

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

Sivan 5764

June 2004



Mazel Tov!

by Rabbi Toba Spitzer

This past December, my newsletter column addressed the issue of same-sex civil marriage. Just a few weeks earlier, the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) had issued its historic opinion, mandating that gay and lesbian couples be granted the full panoply of responsibilities and benefits that the Commonwealth grants to heterosexual couples who choose to get married. In that column, I noted that “the battle has just begun,” and that has certainly proved true. In the ensuing months, we’ve endured a seemingly endless Constitutional Convention, a vote to bring a constitutional amendment to the polls, and the spectacle of religious and political leaders using their moral and political clout to spread a misguided hysteria about the threatened impact of gay marriage on the wider population.

At the same time, there has been much to cheer about. I have been especially proud of the Jewish community on this issue. The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), an umbrella group representing all segments of the organized Jewish community, came out with a powerful statement in support of the SJC decision, and hired an organizer to coordinate lobbying against the proposed constitutional amendment. I was privileged to attend a JCRC-organized rabbinic lobbying session on Beacon Hill, and helped organize an ad in support of same-sex civil marriage signed by hundreds of Massachusetts rabbis—Reform, Reconstructionist, and Conservative. On the first round of voting on the constitutional amendment, every Jewish legislator voted to defeat it—reflecting not only a commitment to fairness for all citizens, but also a traditional American Jewish dedication to the separation of church and state.

By far, the most positive development is that, despite the obsessive efforts by Governor Romney to derail the SJC decision, gay and lesbian couples have begun to be legally wed in Massachusetts! This is truly a historic moment. The venom and spite that arose during the Constitutional Convention still lingers, and I shudder to think what the debate will be like if and when the marriage amendment goes to

the polls. Yet, by that time, thousands of gay and lesbian Massachusetts citizens will be legally wed, and everyone will see that the sky has not fallen, heterosexual marriages have not collapsed, and the social order remains intact. My own hope is that if it comes to a vote, a majority of people will reject the attempt to enshrine discrimination in our state constitution.

This historic moment has also affected my practice as a rabbi. Until May 17th, I had never signed a civil marriage license. I had no trouble performing a Jewish wedding ceremony for any couple, as our movement fully recognizes the sanctity and legitimacy of both heterosexual and gay/lesbian unions (and has done so for over a decade). But civil marriage has been a discriminatory institution that I myself did not have access to—how could I act as an agent of the state by granting it to someone else? So my policy had been to inform heterosexual couples that I’d be more than happy to do their Jewish wedding, but that they would have to find someone else to sign the license.

On May 23rd, when I signed a marriage license for CDT members Angela Vierling and Dorea Claasen, I honored the SJC opinion that civil marriage is—in theory, at least—an institution that is now accessible to any couple, gay or straight. I will now sign, even though I’m aware that hundreds upon hundreds of federal-level rights and benefits are still denied to same-sex couples, and access to state-level benefits may only be around for a few years. And I continue to be concerned that a whole range of legal pro-

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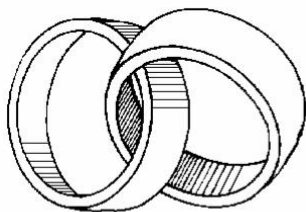
tections and benefits are limited to this one type of human relationship.

I am signing because access to civil marriage is a monumental step forward in legitimizing the fundamental humanity of gays and lesbians. If it weren't, we wouldn't be seeing such intense backlash against it. It is no coincidence that the state law that the governor is calling on to limit access to same-sex marriage was initially promulgated to prevent interracial marriage. Just as with gay/lesbian relationships today, interracial relationships were once viewed as inherently or "naturally" repugnant by large segments of our society. Yet as the Reconstructionist movement's report on homosexuality and marriage articulated over a decade ago, social mores change over time, and our notion of what is "natural" or "holy" must evolve as well. Racism, sexism, and homophobia are neither "natural" nor God-given; they are human attitudes that can be confronted, challenged, and overcome.

