

# 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

Cheshvan – Kislev 5765

November 2004



## Rabbi's Musings

Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz, [rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org)

Sometimes I wonder: Whose idea was it, anyway, to cram four major Jewish holidays into the space of three weeks, and **what** can they have been thinking? I write this just after Shabbat B'reishit. We have welcomed a new year, cleansed our souls through *t'shuva*, acknowledged our gratitude for bounteous harvest, danced with our Torah scrolls, and begun a new year of learning Torah together. Thank you, Dorshei Tzedek, for the warm welcome you have given me. Thank you for meal invitations, offers of rides, loans of various and sundry electronic equipment, recommendations of mechanics and veterinarians, and for your endless patience and forgiveness as I struggle to remember all your names, faces, and life stories.

Rabbis should trade places with each other every now and then. Terribly impractical, I know, but I've learned so much in six short weeks here. There is so much that CDT does so well! Each time I thumb through the membership list, I am struck anew by just how many places our members come from. Some of you drive past a dozen or more other synagogues to get to **this** one, because **this** is the one where you want to be a member; **these** are the people with whom you want to be in community. It's pretty impressive to a newcomer.

Simultaneously, as I learn what your congregational *min-hag*/custom is, I occasionally find myself asking: Why do they do it **that** way? Sometimes, there's a very good reason, and when I ask, and am told, I say, "Oh! That makes perfect sense!" Sometimes, it's simply that no one's thought of it doing it differently. Nancy and I have agreed that I will keep a sort of journal as we go through the year: an outsider/insider's perspective on Dorshei Tzedek. It should prove interesting.

With the end of our fall holiday cycle and the start of a new cycle of Torah readings, we enter what our friends who live by the Christian liturgical calendar might refer to as "ordinary time." Regular *daveners* will note that we are, in

the *Amida*, no longer referring to God as *Morid ha-tal* [the One Who causes the dew to fall], but rather as *Mashiv ha-riach u-morid ha-geshem* [the One Who causes the wind to blow and the rain to fall]. This is an acknowledgment of the changing of the seasons in the Land of Israel, and it applies to our climate as well.

Yesterday I visited the Adams National Historical Park in Quincy, birthplace of both our 2nd and 6th United States presidents, home to five generations of their family. Our guide talked about summer being the growing season for crops, and about the very different kind of "crops" that were "cultivated" in the colder, darker months. These months were the time for projects for which there was no time in the summer: projects like spinning, weaving, carving, etc. As we move into our new school year, our new Jewish year, let's think about our winter productivity. Let's try to be intentional about the crops we want to cultivate in these shorter, darker days.



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## Members' Meeting—Don't Miss It!

*November 7, 7:15 pm, 60 Highland Street*

Our first Members' Meeting of the year is coming up on **Sunday, November 7, at 7:15 pm**, in our sanctuary. Our goal is to have each household represented by at least one adult at the members' meetings, so please try your best to come, and fulfill this responsibility of membership in CDT. At this meeting we will summarize some of our administrative basics (like membership facts and financial figures), introduce the new and improved Kiddush program, get a preview of our newest initiative on illness, death, and mourning (see below), and hear some first-hand reports of experiences of folks working on GBIO initiatives. We will also take some time to extend the Community Conversations to another level, drawing upon Rabbi Toba's question at High Holydays, "Are we, as members of this congregation, looking for comfort or transformation?" Please join us for what promises to be an informative and provocative evening. Good refreshments, too!

## On Illness, Death, and Mourning

This year our community will begin to more deeply explore the many facets of Jewish observance and understanding related to illness, death, mourning, and remembering our loved ones. At the **November 7** members' meeting, we will have the opportunity to hear a brief overview of the thinking that's been done thus far, and learn about ways to participate in this rich study process as it unfolds.

The *mitzvot* around illness and death are traditionally seen as the highest kindness Jews can offer to one another. Our ability to support each other in both times of joy and in times of grief is a measure of the fullness of our community, and the extent to which we've educated and prepared ourselves to do what is needed.

The three major areas we've identified for exploration at CDT are:

- Providing needed support to an individual who is ill and/or approaching death, and their family [Chesed Committee, the *Bikur Cholim* (the society for offering assistance to Jews with illnesses)].
- Helping with the transition between death and burial [The *Chevra Kadisha* (the Burial Society), *Shomerim* (Guardians of the Soul), and cemetery information].
- Supporting the mourners [Shiva, Minyan Leaders, Remembrance for those departed].

If you would like to take an active role in this process, or if you have questions or comments, please call Nicky Silver at 617.327.1999.

## Board Meeting Notes

Notes from the CDT Board Meeting, September 26, 2004

Congregation **President Nancy Gertz** spoke to the board about Congregational Governance. The **membership**, she told the board, makes fundamental decisions about our mission and values, sets long-range direction and approves the budget. The **board** takes the direction set by the membership and puts it into action, making policy, empowering committees, initiating programs and projects, and approving major expenditures. The **executive committee** monitors and assists the board, reviews proposals before they go to the board, sets the board's agenda and acts when decisions must be made that can't wait until the next board meeting. **Committees** develop programming and plan events consistent with the board's objectives, and they recruit new members and leaders to sustain and perpetuate themselves and supply the congregation with future leadership.

Education Director (and board member) **Cindy Shulak-Rome** spoke to the board about the importance of the Jewish Reconstruction Foundation (JRF) in the life of the Congregation. Cindy is a current member of the JRF board and CDT members **Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx** are past members. The JRF is the Synagogue/lay arm of the Reconstructionist Movement. Among its activities are the Reconstructionist Press, Camp JRF, No'ar Hadash (the Reconstructionist youth group), and the Reconstructionist Today magazine. As we depend on the JRF, Cindy told the board, it depends on us, and more than one hundred other affiliated congregations and their individual members, for active participation and financial support.

The board continued its discussion of reframing *Kiddush*. **Carla Naumburg, Steve Siegel, Debbie Waber, Ellen Pashall, and Robin Rouse** are working together on this important objective. They gave the board their suggestions for improving the *Kiddush* experience both for those who enjoy *Kiddush* as an opportunity to gather as a community after services and for those who perform the mitzvah of providing the necessities for making a *Kiddush*.

