

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

Adar 5765

March 2005



Rabbi's Column

Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz, rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org

We hear it every time we fly—the flight attendants' safety message: "No smoking. Fasten your seat belt. Your seat cushion is an approved flotation device. There's an inflatable life vest under your seat." And: "In the event of a rapid change in cabin pressure, oxygen masks will drop from an overhead compartment. Put your mask on first. If you are seated next to someone who might need assistance, such as a child, you should put your own mask on first, then breathe normally as you assist the other person. That way, you will have a steady flow of oxygen as you help the other person to get their mask on."

This makes intuitive sense; you need a steady flow of oxygen to breathe in order to help another person. It makes sense, too, when applied to Jewish education.

For far too many of us, Jewish education is a juvenile thing: it's good for the children (the way cod liver oil is good for you), but not interesting enough to appeal to us as adults. Far too many of us recall Hebrew School horror stories. We paid our dues, put in our time, and now it's the next generation's turn. Thankfully, we have a wonderful education program here at CDT—one that, we are confident, will leave our kids without those bad memories, but,

Contacting Rabbi Sapsowitz: Rabbi 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 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.

Snow Cancellations: In the event that Shabbat services are cancelled due to a snow emergency, we will leave a message to that effect on our phone system (617.965.0330) by 8:30 am. For Erev Shabbat services, notification will be made by 4:30 pm. *Messages will only be left if services are cancelled.* Please do not call members at home; call the office instead. Thanks!

rather, thirsting for and seeking out more Jewish knowledge.

Living here in the Boston area, we are blessed with a panoply of wonderful Jewish educational opportunities **for adults!** One of these, right at our fingertips, is Me'ah. Four years ago, CDT made a commitment to being a Me'ah site. That initial year, four of our members enrolled in the program. Ten more will complete it this June. You, too, can enroll in Me'ah!

What an amazing way to role model for the next generation that Jewish learning is worth committing one's time to! But—even more importantly—what an amazing gift to give to yourself! To heal the wounds of those negative Hebrew school memories, or to fill in the gaps of the Jewish education you never had, for whatever reasons....To immerse yourself in Jewish history and civilization....To become a more knowledgeable, literate adult Jew. What an opportunity!

We are indeed facing "a rapid change in cabin pressure." The world around us changes faster than many of us feel we can keep up with. Our Jewish heritage gives us timeless roots, while it speaks to contemporary challenges. We each need to take responsibility for putting on our own Jewish "oxygen masks"; only then will we be able to help others.

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Members' Meeting March 6

Don't miss our upcoming Members' Meeting on March 6 at 7:15 pm in our sanctuary at 60 Highland Street. A major topic at the meeting will be our congregational discussion of end-of-life care and bereavement (see below). This is the second of our three yearly meetings, and it's important that one member from each household be represented each of these meetings. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Board Meeting Notes

Peter Hess, phess@mit.edu

The February Board meeting opened with D'var by **Andrew Compaine** on the Torah portion *Tetzaveh* in which G-d provides instructions about how to sanctify the tabernacle, make sacrificial offerings, light the *Ner Tamid*, and don proper priestly attire.

Mid-year Budget Review: Treasurer **Laurie Gould** gave the Board a rundown on the current state of the budget. Although we budgeted for a balanced budget for this fiscal year, it appears now that we will be running a deficit. Our expenses are in line with our budget projections, but our revenues are off, largely because we didn't grow as fast as we expected to. Although it's still early for reliable predictions, fundraising seems to be going well. This analysis suggests that the most direct way for us to avoid future financial shortfalls is to take a more active approach to membership recruitment.

Strategic Plan: We've recently been informed by the Unitarian Church that we are likely to lose our school office space there in September. This is a matter of great concern for the school and, coupled with the financial issues noted above, points up the need for us to have a strategic plan to guide us for the next 3-5 years.

Me'ah: The Board approved making an application for Dorshei Tzedek to co-sponsor a Me'ah class, with the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center and Hillel B'nai Torah. The Me'ah program is an intensive Jewish study program run by Hebrew College and partially funded by Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). Those CDT members who have been through the program, many of whom are now in leadership positions, are enthusiastic about it. For the proposed class to happen there will have to be about ten Me'ah students from CDT who want to participate.

