

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465 617-965-0330
www.dorsheitzedek.org office@dorsheitzedek.org

Tevet/Shavat 5764

January 2004



Leadership at CDT

by Debbie Waber

It has been just about a year and a half since I became President of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, with anticipation and a great deal of trepidation. I had observed and admired everyone who served in this office before me, and I was frankly intimidated by what seemed like an overwhelming responsibility and a commitment that I was not at all sure I could manage. In the back of my head, a tiny voice persisted, "Me??" Eighteen months later, I am happy to report not only that I am still standing and that no major disaster appears to have befallen the congregation on my watch, but also that being President of CDT has been a completely wonderful experience which I would not have wanted to miss for anything.

This brings me to the theme of this year's Board retreat, which was held in November—leadership development. The word "leadership" can feel off-putting, conjuring an image of the daunting and unattainable. But a leader is not necessarily someone who marches at the front of a parade or gives inspiring speeches; a leader can be someone who recognizes his or her own talents and skills, is willing to take responsibility and to implement these skills on behalf of the community, and who can serve as a role model for others. For some people this may come in the form of chairing a committee. For others it may mean stepping forward to own a more delimited task or set of responsibilities, or to see an unmet need and assume responsibility for it. My own experience has taught me that assuming a leadership role can be a source of rewards that I could not have imagined.

As a Reconstructionist congregation, we in CDT practice "producer Judaism" rather than "consumer Judaism." We actively participate in all aspects of our spiritual and ritual life; we communally look after our space and other material needs; we seek opportunities to engage in education for ourselves and our families as each of us navigates our own Jewish journey; we seek to infuse all aspects of our lives with meaning; and we promote justice as Jews living in a pluralist society. Each of these aspects of our lives as

members of the Dorshei Tzedek community offers opportunities for leadership, be they large or small. For us to remain a healthy and thriving Jewish community, each member of CDT must regard him or herself as an actual or potential leader, everyone must engage actively in the life of the community, fresh leadership must continually step forward so that current leaders do not become burdened and so that creativity and growth can be sustained. This year, we welcomed ten new members to the Board, testimony to the depth of our pool of leaders and our dynamic leadership structure.

At the retreat, the Board resolved to focus more actively on developing new leadership and facilitating members' ability to assume leadership roles. To that end, we will undertake several concrete steps. First, we will review our current committee structure to see where our members are involved. This will allow us to help those who have not yet become engaged to make better connections. We will also be continuing the one-on-one interview process we began last year, face to face in-depth interviews with members to explore their lives in CDT in relation to larger personal and communal goals such as Jewish education, spiritual growth and *tikkun olam*. We hope that these interviews will help members connect more meaningfully with the congregation and give the congregational leadership a deeper appreciation of the membership.

Finally, the nominating committee for next year's board and officers will soon begin its work. Once the committee is announced, think about whether you are ready to assume greater responsibility and leadership next year. If you would like to take on a different or bigger role, just let someone on the committee know. Leadership roles in CDT are for everyone, not reserved for some select group. You may or may not believe it, but you are a leader!

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Next Member Potluck

Friday, January 23

These next potlucks, which are held in members' homes, will be on Erev Shabbat, and will have a theme of kosher wine, grape juice and *challah* tasting! As with our last (extremely well attended) potluck, people sign up to be a host or a guest. Guests should say how many from their household will attend, and any food restrictions or allergies they have. Hosts should specify whether they want to host adults, families or a mixed group, if they have pets, and how many people they can have. Please call before the deadline of January 18, so we can assure you a place and a good match. Contact **Ami Gordon** to sign up at 617-630-1717 or amisgordon@comcast.net.



Superbowl Sunday Schmooze

Sunday, February 1



Attention all football fans: the Membership Inreach Committee announces Dorshei Tzedek's first ever Superbowl Sunday Schmooze and Potluck. Location and time TBA. For more information, contact **Linda Hsu** at lhsu@earthlink.net.