The board also discussed whether we should have guests speak to the congregation from the Bimah at Shabbat services. Rabbi Steven Berkowitz, the Reconstructionist Rabbi of a French congregation, offered to speak to us about French Anti-Semitism when he's here in November. The board decided not to try to make a policy about this now, but to invite Rabbi Berkowitz to speak to us at the Erev Shabbat service on November 19 and to gauge the feelings of our membership further before moving continuing discussions within the board.

## Shabbat Programs



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



### All-ages Erev Shabbat Services

*Fall dates: November 5, December 3, 6 – 7 pm*

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

### Erev Shabbat Services

*Fall dates: November 19, December 17, 8 – 9:30 pm*

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

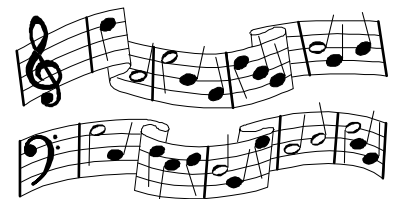
### Guest Rabbi at Erev Shabbat Services

*November 19, 7:45 pm – 9:30 pm (Note the earlier start!)*

Rabbi Stephen Berkowitz, a 1986 graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, has generously offered to speak to us on the problem of Anti-Semitism in France. A New Yorker by birth, Rabbi Berkowitz served three liberal synagogues in Paris, Lyon, and Brussels from 1989–97. After a few years back in the U. S., Rabbi Berkowitz has now returned to France, where he is now serving as the Associate Rabbi at Mouvement Juif Libéral de France, synagogue Paris. He is also currently conducting research on France's first Liberal synagogue, Union Libéral Israélite de France (rue Copernic) founded in 1907. This promises to be an informative and engaging evening. Please put it on your calendar and plan to attend! We hope you'll be able to stay and schmooze with Rabbi Marna, Rabbi Berkowitz, and fellow members at the *Kiddush* following services.

**Contacting Rabbi Marna:** Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz does not have regular office hours but is available to talk about any spiritual, religious, or personal issues that you might want to discuss. You can contact her at [rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org) or 617.965.0330 x2. If she is unavailable, there will be a rabbi on-call in case of emergency. Both the rabbi's voice-mail and Diane, the administrator, will have information on how to reach the on-call rabbi.

Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465. Don't miss the online music sample available at [www.dorsheitzedek.org/rabbi-music.htm](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/rabbi-music.htm).



## 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

## High Holyday Divrei Torah

The Divrei Torah that have been delivered at various High Holiday Services by Rabbi Toba Spitzer are available on the CDT website at [www.dorsheitzedek.org/divrei](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/divrei). The talks are available in both HTML and Adobe Acrobat (PDF) formats. Also of interest, see Divrei Torah Pages on the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation Web site of more than 100 Reconstructionist Divrei Torah available for online reading.

## Bat Mitzvah of Emily Flynn

Please join us on **November 6 at 9:45 am** as our daughter **Emily** is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Emily is a seventh grader at Brown Middle School and has been going to Dorshei Tzedek since fourth grade. She enjoys reading, playing the flute, and acting. For her *tikkun olam* project, Emily has been volunteering for the Birthday Wishes organization by making birthday cakes and helping out at parties for children in homeless shelters. We hope you will celebrate with us at the Kiddush lunch after the service.

—Amy Brodesky and Rex Flynn

## Bar Mitzvah of Josh Sacks

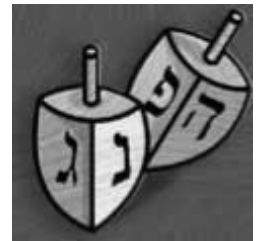
Please join us on **November 27 at 9:45 am** as our son **Josh** is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Josh has been a member of the Dorshei Tzedek community for nine years. He has enjoyed his participation in many aspects of our CDT community life, including the Purim *schpiels* and blowing the *shofar*. Josh attends the Bigelow Middle School. His favorite activities include swimming, acting, and riding roller coasters. For his *tikkun olam* project, Josh worked with his grandparents at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute working with children while they wait for treatments. We are looking forward to sharing this special day with family, friends and members of the Dorshei Tzedek community. A *Kiddush* lunch will follow the service.

—Cheryl and Jeff Sacks



## Chanukah Party

Marc Steinberg, [marc\\_steinberg@skillcheck.com](mailto:marc_steinberg@skillcheck.com)  
Sunday, December 12, from 5 pm to 7 pm at the FUSN.



Come join the *mishegas* with our annual Chanukah bash! **Bring your own menorah and candles!**

We'll begin with candle lighting and singing at 5 pm, followed by fun programs for kids of all ages (and a chance for adults to schmooze and do some learning together). Dinner will begin at approximately 6 pm.

We need your help to make this a festive and filling meal. If your household's last name begins with A – G, bring dessert or fruit salad; H – O, bring a vegetable dish/salad; and P – Z, bring a substantial main (veggie/fish) course.

**Be sure to bring enough food for at least 12–15 people.**

**Please do not bring latkes; they will be provided.**

Drinks will be provided as well. Based on previous years' wild successes, this is clearly not a party to miss! (Note: Chanukah begins on Tuesday evening, December 7, when we light our first candle at sundown.)



# News from JRF

## Be a Global Citizen: Focus on Sudan

Since February 2004, a government-backed militia known as Janjaweed has been engaging in genocidal campaigns to displace and wipe out communities of African tribal farmers in Darfur, Sudan. The brutal violence and killings have resulted in over 50,000 deaths and the displacement of as many as two million Darfurians. An estimated 200,000 refugees are now living in Chad and access to humanitarian aid remains limited. According to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), without humanitarian intervention as many as a million people could die. As Jews, we have a particular moral responsibility to speak out and take action against ethnic cleansing and genocide. We must respond while there is still time, and save as many lives as we can. JRF (Jewish Reconstructionist Federation) has joined with the Jewish Coalition for Disaster Relief, which is accepting donations at [www.jdc.org](http://www.jdc.org). In addition to donations, there are many other ways that congregations and individuals can act on the core mitzvah of Tikkun Olam (healing the world) by responding to this crisis. A very useful site for ideas is [www.savedarfur.org](http://www.savedarfur.org). In addition, we are placing materials on the literature table in our sanctuary with a list of ways you can help; if you wish to receive this list by mail, please contact Diane in the office.

