feels that the lighting in the new space needs improvement. Two chandeliers are not working and are being repaired. The acoustics need improvement as well. Various acoustic treatments could cost thousands of dollars, but before doing any acoustic work, we will see how the space works with a public-address system. Ellie Goldberg did an environmental audit of the space and the building and found essentially nothing of concern. Wendy Gedanken is chairing a group to create art for the new space. Clifford Goldsmith is overseeing the *bimah* construction. We ordered 150 chairs after extensive research on comfort and cost. Some samples were at the Board meeting and we were pleased. Our new phone and DSL service are working; Charles Frankston did a wonderful job on the technical setup.

James Kaplan reported on House and Operations matters in our new space. Many Board members would like to see member nametags available for use during services and other events. Our new space will be dedicated on September 13. Lisa Schneier and her committee are working hard on planning dedication events. (See page 2 for details of House and Operations and the dedication.)



September Calendar



Note that our regular location for most events, including Erev Shabbat and Shabbat services, moves from the First Unitarian Society to 60 Highland Street this month, starting Friday September, 12. See pages 2 and 5 for details

Date	Time	Event	Set-up/Clean-up and Notes
Fri Sep 5	6 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service and Open House <i>FUSN (see pages 4 and 5)</i>	Stephen Ansolabehere, Andy Baumel, Sheree Galpert
Sat Sep 6	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Alex Kaufman <i>FUSN</i>	Ora Gladstone, Alison Hausman, Beth Brooks (see page 4)
Wed Sep 10	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Ed: Preparing for the High Holy Days	60 Highland St (see page 4)
Thu Sep 11	3:45 pm - 5:45 pm	Kitot Gimmel - Vav: First Day of Class	<i>FUSN</i>
Thu Sep 11	5:30 pm	Procession and Dedication	<i>First Unitarian Society to 60 Highland St</i>
Fri Sep 12	6:15 pm	Kitot Aleph and Bet Family Shabbat Dinner	<i>FUSN</i>
Fri Sep 12	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service and Open House <i>first Erev Shabbat service at 60 Highland St</i>	Laurie Kahn-Leavitt, Andy Cohen (see pages 2, 4, 5)
Sat Sep 13	9:45 am - 12:30 pm	Shabbat Morning Service and Dedication Ceremony, Kiddush Lunch <i>first Shabbat morning service at 60 Highland St</i>	Lisa Schneier, Michael White (see page 2)
Sat Sep 13	10 am - 12 pm	Kitot Aleph and Bet: First Day of Class	<i>FUSN</i>
Tue Sep 16	6:15 pm - 8:15 pm	Kitah Zayin: First Day of Class	<i>FUSN</i>
Wed Sep 17	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Ed: Preparing for the High Holy Days	60 Highland St (see page 4)
Sat Sep 20	9:45 am - 1:30 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Social Justice Discussion and Lunch	Bruce Miller, Reinhard Engels, Bryn Austin
Sat Sep 20	6 pm	Harvest Dinner	(see page 3)
Sat Sep 20	8 pm	Selichot Services (see page 3)	Michael Jablon, Lisa Samuelson
Fri Sep 26	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (see page 3 for all High Holyday Services)	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Sat Sep 27	9:30 am - 1 pm	Rosh Hashanah Service	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Sun Sep 28	4 pm - 5 pm	Tashlikh Service	<i>Newton City Hall Pond</i>

Events and services are now held at 60 Highland Street, West Newton, unless otherwise noted. Some events (as noted) and all school classes are at the First Unitarian Society in Newton (FUSN), 1326 Washington Street, West Newton. An asterisk (*) denotes Rabbi Spitzer's weekend off. Free child care is available during Shabbat morning 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 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.



October Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Set-up/Clean-up and Notes
Sat Oct 4	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Shuvah Service <i>60 Highland Street (see page 3)</i>	Andrew Schiff, Teri Hauserman
Sun Oct 5	6:15 pm - 8:30 pm	Kol Nidrei Service <i>(see page 3 for all High Holyday Services)</i>	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Mon Oct 6	9:30 am - 2 pm	Yom Kippur Morning Service	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Mon Oct 6	5:15 pm - 7 pm	Yom Kippur Afternoon Service	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Mon Oct 6	7 pm	Havdallah / Break the Fast	<i>Solomon Schechter Day School</i>
Fri Oct 10	5 pm - 9 pm	Erev Sukkot Celebration <i>FUSN</i> <i>(see page 5)</i>	Hankus Netsky, Emily Saltz, Rex Flynn, Dan Halbert, Peter Shapiro, Jo Ann Share, Ilene Spiro, Elizabeth Umlas
Sat Oct 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Felson	Judy Hersh, Miriam Baumel
Sat Oct 18	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shemini Atzeret Service	Carol Hemley, Bobby Kleinberg
Sat Oct 18	5 pm - 6 pm	Simchat Torah Family Celebration	Jonathan Weisberg, Cynthia Piltch
Sat Oct 18	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Simchat Torah Service	Jeff Sacks, Bill Weinreb
Fri Oct 24	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service	Howard Kaufman, Lori Rutter
Sat Oct 25	8:45 am	Shabbat Morning Study	
Sat Oct 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Sam Fader	Steve Leonard, Barbara Zolit
Sun Oct 26	10 am	Prospective Member Open House: Bagel Brunch & Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	Amy Mazur, Cindy Marshall
Sun Oct 26	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan: First Class	<i>FUSN</i>