Sabbatical Committee Gears Up

The Sabbatical Committee has begun meeting to ensure a smooth transition when Rabbi Spitzer begins her Sabbatical after the Fall '04 High Holydays. Our tasks and goals include: contacting other/similar congregations who have had experience with rabbinic sabbaticals; identifying all areas that will require rabbinic or increased lay oversight; making sure all financial needs are prepared for and addressed; and working in a timely manner so that we find the right person for the needs of the community for the 11 months that Rabbi Spitzer will be gone.

We are aware of the extent to which many within CDT identify the congregation with Rabbi Spitzer and we know that there may be concerns about the sabbatical and the process of finding a temporary "replacement." Therefore, we all welcome hearing from CDT members who would like to have input, or who simply want to express their concerns. If you would like to speak with one of us, feel free to call or e-mail:

Andrew Schiff 617-239-2523, manschiff@aol.com
Cindy Shulak-Rome 617-965-5722, cbsrome@comcast.net
John Holohan 617-244-4773, jholohan@mathworks.com;
Louise Enoch 617-926-0836, lpenoch@aol.com
Mark Bronstein 617-332-8424, mark@bronsteinlaw.com
Ora Gladstone 617-630-9050, gladston@brandeis.edu

Dorshei Tzedek Retreat

June 4-6, Camp Ramah in Palmer, MA

Save the Date! Every two years Dorshei Tzedek sponsors a weekend retreat for member households only. Not only is the retreat THE ideal way to make connections and friendships within our community, it's also a great opportunity to have a weekend full of physical activity, wonderful Shabbat services, adult, children's and whole group programs in a beautiful woodsy setting. This year the retreat will be at Camp Ramah in Palmer, MA, which is less than 90 minutes from Boston.

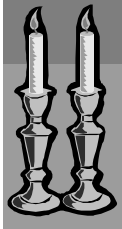
Retreat Planning Meeting -- All Invited

January 21, 7 pm, Judy Hersh's home

Planning for the 2004 Dorshei Tzedek retreat, to be held the weekend of June 4--6 is now underway. Please contact **Judy Hersh**

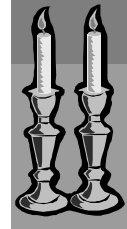
(judyhersh@comcast.net, 617-332-2487) if you're thinking of getting involved in the planning of a weekend filled with spirited services, conversation, singing, dancing, tennis, softball, swimming, hiking, canoeing, art and nature.





Shabbat Programs

*All Shabbat services are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space
in the Second Church of Newton,
60 Highland Street in West Newton.*



Erev Shabbat Service: Martin Luther King, Jr. Week- end

Friday, January 16, 8 pm

Join us as we welcome Shabbat and honor the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at this special service.

Chesed Shabbat

Saturday, January 31

Please join us for a Chesed-sponsored Shabbat service and kiddush lunch. There will be a special *aliyah* to honor all of you who have so generously given your time and energy to help members of the Dorshei Tzedek community in times of need.

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Services

*January 9, February 13, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 11
6 pm – 7 pm*

Join us on the first Friday of each month for a musical, all-ages service to welcome Shabbat.

Erev Shabbat Services

*January 16, February 6 (Tubishvat Seder, 7-9 pm, see below), March 19, April 16, and May 21
8 pm – 9:30 pm*

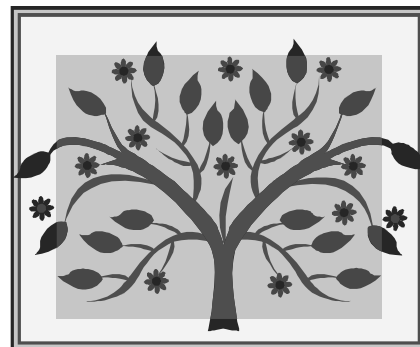
Each month we welcome Shabbat with an evening of song, prayer, and reflection—please join us!