*Editor's Note: Excerpts of this article are from American Jewish World Service; [www.ajws.org](http://www.ajws.org), 800-889-7146.*

## JRF Convention

### November 11 – 13 in Portland, Oregon

How would you like to be thrilled, inspired, and challenged for three days, in the company of other open-minded, lively folks who are as dedicated as you are to a progressive, vibrant approach to Judaism? And how would you like to take home as a "souvenir" the knowledge of best practices and creative approaches to share with your congregation? That is the experience awaiting you at the **JRF Convention**, to be held **November 11 – 13 in Portland, Oregon**. Yes, it's a long way for us New Englanders to travel, but if there's any possibility for you to attend—you won't be disappointed!

Check out [www.jrf2004.org](http://www.jrf2004.org) to see all the details of this exciting program. You can access the convention schedule, list of scheduled workshops, details about the highlighted programs, and much more on this page. You can also register for the JRF convention on line and pay by credit card via secure server. For more information, contact Lani Moss, JRF Managing Director, Programs and Services, at 215-782-8500, x15 or visit [www.jrf.org](http://www.jrf.org). Some scholarship funds may be available for CDT members; contact Rabbi Marna if you are interested.



## CDT Liaison Committee In Place

*Ora Gladstone, [gladston@brandeis.edu](mailto:gladston@brandeis.edu)*

Last year's Sabbatical Search Committee has now morphed into the Sabbatical Liaison Committee. Our purpose is to help provide for a smooth transition as Rabbi Marna takes on her new role with CDT and to insure a good relationship between rabbi and congregation. We are available to discuss any concerns or issues that may affect that relationship. Rabbi Marna and the committee will be in regular contact. Members of the committee are available to talk with congregants should such a need arise.

Please feel free to call anyone on the committee:

### Ora Gladstone:

617.630.9050, [gladston@brandeis.edu](mailto:gladston@brandeis.edu)

### Mark Bronstein:

617.332.8424, [mark@bronsteinlaw.com](mailto:mark@bronsteinlaw.com)

### Louise Enoch:

617.926.0836, [lpenoch@aol.com](mailto:lpenoch@aol.com)

### John Holohan:

617.244.4773, [jholohan@mathworks.com](mailto:jholohan@mathworks.com)

### Andrew Schiff:

617.239.2523, [manschiff@aol.com](mailto:manschiff@aol.com)



# Nadiv Lev



*We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions*

## General Fund

*(including donations to the Nadiv Lev campaign)*

**Elise Brenner, Michael Kaje,**  
**Amanda Kaje & Julia Kaje**

*In gratitude for the CDT "choir" which gave such an uplifting performance at the high holyday services.*

**Sol & Judith Elkin**

*We wish to thank you for the acts of loving and kindness you have extended to our daughter, Susannah Zisk, during her time of trial. Your support and good cheer have helped her on her way to recovery. You have also helped us to deal with the fact of our geographic separation, knowing she has friends close by. Many, many thanks for being Dorshei Tzedek.*

**Carol & Robert Graf**

*We are the parents of Valerie Graf. We attended Rosh Hashanah services with your congregation this year, and would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to spend the Yom Tov with you, and for the hospitality shown by your congregants. Our thanks also to Rabbi Toba who performed the marriage of Valerie and Doron at the beginning of August. Please accept this donation as a token of our appreciation.*

**Jesse Michael Koenigsberg**  
*In memory of Efrem Goldberg*

**Cindy Rivka Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury**  
*In memory of Moe and May Horowitz*

**Membership Committee**

*In honor of Erica Streit's tenure as chair of the committee, her gentle thoughtfulness, effective management, and clarity of vision*

**Susan Nitkin and Jeffrey Marcus**

**Michael Rosenberg**  
*In honor of the wedding of Jane Schwartz and Tracey Rogers*

**Cheryl & Jeffrey Sacks**

*In memory of Melanie Northrop's father, Gaylord*

**Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome**

*In honor of Lisa Port White's birthday; In memory of Andy Littman's father; In memory of Dinah Moeller's father Henry Chase Britton*

**Ilene Spiro & Ira Schor**

*Wishing a full and speedy recovery for Carol Spiro*

**Debbie Waber**

*In honor of Lisa Port White's birthday and in memory of Efrem Goldberg*

**Susannah & Stephen Zisk**

*With many thanks for being such a wonderful community*

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

## Holy Book Fund

## School Fund

**Elizabeth Umlas and Eric Berman**

*There are many ways to support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek financially: 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.*

## New Torah of Money Topic: No-Interest Loan Fund

*Wendy Gedanken, wgedanken@hotmail.com*

In Exodus 22:24 it states, "If you lend money to My people, to the poor among you, do not act toward them as a creditor; exact no interest from them." Based on this *mitzvah*, Jewish communities developed no interest loan funds to help members in need. The idea of having such a fund at Dorshei Tzedek has been discussed from time to time. Recently, we received a grant to start a no-interest loan fund and we must now begin a serious discussion in order to design a Dorshei Tzedek no-interest loan fund. If you are interested in participating, please email Wendy Gedanken at wgedanken@hotmail.com or call her at 617.332.1246.

## Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Marna** (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](mailto:dtnews@yahoogroups.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 Marna at 617.965.0330 x2.



## Condolences

To **Melanie Northrop** on the death of her father, and to **Rachel, Sarah, and Rebecca** on the loss of their grandfather, **Gaylord Northrop**. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **John Holohan**, on the death of his father, and to **Rebecca and Elizabeth Holohan**, on the loss of their grandfather, **John Holohan, Sr.** 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.

## Mazel Tov!

To the **2004/2005 B'nei Mitzvah families** for their donation of silk flowers for the bimah!