Death and Bereavement Parlor Meetings: **Nicky Silver** reports that about 15 people attended each of the two

scheduled meetings on death and bereavement. Although they were quite different in focus—with one being more personal than the other—she feels good about the discussions that took place at both. (See below.)

Community Conversations: **Andrew Compaine** reports that the current round of Community Conversations is set to begin and will continue until the first week in April.

Nadiv Lev: **Steve Siegel** reports that Nadiv Lev Committee is trying a new approach to fundraising this year. Instead of relying primarily on a calling campaign, this year every household will receive a short brochure with a donation form attached.

Nadiv Lev

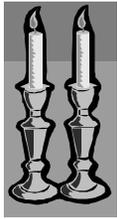
It's the time of year again for our annual Nadiv Lev campaign! Our Torah of Money process designated three sources of funds: dues (a voluntary assessment according to means); *hetzi shekel* (a small flat fee for each adult member), and *Nadiv Lev*, or giving from the heart. All member households are expected to participate in all three components, to whatever extent they are capable. We aim for 100% participation in Nadiv Lev. Our budget for this year specifies that \$65,000 will come from voluntary giving, from the heart!

Watch your mail for a brochure telling you more about this year's campaign. The pledge form included is meant to substitute for the phone call you have received in the past. If we don't receive a form from you, though, you will receive a call from a member of the Nadiv Lev Committee. So send in your pledge form soon, give as generously as you can, and you'll avoid that phone call!

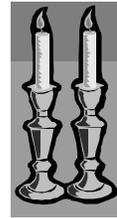
Parlor Meetings Update: End-of-Life Care and Bereavement

The first phase of our congregational discussion on end-of-life care was very successful in bringing to light the needs of some of our members. Attendees discussed needing more information about Jewish rituals following a death, observing mourning for non-Jewish family members, a Dorshei Tzedek cemetery, rethinking memorials and *yahrzeit* in our community, coping with aging parents and visiting the sick.

The conversation continues at the Members' Meeting on **March 6**. As we identify the needs of our membership, we hope leaders and interest groups will emerge to explore these issues in our community. To get more involved contact Jill Volk at jillvolk@aol.com or Nicky Silver at nsilver@alum.bu.edu.



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. *Please see snow cancellation information on page 1.*

All-ages Erev Shabbat Services

March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, 6 - 7 pm

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

Erev Shabbat Services

March 18, April 15, May 20, 8 - 9 pm

We welcome Shabbat with an evening of song, prayer, and reflection. Please join us!

Junior Congregation

March 12 (note date change), April 9, May 7 10:45 am – 12 noon

60 Highland Street, Room 111

All 3rd graders and up are welcome to attend Junior Congregation beginning at 10:45 am in Room 111 (across from the Child Care Room). The service will be followed by a special *kiddush*—and will conclude at 12 noon as the service in the sanctuary concludes.

Tot Shabbat

March 19, April 9, May 7, 10:30 – 11 am

60 Highland Street, Childcare Room

Join us in the Child Care Room for a young people's service. This service is geared for children in pre-school—Kindergarten and their parents. Contact Janet Boguslaw, boguslaw@brandeis.edu, for more information.

Purim Bash!

Thursday, March 24, 7 – 9 pm

Important: *This program is taking place at the First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton Square, and not at our regular prayer space.*



Do you remember Star Kvetz in 5762, Joe Minyanaire in 5763, and Goin' to the Chapel in 5764? Don't miss the March 24 Dorshei Tzedek Purim 5765 Spiel! Dorshei Tzedek's Purim celebration is more than just a premier Broadway show. Join us for an evening of merriment, noshing, and booing Haman! The fun begins at 7 pm with Purim davvening, a costume parade with prizes, Megillah reading, singing, and hamentaschen!

The fabulous Purim Spiel 5765 will begin at 8 pm, followed by dancing and schmoozing. All ages are encouraged to dress up in costumes! And you can bring a little schnapps as well.