Tubishvat

Friday, February 6, 7-9 pm

Tubishvat, the Jewish “New Year of the Trees,” is an opportunity to celebrate the environment, connect to the special fruits and grains the land of Israel, and study teachings from the Jewish mystical tradition. In place of our monthly 8 pm Erev Shabbat service, we will celebrate Tubishvat with a special program of food, song and study.

We will begin at **7 pm** with candle lighting and welcoming Shabbat, followed by a Tubishvat seder, including readings, eating special fruits associated with the holiday, and some study and discussion. At **8 pm** we will enjoy a potluck dinner. This program is appropriate for adults and older kids. See the February newsletter for further details!



of

B'nei Mitzvah Celebrations

Eli and Chloe Kuh

Please join us on **January 3, 2004** as we celebrate the B'nei Mitzvah of Chloe and Elias Kuh. We also welcome you for a Kiddush after the service.

Chloe and Elias enjoy their school, the Bigelow Middle School in Newton, where they have lots of friends and are part of the All City Orchestra. They are also both serious students of sport—soccer. Chloe and Elias are sharing their *tikkun olam* project with their parents. Together, we tutor a family who recently moved to the US from Bolivia in English and about the cultural ways of our country. Chloe and Elias have an older sister, Ariela, who will return from college to participate in this joyous occasion.—*Tom and Willa Kuh*

Joseph Sherwood Ives

Please join us on **January 17, 2004** as we celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of our son, Joey Ives. Joey takes great pleasure in school life at Charles E. Brown Middle School, where he is a member of the football team. A lover of sports, Joey also is an enthusiastic lacrosse and basketball player through Newton's recreational programs. Joey's *tikkun olam* project centers on volunteer service through the holiday season and beyond at AIDS Action Committee, which is marking the 20th anniversary of its work. We hope you will join Joey's proud siblings, Noah, Maida, and Clara, along his joyful friends and family for this special occasion, including the Kiddush following services.—*Sandy Sedacca and Sherwood Ives*

High Holyday Talks

Rabbi Spitzer's High Holyday talks are now available on the Dorshei Tzedek website at <http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/divrei.htm>, or from the Dorshei Tzedek home page, click on Shabbat & Holidays, then Divrei Torah.

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, 60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465.

Don't miss the online music sample available at <http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/rabbi-music.htm>



School News

Reminder: Passport to Israel Program

Just a reminder: bills for your 2004 payment to the Passport to Israel Program will be sent out this month. **Please** return your payment by January 30, 2004. If you have questions, please contact **Elaine Landes** at erose116@yahoo.com.

School Closings

In case of inclement weather, check the school phone line (617-965-5443) for a message as to whether classes have been cancelled. We will also send out an email on the CDT-Announce email list whenever possible if school is cancelled.

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.

Adult Education

*All Adult Education programs are held at
60 Highland Street.*

Shabbat Morning Study

*Saturday mornings at 8:45 am with Rabbi Spitzer
January 10, February 7, March 20, April 3, May 8, and
June 12*

Join us once a month at 8:45 am for a closer look at the weekly Torah portion with Rabbi Toba Spitzer, seen through the lenses of commentaries both ancient and modern. No text study experience required (although you may want to read the weekly Torah portion in advance).

Mishnah in the Morning

Thursday mornings, 8 am – 9 am with Rabbi Spitzer

While most of us are familiar with the Torah as Judaism's foundational text, fewer know that in fact it's the Mishnah, a rabbinic document composed in 200 CE, that shaped the Judaism we know today. In this class, we will take a closer look at this text and its approach to law, life, and being a Jew in a time of tumult and change. We will look at the text in both English and Hebrew, but no Hebrew knowledge (or text study experience) is required. Bring your own coffee or tea!