**Meryl Kahn** and **Jonathan Sacks** were married on October 17, 2004. Menucha Devorah (Meryl) graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. in marketing from Metro College, Denver. She earned an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago. An Enrolled Agent, she is a tax consultant and serves on the Board of Directors of JALSA (Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action). Yonatan (Jonathan) graduated cum laude with a M.Sc. in mathematics from the University of Cape



Town. He earned a Ph.D. in mathematics (global analysis) from the University of California, Berkeley and is a database project manager for BIRN, the national Biomedical Informatics Research Network. After a wedding trip to Bonaire, the couple will live in Cambridge.

## Todah Rabah

Our fall holidays have come to a close, and there are many people to thank for the wonderful Sukkot and Simchat Torah celebrations we've enjoyed. Todah rabah to everyone on the following list! As always, if anyone's name has been omitted, please accept our apologies, and let us know at [dtnews@yahoogroups.com](mailto:dtnews@yahoogroups.com), so we can include it next month. Thanks!

**Marc Steinberg** for overseeing our holiday planning, for bringing refreshments on Simchat Torah, and for being there wherever help is needed.

**Elaine Pollack** for helping to lead the Sukkot service.

**Amy Mazur** for coordinating the Sukkot celebration.

**Susan Manheim, Miriam & Andrew Baumel, Benita Danzing, Sheree Galpert, Diana Fisher-Gomberg, and Doug Hersh** for helping with Sukkot.

**Paul Carson, Tracey Rogers, Isaac Schwartz Rogers, Andrew Baumel, and Trish Nuzzola** for building the *sukkah*.

**Hankus Netsky** and **Edie Epstein** for the great music on Simchat Torah.

**Rabbi Marna** for all the ways she helped us, with services and celebrations.

## ...And What's Your Name?

Hello My Name Is

We're not putting those High Holyday name tags away yet! Very soon our name tags will be displayed in the small foyer as you enter the sanctuary at 60 Highland Street. Members are encouraged to wear the name tags at services, meetings, and gatherings, in an effort to assist Rabbi Sapsowitz in the first few months of the sabbatical year. Guests are encouraged to wear "guest" name tags so that others can greet them, and so Rabbi Marna can distinguish members from non-members. The name tags will need to be returned after each use, to minimize having to continually reproduce them, so please be conscientious about placing them in the appropriate location. And for those of you who prefer to remain nameless, the wearing of name tags is, of course, optional.

## School News

### The School Year Underway.....

Cindy Shulak-Rome, [school@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:school@dorsheitzedek.org), and Rebekah Ralen

Our new school year is off to a great start! As we wander through the school and spend time in the classes, our hearts are warmed and our faces lit up as we experience the children of our community in the following ways:

- 1 Listening to our Kitah Hay students eagerly elaborate on every answer to a *B'reishit* Jeopardy game as they demonstrate to Morah Yael just how much Torah they learned last year.
- 2 Watching our youngest students master the hand motions to the Sh'ma at Torah Talk.
- 3 Sitting in the kitchen for *Z'man Kehilah* (Community Time), as we role pennies to "Save the Rainforest," the students describing what it cost to save the rainforest and how much of an impact our pennies can make.
- 4 Listening to the Dalet class "bench" after their snack; a very rousing, toe-tapping rendition of *Birkat HaMazon*.
- 5 Watching the Vav class act out the new Ulpan Hebrew lessons that they are learning as they enjoy playing with everyday vocabulary.
- 6 Listening to Kitah Gimmel students discuss the reasons they think we have two creation stories in the Torah.
- 7 Watching each class create their own *Gan Eden* (Garden of Eden) at our Cheshvan Rosh Hodesh Assembly.

There's all this, and so much more. Feel free to arrange a visit and see for yourself! We look forward to a continued year of creative and inspired learning!

### Eighth Grade Students Attend Prozdor

We are pleased to announce that eight of our Dorshei Tzedek 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have enrolled in Prozdor, the High School Division of Hebrew College. A continuing Jewish Education Program, Prozdor offers courses in Jewish History, text study, Hebrew, Yiddish, the arts, and many more subjects. To all of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have recently enrolled in this program—**Sarah Forman, Adam Goldsmith, Joey Hattis, Chloe Kuh, Eli Kuh, Annalise Litt-**

**man, Zachary Miller, and Shoshi Paris-Saper**—we hope your continued studies are enlightening! May you go from strength to strength!

### "Behind the Labels":

#### Our School-wide Tikkun Olam Project

This year at our school we are continuing our work on our "Behind the Labels" project—becoming informed about the conditions of sweatshop workers in third-world countries and what we can do to raise consciousness and take action on this issue. Kitah Zayin students recently attended a program at Boston College to hear a group of women from Bangladesh talk about their personal experience working in the factories there.

Are you interested in this project? You can get involved in a number of ways! As one part of this project, our students will be using *Z'man Kehilah* (community time) to create various projects with fiber and increase their own awareness and appreciation of what is involved in creating things with their hands. We welcome any volunteers who would be willing to come into school for a couple of sessions to help students learn a skill or create a specific project. We also need a parent to help schedule and coordinate our volunteers.

If you are interested in raising your own consciousness and learning more about this issue, you can volunteer to be a Tikkun Olam Room Parent, and work specifically on this project with one of our teachers and their class. Or, contact **Barbara Shatkin** ([bfshatkin@aol.com](mailto:bfshatkin@aol.com)), our Project Coordinator, if you are interested in serving on the committee. You do not have to be a parent of school children to get involved here! We have a large-scale, community-wide program planned for the afternoon of Sunday March 13—you'll be hearing more about this in the near future.

### Junior Congregation

November 20 and December 18,  
60 Highland St., Rm. 111, 10:45 am-12 pm

Junior Congregation has started up again! We welcome **Elana Rome** as our new Junior Congregation service leader this year. Elana is a sophomore in college and has spent the past two summers as a counselor at Camp JRF. She is looking forward to bringing some of the camp style *ruach* (spirit) to our youth services! Junior Congregation is geared for students in **3rd through 7th grade** (kids only please!). We meet monthly from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm in Room 111 at 60 Highland Street. The next two services

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are on the following Shabbat mornings of November 20 and December 18.