At the end of a Jewish wedding, a glass is broken and all sing "Mazel tov!" It's a poignant moment of joy, mixed with the awareness that the world remains a broken place in need of repair. This is just such a moment. A time of joy, of giving thanks to the SJC and the many gay/lesbian activists who brought this change about, and a time to acknowledge all the work that remains to be done. And most of all, a time to sing "Mazel tov!"

Mazel Tov

To Angela Vierling and Dorea Claasen on their wedding—now married in the eyes of God and the state of Massachusetts!



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.

Notes from the Board

April 11, 2004

Cindy Shulak-Rome updated the Board on the school. She is eager to hire a new professional to help with curriculum development. Many of the teachers will be returning next year.

Michael White discussed summer plans for services. We will most likely move our services to the First Unitarian Society for the summer (July, August) because they have air conditioning there.

Laurie Gould provided a financial update. She said that the budget would come in balanced this year if we hit our target of \$75,000 for the Nadiv Lev campaign. Otherwise, we will need to consider other modifications of the budget for next year.

Steve Siegel reported on the progress of the Nadiv Lev campaign. Donations are coming in but we still have a significant way to go to meet our goal.

Andrew Compaine reported on the Community Conversations and the first coming together of the facilitators. As of their first meeting, they had completed nearly 40 conversations. The group will distill themes that will be the basis for further conversations among the community at the June retreat and member meeting.

Members' Meeting: *Save the Date!*

Sunday, June 13 at 7:15 pm

60 Highland Street

Please join us for the final Dorshei Tzedek Members' Meeting of 5764. Along with approving the budget for the coming year and electing our new Board of Directors, this meeting will focus on our Community Conversations project. Building on the one-on-one conversations that our leadership team had with nearly 40 households this spring, we are exploring ways in which to deepen and broaden what Dorshei Tzedek means to all of us as individuals and what we can accomplish together as a community. We hope to engage our broader membership in a discussion of ideas and themes that have emerged from this first round of conversations. So please join us for what should be a stimulating and important discussion!

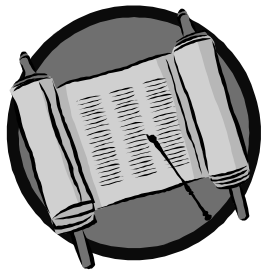
Shabbat Programs

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

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service

June 11, 6 – 7 pm

Join us for this final musical, all-ages service, before we take a break for the summer!



Shabbat Morning Study

Saturday morning June 12 at 8:45 am with Rabbi Spitzer

Join us 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 (although you may want to read the weekly Torah portion in advance).

Come to a Potluck in a Member's Home

Would you like to participate in having Havdalah dinner on Saturday June 12 with another family or a group of adults? We need hosts and also those who would like to go to other peoples' homes. It is a great way to meet other members of our congregation and no doubt will be an enjoyable evening. It's potluck so no one has to cook too much. Or you can cook quite a bit and show off your culinary skills! Contact Ami Gordon at amisgordon@comcast.net or call 617.630.1717. Please mention if you have any food or pet allergies. Instructions for leading Havdalah blessings will be provided to hosts if needed.

CDT Sings!

CDT Sings meets about once/month, usually at the Unitarian Society. We meet for the fun of it, and have learned 6-8 songs that relate somehow to Judaism. Most pieces are rounds, with a few 2- and 3-part arrangements. Singers vary in background/experience. Some have sung in choruses, others not. There are no requirements for membership - just show up whenever you are available. We are thinking of putting together a smaller group of more experienced singers to work on a few pieces for the High Holydays. Our next meeting is Sunday 6/20, from 3:00 to 4:30. Please call Elaine Bresnick if you'd like more information or to be added to the group's e-mail list at 617 964 5199.

High Holiday Volunteers Needed

High Holiday planning is underway! Please join us in putting together a terrific Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur celebration. We need volunteers to plan, organize, and set up childcare, food and drink, name tags, etc....the many small and large tasks that combine to create our High Holiday services. Please contact Theresa St. John-Siegel at 617.244.2291 or email her at theresa@sieglassociates.com to volunteer, ask questions and/or to learn more about how you can help prepare for the High Holidays.