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



Bar Mitzvah of Scott Pilch

Our son Scott will become a Bar Mitzvah on **March 5**. Scott is a seventh grader at Pollard Middle School in Needham. He enjoys sports, especially baseball and basketball. Nearly half of his 43 first cousins will be at his simchah. We hope you will be able to join us.—*Stan Pilch and Teri Hauserman*

Bat Mitzvah of Julia Faith Sklar

Please celebrate with our family on **April 2** at 9:45 am as Julia Faith Sklar is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Julia is a seventh grader at Oak Hill Middle School in Newton. Julia is someone with many interests. She has studied dance since kindergarten, including two years of Irish step dancing. She is an avid reader, a marvelous and creative cook and baker. Julia is rarely without music in her head. She plays the clarinet, piano, and spent two years with the Newton All City Honors Chorus. She also enjoys photography, art, basketball, swimming and will be experimenting with softball in the spring. For her *tikkun olam* project she collected, laundered and sorted clothes for the Second Step women's shelter in Newton. Julia is and always will be my best friend.

We invite the Dorshei Tzedek community, so many of whom have helped us reach this point, to join us for a kiddush luncheon following the service.—*Carol Sklar*

The Power of Collective Voice with Ann Bookman

Amy Mazur, acmazur@aol.com, 617.969.5659

March 9, 7:30 pm, Church of the Lutherans

Dear Fellow CDT members,

As a family and community member, worker, volunteer and career counselor interested in helping individuals make meaning of their work lives, I have become interested in an initiative sponsored by GBIO to use the power of collective voice to make change in our communities. On Wednesday, March 9, Ann Bookman, Executive Director of the MIT Workplace Center at the Sloan School of Management and author of *Starting in Our Own Backyards: How Working Families Can Build Community and Survive the New Economy* will speak about how we as individuals can make a difference by sharing our collective experiences and telling our stories. As we "thicken the narrative", our voices can be heard in boardrooms, in legislative halls, and in policy-makers' offices. More importantly, we can hear each other's stories, and recognize an opportunity to mend them, envisioning a different future by strengthening relationships.

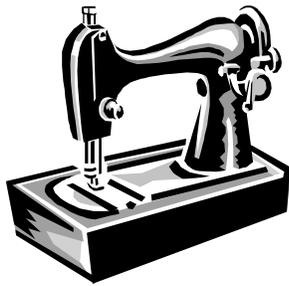
Join me and other GBIO members at the Church of the Lutherans—on the corner of Cypress and Center Streets in Newton Centre. This is a free evening, sponsored by GBIO. As a member of GBIO, a CDT member and an individual dealing with the pressures of work, family and community, I urge you to come and make your voices heard. For further information, contact Amy.

Torah of Money: No-Interest Loan Fund

Wendy Gedanken, wgedanken@hotmail.com

Thursday, March 10, 7:30 pm at 60 Highland Avenue

As previously announced, we have received grant money to start our own no-interest loan fund. CDT member Ira Schorr will share his extensive knowledge and experience with anyone interested in learning more about how such funds work. At the end of the meeting, there will be a sign up for those interested in working out the details for our fund. If you are interested in participating but cannot make this meeting, please email Wendy or call her at 617-332-1246.



“Behind the Labels” Educational Event

presented by the Dorshei Tzedek Religious School

Sunday, March 13, 2 – 4 pm

First Unitarian Society

Come learn about sweatshops and unfair working conditions in the garment and other industries. Our projects and activities include:

- Mock Sweatshop Room
 - Sweatshop Fashion Show
 - Fair Trade Auction
 - Sweatshop Labor Quiz
 - Information about Cocoa Production
 - Information about No Sweat Apparel Company
 - Child Craft Activity
 - Craft Sale to Benefit the Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity
 - Film about Sweatshop Labor
 - Labor Song Singing
- **Global Exchange** Speaker **Carmencita Abad**, a former sweatshop worker from Saipan, who will be speaking about her experience working in a sweatshop and anti-sweat activism.