### Back to School Night

*First Unitarian Society, November 4, 7:30 pm – 9 pm*

Parents of our Upper School students—Grades 3 through 7—are invited to Back to School Night on Thursday, November 4, 7:30 pm – 9 pm. This is your opportunity to hear about the year's curriculum from your child/children's teacher/s. We will begin our meeting as a large group in the Parish Hall, following which you will have a chance to meet in the classrooms. Please note that this program is at the First Unitarian Society (our school building).

### Youth Service

*Saturday November 13 and March 19, 9:45 am*

On November 13 we will have the first of two Shabbat morning Youth Services this year. We honor the youth of our community as they step forward to take leadership roles in Shabbat services. Please join us on November 13 and March 19 for these special services.

### Tot Shabbats

*Janet Boguslaw, boguslaw@brandeis.edu*

Tot Shabbats are from **10:30 am to 11 am** in the childcare room at the Second Church. Tot Shabbat is for children ages 5 years and younger. We'll have a few songs and prayers, a story, an activity, and a snack. Come join the fun! The schedule for the year is: November 20, December 18, January 15, February 12, March 19, April 9, and May 7. Be sure to mark your calendars and see you there!

### Todah Rabah

Thank you to the **Galpert Hess Family** for their recent donation of books to our library.

### Cider and Schmoozing

Thank you to all the parents who stopped by the Alliance Room for cider and schmoozing on October 5. For some, it was a first opportunity to meet **Rebekah Ralen**, our new Associate Education Director and **Rabbi Marna**, our interim sabbatical rabbi. For others, it was a chance to say a brief hello. We plan to do this on a regular basis this year. Our next opportunity will be on **Tuesday, November 16 from 5:15 pm – 5:45 pm** in the Alliance Room. We hope you'll stop in before pick up!

## Adult Education

### Shabbat Morning Torah Study

*with Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz*

*Fall dates: November 27 and December 18, 8:45 am*

The early bird gets the wisdom! Once a month, before the Shabbat morning service, we'll examine the week's Torah portion in depth, using a supplementary text to shed light on its contents. All are welcome; no prior knowledge or regular attendance assumed. Bring your own coffee!

### Behaving, Believing, Belonging: What Makes Reconstructionism Different?

*with Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz*

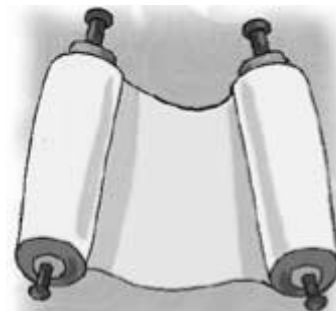
*Wednesday evenings, November 17, December 1 and 15, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm*

What **does** make Reconstructionism unique? What is the range of "normative" Reconstructionist belief and practice? Are there "bottom lines," and, if so, where do we draw them? We will examine and discuss some contemporary texts and share some of our own "wrestlings." Experienced Reconstructionists and newcomers (including curiosity-seekers) welcome!

### Text in the Morning, Anyone?

*Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz, rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org*

Now that the holiday season is behind us, we can catch our breath a bit and think about other things. Last year, Rabbi Toba facilitated a Thursday early morning Mishna study group. I'm wondering how many folks might be interested in continuing this tradition of Mishna in the Morning? Or perhaps another genre of text? (Maybe Midrash in the Morning....? Or....) Please e-mail me and let me know you'd be interested, whether you have a preference for text, and what mornings would or wouldn't work for you.



## CDT Community Happenings

### Dorshei Tzedek Film Club: James' Journey to Jerusalem

*November 17, 7:15 pm*

The CDT Film Club will screen James' Journey to Jerusalem (87 min, 2003), Wednesday, November 17, 7:15 pm (please be prompt), at the home of Emily Sper. Mix one part fable with two parts social satire and add plenty of charm--that's what you get with this latest film from director Ra'anana Alexandrowicz. James is chosen by the people of his African village to make a pilgrimage to the Holy City, Jerusalem. A misunderstanding lands him in jail but he is "rescued" by Shimi, a manpower agent who bails out illegal migrant workers, takes their passports, and puts them to work doing menial labor. Because James is smart and honest, Shimi comes to rely on him, especially when Shimi's difficult father takes a liking to him. South African actor Siyabonga Melongisi Shibe is terrifically likeable as the young James who gets caught up in Israeli contemporary life. Optional discussion follows. No need to RSVP. Emily's address is 41 Wallingford Rd. #2, Brighton. For directions, go to: [www.home.earthlink.net/~sperphoto](http://www.home.earthlink.net/~sperphoto). Volunteers are needed to host future screenings. Watch the CDT-LIST listserv for a more detailed announcement.

### Sign Up For Special Interest Member Potlucks

*Cindy Bittker, [cindy@smallworldgraphics.com](mailto:cindy@smallworldgraphics.com)*

In the past, the Membership Committee has organized potluck dinners at members' homes as a way of both celebrating Shabbat together as well as providing an opportunity for members to get to know one another through small group gatherings. **This year we'd like to expand the potluck dinners to provide a way for members with special interests and/or life circumstances to get to know one another.** Occasionally, we might arrange a potluck dinner for those members who would like to attend based on their identification with the special interests or age/stage of the group.

We've come up with a few possible such configurations, and **want to hear your ideas** for these special interest themed potlucks. So far, our brains have stormed out the

following:

- Under 40's
- Singles
- Pre/post bar/bat mitzvah families who might want to discuss and share planning ideas
- Non Jewish members
- Parents of very young children
- Parents of special needs children
- Members interested in environmental issues
- Members interested in a game night

E-mail Cindy Bittker, at [cindy@smallworldgraphics.com](mailto:cindy@smallworldgraphics.com) and let her know what kinds of potlucks you'd be interested in, and whether you're willing to host.