B'nei Mitzvah Celebrations

Julia Naomi Kajen

Julia Naomi Kajen will become a Bat Mitzvah on June 12, 2004 Shabbat Shelach Lecha. Just like the Israelites on the border of a new land, Julia is always on the cusp of exploring new horizons in her life. Julia is a dedicated dancer at the Boston Ballet School's intensive division and an aspiring choreographer. She attends the Brown Middle School where she enjoys writing. For her gemilut hasadim project, Julia has devoted her time to helping the elderly at the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged. On Shabbat mornings, Julia transports wheelchair bound residents from their rooms to the sanctuary so they can attend services. She then makes sure they are able to enjoy lunch by feeding those individuals who are unable to feed themselves.

Julia and her entire family extend their sincerest wish that the Dorshei Tzedek community join with them for this simcha.

—*Elise Brenner and Michael Kajen*

Zachary Miller

We hope that you will join us on June 19 at the bar mitzvah of our son, Zachary Miller. Zach is a seventh grader at Clarke Middle School in Lexington, where his favorite class is Drama. Zach aspires to be a stand-up comedian. Outside of school, Zach spends most of his time playing his electric guitar. His favorite bands are Led Zeppelin, The Clash, and AC/DC. He also writes his own songs and loves to improvise lead solos. Zach loves Camp Eisner, which he has been attending for the past two years. This summer he will be trying out Camp JRF. Zach also loves to travel. He has been to Israel four times, visiting his Savta, aunt, uncle, and three cousins. Zach speaks French, and hopes to continue learning Hebrew.

Zach's Tikkun Olam project centered on the goal of feeding the hungry. Last fall he began working at Waltham Fields Community Farm, which relies on the work of its volunteers to bring fresh, organic produce to soup kitchens, shelters, and food pantries. To personally connect with some of the people who benefit from this work, Zach recently began working at Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen, setting up and serving Sunday dinner to people in need.

Zach came to CDT last year in Kitah Vav and has made many wonderful friends here in a short time. We look forward to celebrating this joyous occasion with you!

—*Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried*

Upcoming: The Bar Mitzvah of Joseph (Joey) Samelson Hattis will be celebrated on Saturday, August 21, 2004, in air-conditioned comfort at the First Unitarian Society (instead of our usual 60 Highland Street location). The July/ August issue of the newsletter will have a full announcement.

School News

by Cindy Shulak-Rome

Todah Rabah – Our Thanks!

Thank you to Abbey Cohen for her generous donation of supplies to our school. Thank you to Elise Brenner for coming to share her expertise on Fair Trade practices with Kitah Zayin. Thank you to our Teaching Assistants who have supported the students and teachers in our lower school this past year: Mia Branco in Gan, Rebecca Holohan in Kitah Aleph, and Amy Goldsmith and Lauren Sacks in Kitah Bet, as well as Dan Katz, our substitute TA! We thank you for being a presence and a role model to the children in the classroom during the course of this year! *Yasher Koach!*

“Behind the Labels” – Tikkun Olam at our School

In our April newsletter we wrote about a school wide project that our students have engaged in to learn about the conditions of sweatshop workers in third-world countries. Thanks to the efforts of Barbara Shatkin, who has so thoughtfully spearheaded this project, we have launched this program with some learning opportunities for staff and students.

For starters, our Upper School Students (Grades 3-7) had the opportunity to view some videos illustrating conditions in a sweatshop in Honduras and follow the daily life of one of the young workers there. Following this our students participated in some text study, where we learned what the Torah has to say about work, and how we are expected to treat workers.

For our next assembly, our Kitah Vav class researched various companies that have production factories in the third world. The Kitah Vav students put together four presentations summarizing what they learned and presented these to the rest of the school. Following their thoughtful presentations, we took a large world map and everyone had a chance to place labels they had cut from a clothing article on the world map according to where it had been made. We were intrigued to learn about the many different places our clothing is made, as well as to see some of the trends that emerged on our map—for instance—much of the clothing is made in countries in the southern hemisphere. You can take a look at our map in the staff office!