Sunday Morning Workshop Series: The Psalms

*Sunday mornings, 10 am – noon:
January 25, February 1 and 8*

Important note about parking: Please do *not* park in the Second Church parking lot on Sunday morning, but on Highland Street or other nearby streets.

In this three-part series, we will explore different aspects of the Book of Psalms. One of the most beautiful books of the Bible, the Psalms contains poems composed over 2,000 years ago that explore all aspects of the human condition. Join us for one or all of these exciting classes!

Introduction to the Psalms

Sunday, January 25, with Dr. David Bernat

The session will entail a historical and literary study of the Psalms. We will acquire techniques to analyze Biblical poetry generally, take a broad look at the book of Psalms, and engage in close, in-depth study of selected texts. A major goal will be to understand how the Psalms constituted an integral part of Biblical religious practice.

David Bernat is the Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible at Wellesley College, and a member of the Me'ah faculty.

Music of the Psalms

Sunday, February 1, with Cantor Charles Osborne

This session will explore the many ways in which Psalms have been set to music and integrated into our liturgy. Charles Osborne is the cantor at Temple Emmanuel in Newton and Visiting Instructor of Nusach at Hebrew College.

The Psalms as a Path to Healing

Sunday, February 8, with Rabbi Samuel Chiel

Rabbi Chiel will lead text study and discussion of some of the most beautiful Psalms dealing with healing, with a focus on how we can apply some of the teachings of the Psalmist to our own lives.

Samuel Chiel is Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Emmanuel in Newton, and the author of *For Thou Art With Me: The Healing Power of Psalms*.



Nadiv Lev



We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

General Fund

Ruth and Marvin Epstein

In honor of Yoni Osher Blumberg's Bar Mitzvah

Phyllis and David Farber

*In honor of our grandsons, Nate & Jacob,
who make us proud*

Miranda Phillips

*In honor of the wonderful women I work with—Diane,
Cindy & Toba—and their recent birthdays*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jennifer Levine

*In honor of my conversion to Judaism,
and with gratitude for the opportunity to study with Rabbi
Toba over the past year*

William and Gish Small

*In honor of the Bnai Mitzvah of our grandchildren
Chloe & Elias Kuh*

Alex and Jodi Sugerman-Brozan

*In honor of the birth of our son Lev Jonah,
and in appreciation of the warm welcome given to him by
the Dorshei Tzedek community. Special thanks to Rabbi
Toba for her participation in his brit milah*

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.

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

The Newsletter Committee:

Dan Halbert, Karen Engels, Tim Rosa, Susannah Zisk,
and Josh Lieberman



Chesed



If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Spitzer** (617-965- 0330) or **Susan Manheim** of the Chesed Committee (781-449-2984).

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

Chesed Shabbat

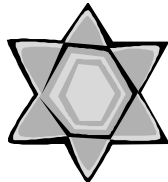
Saturday, January 31

At Shabbat morning services we will honor all of the *chesed* activity at Dorshei Tzedek. (See page 3.) All those who have volunteered their time to help members of the committee will be called up during the Torah service, followed by a Kiddush lunch sponsored by the Chesed Committee. Please join us!

Condolences

To Sandy Sedacca and her family, on the death of Sandy's mother, Ida Sedacca, may her memory be for a blessing.

To Marc Steinberg and his family, on the death of Marc's grandmother, Esther Katz, may her memory be for a blessing.



Mazel Tov

To Josh Herzig-Marx & Carla Naumburg, and to the Herzig-Marx family, on Josh and Carla's wedding!

To Jennifer Levine, on her official welcome to the Jewish people.

Todah Rabah

The family of the late Ida Sedacca (mother of Sandy and Marty) extends our deep appreciation to Rabbi Toba Spitzer and the entire Dorshei Tzedek community for your loving support and condolences. You have filled our hearts.

Refuah Sh'lemah

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

Community Resources

Jewish Family and 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.