### Dorshei Tzedek Bridge Club

*October 30, 2004, 7 pm*

*Ellen Pashall [epashall@aol.com](mailto:epashall@aol.com) and  
Alan Epstein, [alan.epstein@rcn.com](mailto:alan.epstein@rcn.com)*

The first meeting of the CDT Bridge Club will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2004, at 7 pm at the home of Ellen Pashall. Beginners and experienced card players **of all ages** are welcome. Kibbitzers and learners too. Please RSVP to Ellen ([epashall@aol.com](mailto:epashall@aol.com), 617.332.0068) or Alan Epstein ([alan.epstein@rcn.com](mailto:alan.epstein@rcn.com), 617.926.0836).

### Neighborhood Potlucks November 13

*Ami Gordon, [amisgordon@comcast.net](mailto:amisgordon@comcast.net)*

Due to popular demand, and because it's a great idea, we will be organizing potlucks by neighborhood on November 13. Come share a Saturday evening with Dorshei Tzedek members who live nearby. Spend time with your CDT neighbors, those you know well, and those you haven't met yet. To sign up, contact **Ami Gordon** at [amisgordon@comcast.net](mailto:amisgordon@comcast.net) or at 617.630.1717 by November 7. Hosts should let her know if they have pets, and how many people they can accommodate. Guests should let Amy know who from their household will be attending, and if they have any allergies or food restrictions.

## Attention All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

November 7, December 5, February 3,  
March 5, and April 3

Elyse Rast, [markelyse@comcast.net](mailto:markelyse@comcast.net)

**No'ar Hadash**, our Reconstructionist youth group comprised of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Dorshei Tzedek and Hillel B'nai Torah, is an exciting way to meet new people, go to fun events, and have a great time in a Jewish setting! Get involved today by attending our next event, helping to plan a future event or telling your friends about us. We're only as great as YOU make us----so join today!!!

Our first event was Rock Climbing at Dedham Health and Athletic Club. Our first event of the year, rock climbing at Dedham Health Club, was a blast! We had a small group of people, but that didn't stop our energy and enthusiasm as we experienced rock climbing, played lots of games, planned December's event, and ate lots of yummy treats.

Our next event will be on **Sunday, November 7**. We'll be taking advantage of the wonderful Boston Jewish Film Festival by seeing Bar Mitzvah Boy. This BBC classic is set in a working-class neighborhood in 1970's England. The movie is a bittersweet comedy about a British boy's upcoming Bar Mitzvah which will be amusing for those just beginning their B'nai Mitzvah preparations as well as for those who have already gone through the process. After the movie we'll be going out to dinner. The event is sure to be amazing and a night not to be missed! Watch your computers for your Evite and your mailboxes for a flyer. Hope you all can make it!!!

If you have questions or comments, contact **Elyse Rast**, advisor, at [markelyse@comcast.net](mailto:markelyse@comcast.net) or 508-346-3231.

## Dorshei Tzedek's Annual Night at the Theatre

Saturday, November 20, 8 pm,  
The Theatre Cooperative in Somerville

Clifford Goldsmith, [clifgold@hotmail.com](mailto:clifgold@hotmail.com)

Each year our very own Hebrew school teacher, **Lesley Chapman**, puts on a thought-provoking play with a Jewish and socio-political theme and Dorshei Tzedek attends as a group. This year it's *The Value of Names* by Jeffrey Sweet. Benny Silverman is an aging actor living peacefully in a house overlooking the Pacific. But when his daughter tells him she's changing her name, old wounds open and the value of names becomes achingly apparent." The play runs for about 90 minutes and as an added attraction there

will be a discussion the New York based playwright immediately following the show.

## CDT Sings

Elaine Bresnick, [ebresnick@comcast.net](mailto:ebresnick@comcast.net)

The Dorshei Tzedek choral group sings a variety of pieces with some connection to Jewish liturgy or culture. There is no requirement for membership, just an interest in singing with fellow CDT members. Our pieces range from simple rounds to more complex multi-part arrangements. We really enjoyed performing several pieces during our High Holiday services, and we hope to sing occasionally for other events during the year. We meet approximately once a month, usually at the Parish Hall at FUSN. If you would like to receive email notification of our meetings and activities, or if you have questions about CDT Sings, please send e-mail to Elaine Bresnick at [ebresnick@comcast.net](mailto:ebresnick@comcast.net), or call 617.964.5199 (home).

## Dorshei Tzedek Writers' Group

Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry or essays? Are you interested in getting together with other members of Dorshei Tzedek to share your craft and gain support and encouragement? Then consider getting involved with the Dorshei Tzedek Writers Group. We have met once so far and so we are still in the formative stages of figuring out what sort of group this will be and what we'll do together. We imagine getting together about monthly, to share what we're working on, seek advice from others, and engage in creative writing exercises. This is also a terrific opportunity to connect with other members of Dorshei Tzedek. If you're interested in learning more or finding out about our next meeting, please feel free to contact James Kaplan at 617.393.0216 or [jameshkaplan@hotmail.com](mailto:jameshkaplan@hotmail.com).

## Dorshei Tzedek Artists' Group

We meet monthly for potluck lunch and conversation about our work as artists, in varied disciplines. Our hope is to allow for networking, support, and discussion about topics such as marketing and creative process.

This group is open to new folks. For information about our next meeting, or to be put on the e-mail list, contact Cindy Rivka Marshall at [cmars13@aol.com](mailto:cmars13@aol.com).



## GBIO and Tikkun Olam

**Al hatorah, v'al haavodah, v'al g'milut chasadim...**

**(On study, on ritual acts  
and on acts of lovingkindness)**

*Ezra Hausman, ezrad@rcn.com*

On Rosh Hashana, Rabbi Toba asked us to consider where Judaism fits in the house of our lives—is it decorative like the curtains, or central and essential like the kitchen? Could it be the whole house?

Through Dorshei Tzedek's GBIO activities, we ask ourselves a related question: what room do acts of lovingkindness, *g'milut hasadim*, and repairing the world, *tikkun olam*, occupy in our communal Jewish house? Should it be out by the garage where we never see it, relegated to a reliable and honored subcommittee of the congregation? Or is it a central part of how we define ourselves as Jews? What would it mean for us as a congregation, and for each of us individually, if it we took seriously the words of the *mishna* of *Pirkei Avot*, the wisdom of the sages: it is one-third of the foundation of our Jewish lives, upon which the whole world rests?