Insights from Rebekah Ralen

Associate Education Director, CDT School

The *midrash* says that when Abram and Sarai were in the desert, they lived in a square tent with four sides. The tent flaps on each of the sides were always rolled up; no matter which direction strangers came from, they did not have to search for the opening. Just as Abram's open-sided tent represented his desire to welcome the strangers, so too does CDT. Though the churches we use are vastly different in appearance from Abram's tent, the spirit of welcoming is all around us. From the offices and worship space in one building, to the joyful sounds of children in the other, CDT has created an atmosphere of welcome and acceptance for everyone.

My contract with CDT began on July 1, 2004, but my relationship really began last March when I first met **Cindy Shulak-Rome**. It was a very surreal experience to walk into a building and, through something as simple as a conversation, realize that I was someplace very familiar. I re-

member getting into my car that day and thinking that CDT was the best kept secret in Boston.

As a long time member of Beth El in Sudbury, and a long time student of Rabbi Larry Kushner, I have always felt separate in any other synagogue, whether I was working as the educator or participating in a service. So, it was a delightful surprise to find a community that felt so right and so comfortable from the very first moment.

CDT is a very exceptional community. A combination of factors—intentionality of community, Rabbi Toba, the Board of Directors, Cindy, and the faculty—all contribute to a very special atmosphere, a “corporate culture” of kindness and consideration, of the importance of study and participation, of adults who talk the talk **and** walk the walk, and in doing so are the best role models for their children.

Most other religious schools attempt to cover a lot of topics; at CDT the focus is on prayer and Torah. These two basic concepts become the foundation for everything else, in the best Jewish tradition. My Orthodox friends in Jerusa-

(Continued on page 6)

Nadiv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

General Fund

(including donations to the Nadiv Lev campaign)

Ellie, Reva and Sasha Goldberg

*In honor of the memory of Allen Cooper,
in honor of the memory of Francis Greenberg
and In honor of the memory of Efrem Goldberg
and in commemoration of his birthday, March 18*

Miranda Phillips and Robert Kleinberg

*In honor and appreciation of the fall and winter
b'nei mitzvah kids: Annalise, Julia H., Sarah, Shoshi,
Emily, Josh S., Naomi, Ethan, Micah and Josh N.*

Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome

*In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Zolit, the Bar Mitzvah
of Josh Nadler, the Bar Mitzvah of Micah Shapiro,
and in celebration to Allison Hausman
for her leyning Torah for the first time*

The Zolit Family

*In celebration of Ethan's Bar Mitzvah and with very special
thanks to Rabbi Sapsowitz and Miranda Phillips,
John Holohan and Joey Hattis,
and all members of the Dorshei Tzedek community who
helped to make the day memorable*

School Fund

Allison & Ezra Hausman

*In appreciation of leyning mavens Miranda Phillips and
Kelli Kirshtein*

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.

Condolences

To the family and friends of Francis Greenberg, a dedicated and beloved member of Dorshei Tzedek. May his memory be for a blessing to all of us.



Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Sapsowitz** (617.965.0330) or **Anne Spanel** of the Chesed Committee (617.547.1533).

Have you recently had a *mazel tov* moment? Let us know! Please notify the us 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.

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 Sapsowitz at 617.965.0330 x2.

Refuah Sh'lemah

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

(Rebekah Ralen, continued from page 5)

lem will tell you that everything we need to know is in the Torah, that there is no need to study anything else. Torah gives us the foundation for how we live our lives; in the text can be found the rules of behavior for our personal as well as our professional lives. CDT instills this focus through curriculum, social justice projects, and beautiful worship services.

The best part of being an educator is the opportunity to get to know the children of the congregation, both in the classroom and in the more unstructured atmosphere of Community Time. These children give me the hope that indeed Judaism will carry on *dor l'dor*, from generation to generation.

CDT has accomplished what other communities can only wish for. It is the best of surprises to find myself part of the CDT staff this year; truly a gift and a blessing.

“A Taste of Me’ah”

Thursday, March 3, 7:30 pm at the Newton JCC

A Collaboration of:

Hillel B'nai Torah, West Roxbury

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

Newton Jewish Community Center



Text study. Active questioning. Community building. Personal enrichment. Jewish education isn't just for kids.