Our goals for this project focus on building consumer awareness and teaching students to take action and advocate for issues of social justice. We will be continuing this project into the next school year—we are planning an action and advocacy day in the late fall, where students and adults will come together to learn more about these issues and more importantly, learn what we all might do to try to make a difference!

We appreciate the interest and assistance of Ruth Paris, Bobby Kleinberg, Elise Brenner, and Ann Spanel who have signed on to help with this. If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Barbara Shatkin.

Welcome to Rebekah Ralen

We are delighted to welcome Rebekah Ralen as our new Associate Education Director. Rebekah comes to Dorshei Tzedek with many years of experience in Jewish Education, as a teacher, an Education Director, and most recently as a “Jewish Life Educator” at a local Reform synagogue. She has a Family Educator certificate from Hebrew College. Rebekah has been an active member of Temple Beth El in Sudbury and has studied extensively with Rabbi Larry Kushner.

Rebekah joins the Dorshei Tzedek staff on a half-time basis on June 1. She will be working closely with Cindy, and her primary focus will be on curriculum development and refinement and oversight of Family and Community Education.

When she’s not at Dorshei Tzedek, Rebekah will be serving as the Education Director at Temple Hillel B’nai Torah, a Reconstructionist congregation in West Roxbury. This past year we launched a joint No’ar Hadash Youth Group with Hillel B’nai Torah, and with Rebekah’s guidance, we look forward to furthering that relationship, as well as exploring other opportunities for collaboration.

Teaching Assistant Opportunities for Next Year

We are looking for high school students who are interested in helping out in our school, on Saturday mornings in Kitah Aleph and Kitah Bet, or on occasional Sunday afternoons in the Gan Family Program (kindergarten students and parents). Applicants must be in at least 9th grade, have completed Jewish Education and become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. If you are interested, please contact Cindy Shulak-Rome at school@dorsheitzedek.org or 617.956.5443.



Nadiv Lev



We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

General Fund

(including donations to the Nadiv Lev campaign)

Karen and Jeffrey Arnold

Matilda & Edward Bruckner

Roberta and Paul Carson

In honor of Toba, Miranda and Cindy, for helping Jake prepare for his Bar Mitzvah

Elizabeth Carver and Bryn Austin

In honor of our fathers, Harold Carver and John Austin

Carolyn Fine and Jerry Friedman

Sheree Galpert and Peter Hess

Lauren Gibbs

In thanks to Miranda, Cindy, and Rachel for creating such engaging Jewish education, and with particular appreciation of Miranda's generosity of spirit toward her students

Tessa and Clifford Goldsmith

Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg

In memory of Meyer Steinberg

Linda and Peter Katz

In memory of Saul Weiss

Jennifer Levine

Howard Lurie and Ingrid Neuman

In memory of Andrew Warren Lurie

Hilary Marcus and Jonathan Magaziner

Ruth Paris & Robert Saper

In honor of Karen Wasserman

Debra Rattet and Leslie Rubin

Cheryl and Jeffrey Sacks

In honor of our daughter Rachel's graduation from Newton North; we are so proud of all she has accomplished.

Also in honor of: Nathan Farber's graduation from Newton South; Jake Carson's Bar Mitzvah; Adam Goldsmith's Bar Mitzvah; Cindy Shulak-Rome and all she does for the Dorshei Tzedek community

Lisa Schneier

Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome

In honor of: the Bar Mitzvah of Raphe Broh, the Bar Mitzvah of Jake Carson and the Bat Mitzvah of Adina Hemley-Bronstein; Elizabeth Ross—with wishes for a speedy and full recovery; Debbie Waber—in honor of her dedication to Dorshei Tzedek as she concludes her presidency; Ellen Hemley in celebration of her birthday

Carol Sklar

Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Gina Fried

In honor of Kitah Zayin/ the Bar Mitzvah class and with thanks to Morah Cindy

Debbie Waber

In honor of Jolie Demuth's Bat Mitzvah

Jessica Woolliams and Ari Goelman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Lisa Samelson and Paul Hattis

In honor of Rabbi Spitzer

Holy Book Fund

Clifford and Tessa Goldsmith

In honor of Adam's bar mitzvah, and thanks to the Dorshei Tzedek community and Rabbi Toba

Building Fund

School Fund

Debra Rattet, Leslie Rubin, Zachary, and Alexander Mazel Tov to Jolie Demuth on her becoming a Bat Mitzvah and Adam Goldsmith on his becoming a Bar Mitzvah

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@yahoo.com.