Many Dorshei Tzedek members have expressed the belief that *tikkun olam* is a central way to express the core values that define our evolving Jewish community. We joined GBIO as a way of collectively turning these values into action. We see CDT's GBIO activities as more than a wing of the regional organization, but as a way to organize and generalize all of our *tikkun olam* activities as a community, with every member feeling empowered to participate in whichever activities fit his or her interests and abilities.

Those of us who have participated in GBIO activities have felt the empowering experience of standing shoulder to shoulder with members of religious and other communities from all around Boston, sharing a collective vision of a successful fight for social justice. We have learned that our numbers, and our economic might, can convince top political and business leaders to listen to our concerns and cooperate with our aims. Already, we have gotten the attention of Governor Romney, Lt. Governor Healey, Attorney General Riley, and Citizens Bank President Robert Smyth. For those of us who have felt powerless in the face of increasing corporate and big money influence on politics, the message has been clear: together, we are louder, stronger, and we can make a difference in our community.

This year GBIO is undertaking two major initiatives:

- **A Nursing Home Care Initiative**—aimed at improving

the care environment in nursing homes with a focus on how the treatment of frontline nurse assistants (in greater Boston, primarily Haitian women) affects both the workers and the nursing home residents.

- **Organized Money Campaign**—an effort that is focusing on how we can work with Citizens Bank to obtain better banking, insurance, and investment services for lower- and middle-income people by pooling monies from both GBIO congregations as well as individuals.

At Dorshei Tzedek we encourage everyone to participate in *tikkun olam* along with the two other foundations of Jewish life—scholarship and ritual practice. We suggest coming yourself and bringing your teenagers to a GBIO action, or community meeting, for a mind-opening experience of the diversity and strength of the grassroots in Boston, and to experience how your energy and participation can make a difference. Please check this monthly column to keep abreast of events and opportunities to fulfill this fundamental Jewish obligation, and feel free to come to our meetings or to e-mail me at [ezrad@rcn.com](mailto:ezrad@rcn.com) for more information. The next CDT meeting to discuss GBIO activities will be held on Sunday, November 21, 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the home of Paul Hattis, 53 Channing Road in Newton Centre. New faces are always welcome.

### GBIO Haitian Relief—CDT Response

*Paul Hattis, pahattis@comcast.net*

Many of us have been moved by the tragic situation in Haiti following the recent devastating hurricane, Jeanne. Here is an opportunity to help out through tax-deductible donations to the relief effort. GBIO is trying to raise funds to assist those in need, and a few of us thought that rather than just sending in individual donations, I, as the CDT Tikkun Olam Committee Board representative, could receive all of our contributions and forward them to the address noted below. People would still receive their tax receipts individually, but we could also demonstrate our collective Dorshei Tzedek community concern for the plight of many Haitians with an attached note that would accompany all of our checks to support the relief effort.

If you would like to donate in this way, in any amount you wish, please forward your check made out to: Hurricane Jeanne Relief Fund for Haiti and send it to Paul Hattis at 53 Channing Road Newton Centre, MA 02459.

If you have any questions, contact Paul Hattis at [pahattis@comcast.net](mailto:pahattis@comcast.net) or 617. 332.7641.



## November Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Tue Nov 2	7:15 pm - 8:45 pm	Adult Hebrew Class: Adv Beginner	FUSN: Classroom 2
Thu Nov 4	4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Adult Hebrew Class: Beginner	FUSN: Alliance Room
Thu Nov 4	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Back to School Night</b>	FUSN: Parish Hall
Fri Nov 5	6 pm - 7 pm	<b>Erev Shabbat Family Service</b> (see page 3)	Linda Schiller & Steve Robins, Ilana Mainelli 60 Highland St (see page 3)
Sat Nov 6	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bat Mitzvah of Emily Flynn</b> 60 Highland St	Willa & Tom Kuh, JoAnn Share & Rochelle Weichman, Angela & Dorea Vierling-Claassen
Sat Nov 6	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Bet classes	FUSN
Sun Nov 7	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Gimel Family Ed	FUSN
Sun Nov 7	7:15 pm	<b>Members Meeting</b> (see page 2)	60 Highland St, in our sanctuary
Tue Nov 9	7:15 pm - 8:45 pm	Adult Hebrew Class: Adv Beginner	FUSN
Thu Nov 11		No Classes / Veterans Day Holiday	
Sat Nov 13		No Classes	
Sat Nov 13	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service* led by our youth (see page 9)	Julie Weiman, Sheree Galpert & Peter Hess
Sun Nov 14	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #2	FUSN
Tue Nov 16	5:15 pm - 5:45 pm	<b>Parents at School: Cider &amp; Schmoozing</b>	FUSH: Alliance Room (see page 9)
Tue Nov 16	7:15 pm - 8:45 pm	Adult Hebrew Class: Adv Beginner	FUSN
Wed Nov 17	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Adult Ed: Behaving, Believing, and Belonging:</b> <u>What Makes Reconstructionism Different?</u> With Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz	60 Highland St: Library (see page 9)
Thu Nov 18	4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Adult Hebrew Class: Beginner	FUSN
Fri Nov 19	6 pm - 8 pm	Kitah Gimmel Shabbat Dinner	FUSN
Fri Nov 19	7:45 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Adult Erev Shabbat Service with</b> <b>Rabbi Stephen Berkowitz</b> (see page 3)	Jacqueline & Stan Fleischman, Elana Eisman & Steve Strassberg
Sat Nov 20	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Elaine Landes and David Felson, Tracy Rogers & Jane Schwartz, Karla Hailer-Fidelman
Sat Nov 20	10:30 am - 11 am	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>	60 Highland St
Sat Nov 20	10:45 am - 12 pm	<b>Junior Congregation</b> (see page 8)	
Sun Nov 21	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Dalet Family Ed	FUSN
Sun Nov 21	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Vav Family Ed	FUSN
Sun Nov 21	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	60 Highland St
Thu Nov 25		No School—Thanksgiving 11/25 -11/27	
Sat Nov 27	8:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b>	60 Highland St
Sat Nov 27	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bar Mitzvah of Josh Sachs</b>	Sanctuary clean-up: Beth & Jeff Green, Rebecca Gutman 60 Highland St
Tue Nov 30	6:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN

**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 The Second Church, 60 Highland Street, West Newton, unless otherwise noted. An asterisk (\*) denotes Rabbi Sapsowitz's weekend off; members of the congregation will lead services. Free childcare is available during Shabbat morning services in the large classroom near the office on the first floor.