Jewish Recovery Network of Massachusetts

The Jewish Recovery Network of Massachusetts is a volunteer membership organization concerned with Jews who suffer from the disease of addiction. Meetings occur at 7:30 pm on the second, fourth, and fifth Wednesdays of each month at Temple Sinai in Brookline (Sewall Ave and Charles in Coolidge Corner). Visit their website at www.jewsinrecovery.org.

Tikkun Olam

Join the Reconstructionist Discussion about Israel!

JRF Israel Task Force Forum

Sunday, January 11, 10 am

Temple Hillel B'nai Torah, 120 Corey Street, West Roxbury

Growing out of its commitment to serious engagement with the concerns of the State of Israel and in recognition that it is often called upon to speak on matters affecting Israel policy, the Board of Directors of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation (JRF) established an Israel task force in December 2002. The JRF Israel Task Force is composed of 21 members, representing 12 JRF congregations, with three representatives each from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association. The members come from a variety of backgrounds and span a broad spectrum of political leanings. It is important to the task force members that they hear the thoughts, ideas, and concerns of as many Reconstructionists as possible on the issues before them.

Local Reconstructionist congregations are invited to a special forum hosted by the JRF Israel Task Force on Sunday, January 11 at new JRF affiliate Temple Hillel B'nai Torah in West Roxbury from 10 am to 12 pm. Rabbi Barbara Penzner, co-chair of the Task Force with JRF lay leader Mark Widoff, will be facilitating the program. Beginning with study of poems by Yehudah Halevi and Yehuda Amichai, Rabbi Penzner will invite feedback on the question that the Task Force is considering: What should support for Zion-

ism and the State of Israel mean for Reconstructionist Jews in the first years of the 21st century? HBT is located at 120 Corey Street, just off the VFW Parkway. If you are interested in attending this forum, please contact CDT member **Louise Enoch** at 617-926-0836 or lpenoch@aol.com.

Family Table Volunteer Drivers Needed

Sunday, February 8, 2004

Temple Kehillath Israel (Harvard St., Brookline)

Dorshei Tzedek is participating once again in Family Table, Greater Boston's Jewish Food Pantry. Eight to ten volunteer drivers from Dorshei Tzedek are needed to bag groceries at Temple Kehillath Israel (Harvard St., Brookline) and deliver them to families in the Greater Boston area. Each volunteer driver delivers to two families.

Dorshei Tzedek's delivery date this year is Sunday, February 8, 2004. Orientation and bagging begins at 12:30 pm; delivery time varies, depending on the location of the families receiving food donations. The overall time commitment is about 2 – 3 hours. You can request a close location if you have a time constraint that afternoon. Participation as a volunteer is a meaningful mitzvah activity for congregants of all ages, as one is reminded that there are families who cannot afford life's basic necessities. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver, please contact **Barbara Shatkin** at 617-964-3121 or bfshatkin@aol.com.



Welcome Temple Hillel Bnai Torah!

Havdallah Celebration

Saturday, February 7, 7:30-9:30 pm

Temple Hillel B'nai Torah, 120 Corey Street, West Roxbury

Join members of Temple Hillel Bnai Torah for this celebration of their recent affiliation with the Reconstructionist movement. This is a great opportunity to meet and schmooze with our new Reconstructionist neighbors to the south, as well to share an evening of music and more.



Save the Date!

JRF New England Regional Shabbaton

April 23 – 25, 2004

Agudas Achim, Attleboro MA

Explore the meaning of Reconstructionism today through study, worship, music, spiritual exploration, and building community. Get to know members of other Reconstructionist congregations from the New England region, and meet rabbis and teachers from the national movement. There will be programming for children and teens as well.



January Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush/Notes
Sat Jan 3	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service B'nei Mitzvah of Elias & Chloe Kuh (see page 4)	Karen & Jeff Arnold, Rachel Greenberg, Elise Brenner & Michael Kajen
Tue Jan 6		<i>Classes Resume</i>	FUSN
Thu Jan 8	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St (see page 5)
Fri Jan 9	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service (see page 3)	Julie & Paul Fox, Deborah & Lisa Levheim, David Cash & Anne Weiss
Fri Jan 9	7 pm	Kitah Bet Shabbat Dinner	FUSN
Sat Jan 10	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Faye & Marvin Snider, Julie Weiman, Rick Glassman
Sat Jan 10	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph Family Ed Kitah Bet Class	FUSN
Sat Jan 10	6 pm - 9 pm	New Member Orientation (see page 11)	60 Highland St (see page 11)
Sun Jan 11	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #4	FUSN
Sun Jan 11	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Vav Family Ed Program	FUSN
Sun Jan 11	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	60 Highland St <i>Members-Only Event</i>
Thu Jan 15	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St
Fri Jan 16	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service	Sandra Sedacca & Sherwood Ives, Linda & Peter Katz, Ora Grodsky & Jonathan Rosenthal
Sat Jan 17		<i>NO Class - MLK Holiday Weekend</i>	
Sat Jan 17	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Joe Ives (see page 4)	60 Highland St
Thu Jan 22	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St
Sat Jan 24 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Elana Eisman & Steve Strassberg, Tatjana Meschede & Daniel Krose, Alissa & Gerry Leonard
Sat Jan 24	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet	FUSN
Sun Jan 25	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Dalet Family Ed	FUSN
Thu Jan 29		<i>NO Class - Staff In-service</i>	FUSN
Thu Jan 29	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning	60 Highland St
Sat Jan 31	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Lunch sponsored by the Chesed Committee following services (see pages 3 and 6)	Ricky & Rob Greenly, Karla Hailer-Fidelman, Jennifer Levine
Sat Jan 31	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph Class Kitah Bet Family Ed	FUSN
Sat Jan 31	10:30 am - 12 pm	Junior Congregation Meeting 60 Highland St	Ricky & Rob Greenly, Karla Hailer-Fidelman, Jennifer Levine

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.

Events and services are 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 childcare is available during Shabbat morning services in the large classroom near the office on the first floor.



February Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush/Notes
Sun Feb 1	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Zayin Family Ed	FUSN
Thu Feb 5	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St
Fri Feb 6	7 pm - 9 pm	Tubishvat (See page 3)	Carolyn Fine & Jerry Friedman, Jackie & Stan Fleischman, Angela Vierling & Dorea Claassen,
Sat Feb 7		Celebration with Temple Hillel Bnai Torah <i>welcoming them to the Reconstructionist movement</i>	(See page 8)
Sat Feb 7	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Barbara & Jerry Zolit, Toni Rosenberg Robin Rouse & Brian Gallagher
Sat Feb 7	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet	FUSN
Sun Feb 8	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #5	FUSN
Sun Feb 8	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland St
Thu Feb 12	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St
Fri Feb 13	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service	Lauren Gibbs, Susan Hart, Margo Schlanger & Samuel Bagenstros
Sat Feb 14		<i>No Classes Thru 2/23- Feb School Vacation Week</i>	
Sat Feb 14	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Jolie Demuth	Matilda & Edward Bruckner, Karen & Reinhard Engels 60 Highland St
Sat Feb 21 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Naomi Botkin, Emily Sper, Daniel Price
Tue Feb 24		<i>Classes Resume</i>	
Thu Feb 26	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning (see page 5)	60 Highland St
Sat Feb 28	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Willa & Tom Kuh, Sharon Sevransky & Jeff Goldman, Ruth Paris & Rob Saper
Sat Feb 28	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet	FUSN
Sat Feb 28	10:30 am - 12 pm	Junior Congregation Meeting 60 Highland St	Willa & Tom Kuh, Sharon Sevransky & Jeff Goldman, Ruth Paris & Rob Saper
Sun Feb 29	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #6	FUSN
Sun Feb 29	7:15 pm	Members Meeting 60 Highland St	<i>Members-Only Event</i> Jill Stanzler -Katz & Jeff Katz, Linda Schiller & Steve Robins

New Member Orientation

On **Saturday, January 10 at 6 pm**, members who have joined within the past year are invited to a potluck dinner and orientation at 60 Highland Street in the Fellowship Hall. Meet other newcomers, learn about exciting developments in the congregation, and get to know Dorshei Tzedek Board members and Rabbi Spitzer. Childcare will be provided.