For congregants experiencing financial difficulties, help is available through the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. This fund is administered solely by the rabbi and is completely confidential. If you are in need of assistance, please call Rabbi Spitzer at 617.965.0330 x2.

Condolences



To Judy Hersh and Doug Hersh, on the death of their father Michael Hersh. May his memory be for a blessing.

To Marc Steinberg, on the death of his grandfather Meyer Steinberg. May his memory be for a blessing.

To Jon Nelson, our Junior Congregation service leader, on the recent loss of his brother Jeremy Nelson. May his memory be for a blessing.

Refuah Sh'lemah

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

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. Donations can also 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. These additional contributions should also be made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, but marked as intended for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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.

Toda Rabah

Todah Rabah to everyone who has been visiting, driving me around, cooking, calling, sending cards, emails, healing thoughts and especially prayers for healing my recent ankle fracture. I have felt the CDT community very strongly with me during my ongoing healing from this injury and words cannot express my very deep gratitude and the strength this has given me.

—Elizabeth Ross



Community Resources

Career Moves is a division of Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Boston. For individuals in need of assistance to clarify career direction or those who have a career objective, but are in need of assistance to stay focused on the job search, contact Career Moves at 617.451.8147 in Boston or 617.965.7940 in Newton. You can also learn more about Career Moves at www.jvsjobs.org.

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.

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.

Mazel Tov

Mazel tov to our recent and soon-to-be graduates!

I (Beth Brooks) am graduating from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science this spring, though I completed coursework last August. My husband, Hankus Netsky, will receive his doctorate in May from Wesleyan University in Ethnomusicology.

—Beth Brooks

Our son, Nate Farber, is graduating from Newton South this spring. He's going to Northwestern.

—Sherry Katz and Mark Farber

Our daughter Sara Gallagher is graduating from Newton North High School and our son Ryan Gallagher is graduating from the University of California Santa Cruz.

—Robin Rouse and Brian Gallagher

Sasha Goldberg is graduating this May from the University of Rochester with a BA in Geology. She is interested in research and the development of renewable energy sources.

—Ellie Goldberg

Richard Fisher Gomberg has graduated from the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute (BPSI) and he is now a Psychoanalyst.

—Diana Fisher Gomberg

My daughter Maida Ives is graduating Newton North High School and will be heading to Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY.

—Sandy Sedacca

My son, Isaac Kellman-Carlen is graduating from Newton North in June. He will be attending Brooklyn College in the Fall to study film.

—Hope Kellman

My daughter, Katie Levine is graduating from Wheaton College in May. She is a psycho-biology major and was co-captain of the Women's Swim Team. She is taking a year off to teach swimming at the JCC and to coach US Swimming at Belmont Aquatics. In the fall of 2005 she will attend graduate school either at Boston University or Mass General School for her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

—Cindy Bittker

We are pleased to let you know that Rachel Sacks is graduating from Newton North this year. She will be attending Dickinson College next year.

—Cheryl W. Sacks

Caryn-Amy King had been awarded the Dr. David M. Gordis Fellowship for graduate studies at Hebrew College for exceptional potential for Jewish communal leadership

—Elizabeth Ross

To Raphe Broh and Jacob Carson—and to their families—on becoming bar mitzvah. Yasher koach!

To the following students who led our congregation in prayer on a Shabbat morning in May: Alex Kaufman, Sam Feder, Adina Hemley-Bronstein, Julie Kaje, Joey Hattis, Daniel Kaufman and Torah readers: Rebecca Holohan, Rachel Felson, Shana Hausman, Leah Netsky, Hadass Silver, and Laura Greenly. The Dorshei Tzedek community is enlivened and enriched by your participation in this way.