Me'ah is a two-year intensive adult learning program that brings alive Jewish history, thought and personalities across three millennia through text study and class discussion with leading Judaic Studies scholars. Launched in 1994, Me'ah has grown dramatically to more than 30 classes throughout Greater Boston and across the US, with over 1,800 graduates. Year one covers Bible and Rabbinics and year two examines medieval and modern Jewish history and thought.

Come experience a free introductory class taught by a Me'ah faculty member and hear an overview of the program.

Check out the Me'ah web site to learn more at www.hebrewcollege.edu/meah. For registration information, please contact Josh Segal from the JCC at 617.558.6444 or email him at jsegal@jccgb.org.

JRF Workshop:

Values-Based Decision-Making: Reconstructionism in Action

Saturday and Sunday, March 26-27

Temple Hillel Bnai Torah, West Roxbury

To be held Saturday evening and all day Sunday, this JRF-led workshop is designed for current and future lay leaders, rabbis, educators and professional staff of JRF congregations. In other words, it's for us! The workshop will help to develop skills in congregational application in Reconstructionist theology, philosophy and practice, and will introduce/model the values-based decision making and reconstructionist process for congregational decision-making. The text for the workshop is *Exploring Judaism*, by Alpert and Staub, which is required reading.

The cost for the workshop is \$100. For more information and to register, contact Hattie Dunbar at JRF (215.782.8500 x 30 or Hdunbar@jrf.org, or visit www.jrf.org). Some financial assistance is available through CDT; contact Nancy Gertz at president@dorsheitzedek.org.

Adult Education

Remembrance and Redemption: Preparation of our souls for Pesach with Roslyn G. Weiner, Ph.D.

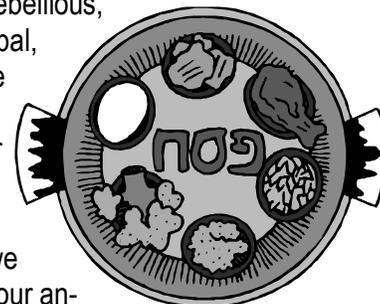
Tuesday evenings: March 29, April 5, April 12
7:30 pm - 9 pm

First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street,
Headstart Room

Members Free; Non-members \$35

Whether we are wise or rebellious, simply curious or non-verbal, the Pesach Seder and the Passover festival itself has a powerful pull on our feelings as well as our thoughts and behaviors.

Each year, at the Seder we remember the journey of our ancestors from slavery to freedom as we enact the slavery-liberation story and consider how we can contribute to the ongoing process of liberation. This year, spend three evenings in preparation for the holiday by participating in a creative process, which blends the themes of the Passover narrative with self-reflection and sharing with others. You are invited to join with a Newton psychologist who is also a Jewish spiritual guide to examine the narrative from multiple perspectives including journey, enslavement and exile, and relationship with the sacred.



Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz

March 19, April 16, May 7, June 4, at 8:45 am
Second Church, 60 Highland Street, in the Library



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!

School News

Cindy Shulak-Rome, school@dorsheitzedek.org

Camp JRF

Looking for a great summer experience? It is not too late to sign up for Camp JRF! For three glorious weeks in July, campers in grades 5-High School, can have a wonderful Jewish camp experience that is uniquely Reconstructionist! This will be the final summer that Camp JRF will be meeting at Camp Henry Horner, north of Chicago. JRF has purchased their own campsite in Northeastern Pennsylvania (a drive from Boston, rather than a plane ride!). So, for those of you who have some interest in Camp JRF, but haven't wanted to send your child to a camp that is "a plane ride away," think ahead to summer 2006 when JRF will have their very own summer camp a few hours drive from Boston! For more info, visit the Camp JRF web site at www.campjrf.org.

Toda Rabah!

Our gratitude and appreciation to:

- **Lily Platt** for donation of an overhead projector and an array of supplies for our school
- The **Broh family** for their donation of books to our library.
- **Marc Steinberg** for providing music at our monthly *Ma'ariv* service at school!