# December Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Wed Dec 1	7:30 pm - 9 pm	<b>Adult Ed:</b> <u>Behaving, Believing and Belonging: What Makes Reconstructionism Different?</u> With Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz	60 Highland St: Library
Thu Dec 2	4:15 pm - 5:45 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN
Fri Dec 3	6 pm - 7 pm	<b>Erev Shabbat Family Service</b>	Pam Schoenberg & Joel Reider, Barbara & Jerry Zolit
Sat Dec 4	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Naomi Frankston Bat Mitzvah</b>	Sanctuary cleanup: Hara Klein & Eleni Carr, Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith
Sun Dec 5	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #3	FUSN
Tue Dec 7	6:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN
Thu Dec 9	4:30 pm - 5:45 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN
Sat Dec 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Teri Hauserman & Stan Piltch, Erica Streit & James Kaplan, Jill Stanzler-Katz & Jeff Katz
Sat Dec 11	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph Class, Kitah Bet Family Ed	FUSN
Sun Dec 12	5 pm - 7 pm	<b>Chanukah Celebration</b>	FUSN: Janice Fine, Diana & Richard Fisher Gomberg, Cheryl & Jeff Sacks, Mei See Sandson, Carolyn Fine & Jerry Freidman
Tue Dec 14	6:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN
Wed Dec 15	7:30 pm - 9 pm	<b>Adult Ed:</b> <u>Behaving, Believing, and Belonging: What Makes Reconstructionism Different?</u> With Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz	60 Highland St: Library (see page 9)
Thu Dec 16	4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	Adult Hebrew Class	FUSN
Fri Dec 17	6 pm - 8 pm	Kitah Dalet Dinner	FUSN
Fri Dec 17	8 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Adult Erev Shabbat Service</b>	Naomi Botkin, Lynne Brandon
Sat Dec 18	8:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b>	
Sat Dec 18	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Ann Spanel, Lilly Platt, Jeff Kichen
Sat Dec 18	10:30 am - 11 am	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>	
Sat Dec 18	10:30 am - 12 pm	<b>Junior Congregation</b> (for children grades 3-7)	
Sun Dec 19	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	
Thu Dec 23		No Classes - Winter Recess thru 1/3/05	
Sat Dec 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service*	

## Welcome New Members!



We welcome the following new members to the Dorshei Tzedek community: **Susan Lanser** and **Joan Radner**, **Ayala Galton**, **Allyson Cherkasky**, and **Jeffrey Schindler**.

Having moved from the raucous streets of Allston six years ago, **Nathan Aronow** and **Benita Danzing** now live in Newtonville, just a few blocks from the Dorshei Tzedek location(s). Benita (born and raised in Richmond, Virginia) works for a social science research firm that focuses on improving early childhood education. Nathan (a Newton native) is a programmer/analyst. However, his passion is music, and he recently wrote and produced his fourth jazz CD. The family enjoys biking, swimming, and the arts. From there, individual interests differ! Twins **Rosalyn (Roz)** and **Sophie** attend Horace Mann Elementary and are looking forward to Kitah Gimmel. Benita and Nathan look forward to becoming more immersed in the Dorshei Tzedek community.

**Joshua Gordon** moved to the Boston area in 2002 after 20 years of the bohemian freelance life in New York City where he would play anything on his cello for money, along with a few self-produced concerts where he lost money. But he still loves music and the cello, and is now into total-immersion string quartet playing with the Lydian Quartet at Brandeis University and elsewhere. He can be heard in various uncompromised performance situations here and out of town, usually involving rehearsals with lots of arguments. But it's worth it, especially now that he met CDT member **Naomi Botkin** through jdate.com and realized this is the right woman to love and marry, which will happen in June 2005! So after getting to know people at CDT through Naomi and being a guest at the CDT retreat where Rabbi Toba didn't object to his getting a single off of her in softball, he is thrilled to be one of the newest members of CDT, and is relieved to be free of the old Reform Congregation prayer book he grew up with.

**Corinne Lofchie** and **Noam Shore** got married in August and just moved to East Arlington. Noam grew up in Watertown and Corinne in Hull and Brookline. Corinne is getting her Masters in Social Work at Boston University. Noam is working for a small consulting company where he analyzes

procurement operations, and is interested in sustainable business development. Noam is an avid cyclist and Corinne loves to dance. They joined Dorshei Tzedek because they enjoy the warmth, the spiritual seeking, and the progressive nature of the community.

## Nadiv Lev Contest

Steve Siegel, [spsiegel@aol.com](mailto:spsiegel@aol.com)

Win a coveted place on the Nadiv Lev Committee by answering the most questions below correctly:

*During the last fiscal year, what percentage of member households participated in the campaign?*

1. 74%
2. This is a closely held secret.
3. 74%

*How much did we raise in support of our General Fund?*

1. Well, quite a bit
2. \$65 thousand dollars
3. \$6, but we celebrated the process

*Who is the Nadiv Lev chairperson for this year?*

1. Roberta Flack
2. Roberta "Steve, you're gonna do this with me this year" Carson
3. Roberto Clemente

*The Nadiv Lev Committee:*

1. Is gratified for the support this campaign received from our membership.
2. Enjoys eating homemade brownies at committee meetings.
3. Is planning new, interesting, and respectful ways of running the campaign this year.
4. Welcomes comments and suggestions from all of you.
5. Invites you to join us!
6. All of the above.

If you have answered all of the questions above and have read down to this point, you have been automatically enrolled as an honorary member of the Nadiv Lev Committee for the coming year. Thank you! Questions or comments may always be addressed to Roberta Carson ([ergofit@aol.com](mailto:ergofit@aol.com)) or Steve Siegel

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. “Dorshei Tzedek” means “seekers of justice,” and 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.