Many thanks to Miranda Phillips, for her efforts in organizing the special Youth Service and supporting the participants. Yasher Koach! May you go in strength and continue to bring your service leading skills to our *bimah*!



June Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush/Notes
Thurs Jun 3	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning	60 Highland Street
Fri Jun 4 - Sun Jun 6		Dorshei Tzedek Retreat <i>No Services</i>	<i>Members-Only Event</i>
Thurs Jun 10	8 am - 9 am	Adult Ed: Mishnah in the Morning	60 Highland Street
Fri Jun 11	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service (see page 3)	Hope Kellman, Sue Pearce & Cindy Probst 60 Highland St
Sat Jun 12	8:45 am	Shabbat Morning Study	60 Highland St (see page 3)
Sat Jun 12	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Julia Kajen Bat Mitzvah	Robin Rouse & Brian Gallagher, Cheryl & Jeff Sacks, Emily Saltz & Ira Fader <i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis, Judy Shapiro & Brian Nadler
Sun Jun 13	7:15 pm	Members Meeting (see page 2)	<i>Members-Only Event</i> Sandra Sedacca & Sherwood Ives, Karen Wasserman & Betsy Hinden 60 Highland St
Wed Jun 16	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i>
Sat Jun 19	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Zachary Miller Bar Mitzvah	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Amy Berman, Nancy Osher Blumberg
Sun Jun 20	3 pm - 4:30 pm	CDT Sings	FUSN
Sat Jun 26 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Michael White, Lori Rutter & Jeff Behrens, Shoshana Simons

The July/August Calendar is not yet final. Please check our website and the July/August newsletter .

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.

Community Events

New Israel Fund 25th Anniversary Summer Tour *June 30 – July 8, 2004*

This is the Israel you've never seen!

Can a trip to Israel bring you face to face with a Bedouin feminist in the Negev? With Orthodox local youth activists in Rahat? With Arabs and Jews united to promote equal rights in the Galilee? Israel is an ever-changing mosaic of peoples, cultures, and identities. Go behind the newspaper headlines and television sound bites to examine the social and ideological realities of contemporary Israeli life.

Through personal encounters, you will learn about key challenges facing Israel and the steps Israelis are taking to meet them. You'll meet with a wide variety of people who are shaping the social change movement in Israel, speak with people of diverse political and ideological views, and explore the country, including Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and the north.

Please contact Aviva Meyer at aviva@nif.org or 202.513.7825 or Jeanine Uttaro at jeanine@nif.org or 202.513.7879 for more information. Visit the NIF website at www.nif.org for itinerary and more details of the trip.

Koleinu Concert

Thursday, June 10, 8:00 pm

Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington Street, Newton

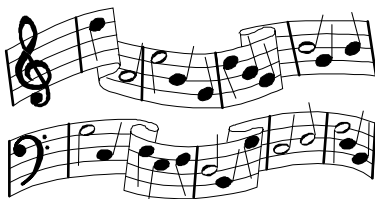
Koleinu, the Jewish Community Chorus of Boston directed by Carol Marton, is 60 voices strong and sponsored by Hebrew College. They will be performing a concert of contemporary, liturgical, folk, and Yiddish music with special guest soloist, Cantor Charles Osborne.

Synagogue Council Unity Shabbaton

August 13-15, Radisson Hotel & Suites, Chelmsford

This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a Shabbat together with members of the Boston area's diverse Jewish community. The weekend's faculty include Reb Moshe Waldoks, Rabbi Barbara Symons & Rabbi Mitchell Levine, great food (Catering by Andrew), davening (egalitarian & mechitza options), singing and Shabbat camaraderie. In addition, Moshe Waldoks will be sharing his talents as a Jewish humorist and raconteur on Saturday evening in a program entitled, "Beyond Laughter Through Tears: A Short History of Jewish Humor."

Contact Marilyn Lipman at 617-244-6506, ext. 10, or marilin@synagoguecouncil.org for more information. We hope you will join us at this wonderful Shabbat retreat.



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>

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

Dorshei Tzedek Mission Statement

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

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

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

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