Food assignments: last names beginning with A-K bring a meatless main dish; L-P bring a cold salad; and R-Z bring dessert. This is guaranteed to be a fun evening for all, and we hope to see you there!

Please RSVP to **Erica Streit**, ELStreit@yahoo.com, or 617-393-0216 and specify if you need childcare.



Welcome New Members

When **Brian, Sara, Ryan, and Robin Rouse Gallagher** moved here, the family began a journey to find a community that felt as hamish and hip as the one they left behind in Arizona. Well, 14 years and five Temples later, they finally found CDT. What a relief!

Brian and Robin were born in NY, grew up in Florida, and moved to Arizona where Ryan and Sara were born. Robin was thrilled when Brian was transferred to Boston. She wanted to move to Boston for the culture. She forgot about all the inches of "culture" that fall on the ground each winter. Ryan chose a warmer climate for college: the University of California Santa Cruz. He is a senior majoring in film. Sara, a senior at Newton North, is clearly more of a New Englander. She is looking at colleges closer to home and also plans to major in film.

Brian and Robin recently underwent major life changes. Brian went from fast food to high tech. He is now an engineer at IBM/Lotus software and is studying for a master's degree in computer science at Brandies. Robin, formerly a preschool teacher, went back to college when the kids were little, completed an undergraduate and graduate degree, and promptly left teaching to earn enough money to put two kids through college. She also works at IBM/Lotus Software, where she started in the daycare center and now works as a project manager. She travels around the country speaking on reinvention, mentoring, and women in technology. After they finish paying off the kids' college, Brian will continue to work in computers because he's a geek, and Robin will cast off all worldly belongings and become a poor-starving writer. (Everyone needs a dream, right?)

The Rouse-Gallaghers are happy to finally be part of a community that feels like home.

Sharon Sevransky and Jeff Goldman live in Newton Centre with their daughter, Heather (2 years old). They have lived in Newton for about six years. Jeff is a Physical Therapist at Physical Therapy and Sports Rehab in Norwood. Sharon is a Project Manager/Systems Analyst in the Information Technology division of John Hancock. They enjoy outdoor activities like skiing in the winter, swimming in Crystal Lake in the summer, and going for walks year-round. Sharon and Jeff have enjoyed getting to meet the people at Dorshei Tzedek because everyone seems very friendly and down-to-earth. Heather enjoys the singing at the Erev Shabbat Family Services, and can be heard asking for more songs whenever the service stops.

CDT in Cyberspace

Dorshei Tzedek has two congregation-wide email lists. Official congregation announcements are posted to the **CDT-ANNOUNCE@shamash.org** list. If you have something you would like to post, please send it to Paul Carson, the CDT list owner (p-carson@ti.com) or an Executive Committee member. For more informal exchanges of ideas and information among members of Dorshei Tzedek, use **CDT-LIST@shamash.org**; all members may post to it. For questions about the email lists, changes of address, etc., contact Paul Carson.

Note: If you have mysteriously stopped receiving CDT email, check your email settings. AOL 9.0 has new spam-prevention features which may redirect CDT email to a special spam folder. If you use Hotmail, make sure your mailbox, which has very limited capacity, is not full.

The CDT website now has a discussion board for archiving recommendations from CDT-LIST, recipes, and other information. Go to www.dorsheitzedek.org, choose Communications on the left-hand menu, and then click on Discussion Board, or go directly to <http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/discussions/>.

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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.