Greater Boston Interfaith Organization

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) is a confederation of urban and suburban congregations of all faiths whose goal is to forge common commitments to social and economic justice in the Greater Boston area and, through its power of numbers and persuasion, to advance these issues together. GBIO also facilitates communal development within congregations and provides opportunities for congregations from different faiths and backgrounds to interact with one another.

Last Spring, CDT began working with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO). Since then, we have been participating in GBIO events as well as meeting as a congregation to explore some of the ways our desire to do *tikkun olam* work as a community might be structured and carried out through membership and participation in GBIO.

In May, nine members of CDT attended a GBIO Delegates' Assembly in Dorchester and in June, nineteen of us turned out for a 1300 person action at New Covenant Christian Church in Mattapan with Governor Mitt Romney. At that action, we proudly joined with Catholics, Baptists, Episcopalians, Pentacostals and other Jewish congregations in sharing with the Governor our concerns about affordable housing, nursing home care, immigrant rights and the lack of jobs and after school opportunities for children and youth. Our presence energized some of the other Jewish organizations within GBIO--Temple Israel and Temple Beth Zion were thrilled to see such a strong showing from CDT--and the meeting was extremely inspiring for all of the CDT members who attended. Although the Governor did agree to restore some of the money for affordable housing to the state budget, it was very clear to all of us that we have a long way to go if we are to move him on the other issues on our agenda! We resolved for example to invite Governor Romney back for a meeting next December where we intend to double the number of people in the room, as well as to engage other elected officials in the conversation.

On July 27th, four members of CDT attended a four-hour GBIO training and issues briefing at St. Gabriel's Church in Brighton. At the training, we were part of some very stimulating conversations about strategic thinking about future work regarding nursing homes, immigration, youth and affordable housing. We heard about GBIO's fall plans and agreed to participate in the next Delegate's Assembly on **September 15** where we hope once again to have an opportunity to introduce more CDT members to GBIO. In ad-

dition, we have been invited to participate in the West Suburban Caucus of GBIO. The next meeting will be on **September 8**, at Temple Beth Zion in Brookline.

Rabbi Toba, Congregation President Debbie Waber, members of the Nadiv Lev campaign and a number of other board members have become very excited about the opportunities that GBIO may present for CDT, and together with the GBIO Committee have planned some exciting events to focus on our *tikkun olam* activities and to help everyone become more familiar with GBIO as the Board considers whether to pursue a formal affiliation.

* On Saturday, **September 20**, the GBIO Committee will sponsor a post-Shabbat service "social justice" lunch conversation among CDT members to explore our individual interests and experiences in working against injustice as well as our ideas about the ways in which we can act together as a congregation (see page 5).

* During the High Holidays, CDT's participation as a congregation, in social and economic justice work in Greater Boston will be a topic for group deliberation and one-on-one discussion.

* CDT's social justice work and learning more about GBIO will be a main focus of the agenda at the **November 9** members meeting.

Anyone desiring more information or discussion about GBIO, please call Janice Fine at 617-541-0500 (office) or 617-524-7513 (home), or e-mail her at jfine@neaction.org.

Tikkun Olam Project

My name is Rachel Felson. For my Bat Mitzvah Tikkun Olam project, I am supporting the work of Greyhound Friends, Inc. This organization saves racing greyhounds and places them in loving homes. Their kennel is in Hopkinton and I am collecting items that they need:

Blankets and comforters, towels, carpet remnants, office supplies, cleaning supplies, paper towels.

Call me at 617-969-7703 or email my mom (Elaine Landes) at erose116@yahoo.com and we will pick up your donations. This is a great opportunity to get rid of stuff, i.e. those disgusting towels your kids brought home from camp - and help the greyhounds.

Thank you, Rachel

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

Again this year, the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements and Hillel International are joining MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger in fulfilling the biblical mandate to "leave the corners of our fields for the poor and the stranger." By donating to MAZON what you would have spent to feed yourself and your family on Yom Kippur and by participating in your congregation's food drive, you take part in this extraordinary act of Jewish pluralism.

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HIGH HOLY DAYS 5764/2003

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