Students have many opportunities to learn and practice prayer in our school setting, and occasionally to experience prayer in their service attendance, but it is a special occasion worth noting, when our students feel empowered to voluntarily step up to the *bimah* to play a leadership role in our congregation's services!

A special thank you to all of our students who helped lead our Erev Shabbat Family Service in February: **Nathan Greenberg, Anya Carr-Klein, Charlotte Zolit, Ilana Galpert, Mira Netsky, Marina Miller, Maya Paris-Saper, Michal Lieberman, Nina Friedman, Sophie Friedman, Cora Hersh, and Amalia Lieberman.**

We recently took on a project to enter the modern age, by converting all of our Tefilah/Prayer Practice tapes for each class to CD's. We are grateful to so many of our members who helped with this project: **Cliff Cohen, David Cash, Julian Feder, Peter Hess, Charles Frankston,** and the **Strassberg Eisman family** for helping to create masters and copy CD's and especially to **Annalise Littman** for making master CD's from our outdated cassette tapes and to **Miranda Phillips** for organizing this project!

"Behind the Labels"

Community Tikkun Olam Event

Sunday March 13, 2 – 4 pm at FUSN

Join us for the culmination of a year's worth of learning! The students in our school have spent time over the last year learning about sweatshops and unfair working conditions in the garment and other industries. We have studied what our Torah and other Jewish texts have to say about work and how we treat workers, and we have seen films, had guest speakers, created our own fiber and fabric projects to support workers rights in Bangladesh and heard testimony from sweatshop workers. Each class has taken on a project and will have a station at this event to share what they have learned to educate us all about this issue and what we can do to make a difference. We hope you will join us on the afternoon of March 13—everyone is welcome—bring your family, bring your friends! (See page 5.)

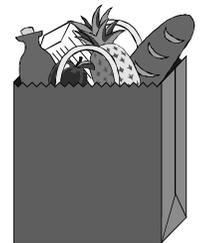
Junior Congregation—Note Change of Date!

Junior Congregation, originally scheduled for March 19, has been rescheduled this month to **Saturday, March 12**. Open to anyone in grades 3-6, this is a great opportunity to participate in a lively, spirited and participatory Shabbat service. The service is followed by a special "kids only" Kiddush. We meet in Room 111 at 60 Highland Street.

Purim Food Drive

Kitah Gimel and Morah Chavah (Miranda Phillips)

On Purim, it's customary to give food to those in need, as well as to friends and family. With this in mind, Kitah Gimel will be collecting food donations for the Community Day Center in Waltham. We are looking for non-perishable, healthy, balanced foods (e.g. soups, pasta, canned vegetables, tuna, etc.). Toiletries are also great: toothpaste, razors, toothbrushes, soaps, and shampoos. Collection will begin at our Purim party (March 24) and continue until Thursday, March 31, here at Dorshei Tzedek school.



Please make a note to bring something with you to the party, to services, or to Hebrew school. Look for collection boxes at the party on March 24, or after that, by the Dorshei Tzedek school office. Thanks and *chag purim sameach!*

March Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Tue Mar 1		<i>Classes Resume</i>	
Thu Mar 3	7:30 pm	A Taste of Me'ah	<i>Newton JCC (see page 7)</i>
Fri Mar 4	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service	John Dubrow, Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow <i>(see page 3)</i>
Sat Mar 5	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Scott Piltch	Jacqueline Bloomberg & Peter Gittleman, Louise Enoch & Alan Epstein, Wendy & Charles Frankston <i>Sanctuary clean-up: Daniel Price, Debbie Sher</i>
Sun Mar 6	7:15 pm	Members Meeting <i>(see page 2)</i>	<i>Members-Only Event</i> Paul Carson, Michael Cohen <i>60 Highland St: our Sanctuary</i>
Thu Mar 10	7:30 pm	Torah of Money Meeting: No-Interest Loan Fund	<i>60 Highland St: Parlor</i> <i>(see page 4)</i>
Sat Mar 12 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Teri Hauserman & Stan Piltch, Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn, Dorie Fried
Sat Mar 12	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph Family Ed, Kitah Bet Class	<i>FUSN</i>
Sun Mar 13	2 pm - 4 pm	Behind the Labels: Community-Wide Tikkun Olam Program	<i>FUSN (see page 5)</i>
Sun Mar 13	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> <i>60 Highland St: Parlor</i>
Fri Mar 18	6 pm - 8 pm	Gan Shabbat Dinner	<i>FUSN</i>
Fri Mar 18	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Adult Erev Shabbat Service	Cindy Bittker, Nancy Osher Blumberg
Sat Mar 19		<i>No classes</i>	
Sat Mar 19	8:45 am	Shabbat Morning Torah Study	<i>60 Highland St</i>
Sat Mar 19	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service-Youth Service	Debbie Blicher & Peter Dain, Abby Cohen
Sat Mar 19	10:30 am - 11 am	Tot Shabbat	<i>60 Highland St: Room 112 (see page 3)</i>
Sat Mar 19	10:45 am - 12 pm	Junior Congregation	<i>60 Highland St: Room 111 (see page 3)</i>
Sun Mar 20	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #6	<i>FUSN</i>
Thu Mar 24		<i>No Classes: Purim</i>	
Thu Mar 24	7 pm - 9 pm	Purim Celebration	Susannah & Stephen Zisk, David Cash & Annie Weiss, Rachel Nemeth Cohen & Richard Cohen <i>FUSN</i>
Sat Mar 26	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Audra Karp, Hope Kellman, Jodie Siegel & Susan Bernstein
Sat Mar 26 Sun Mar 27	evening all day	JRF Workshop: Values Based Decision Making with Rabbi Shawn Zevit	Hillel Bnai Torah <i>(see page 7)</i>

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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.



April Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Fri Apr 1	6 pm - 7 pm	Erev Shabbat Family Service	60 Highland St (see page 3)
Sat Apr 2	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Julia Sklar	60 Highland St (see page 4)
Sat Apr 2	6:30 pm - 8 pm	Ellen Kushner: "The World Turned Upside-Down" <i>co-sponsored with Shir Hadash</i>	60 Highland St: Fellowship Hall
Sun Apr 3	1:30 pm - 4 pm	Community of Learners Pesach Program	FUSN
Sun Apr 3	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Hay Family Ed	FUSN
Tue Apr 5	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Adult Ed: Remembrance and Redemption: Preparation of our souls for Pesach, with Roslyn G. Weiner, Ph.D.	FUSN: Headstart room (see page 7)
Fri Apr 8	6 pm - 8 pm	Kitah Bet Shabbat Dinner	FUSN
Sat Apr 9	9:30 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Kitah Vav Siyyum	Kitah Vav Parents
Sat Apr 9	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph Class, Kitah Bet Family Ed	FUSN
Sat Apr 9	10:30 am - 11 am	Tot Shabbat	60 Highland St: Room 112 (see page 3)
Sat Apr 9	10:45 am - 12 pm	Junior Congregation	60 Highland St: Room 111 (see page 3)
Sun Apr 10	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Program #7	FUSN
Sun Apr 10	2 pm - 4 pm	Kitah Vav Family Ed	FUSN
Sun Apr 10	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Members-Only Event 60 Highland St: Parlor
Tue Apr 12	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Adult Ed: Remembrance and Redemption: Preparation of our souls for Pesach, with Roslyn G. Weiner, Ph.D.	FUSN: Headstart room (see page 7)
Fri Apr 15	8 pm - 9:30 pm	Adult Erev Shabbat Service	(see page 3)
Sat Apr 16		<i>No Classes Through 4/25 (vacation)</i>	
Sat Apr 16	8:45 am	Shabbat Morning Torah Study	60 Highland St: Library (see page 7)
Sat Apr 16	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Katy Jablon	
Sat Apr 23 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	
Tue Apr 26		<i>Classes Resume</i>	
Thu Apr 28	7:30 am - 9 pm	Kitah Gimmel Orientation Meeting	FUSN: Alliance Room
Sat Apr 30	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Kitah Hay Siyyum	Kitah Hay Parents
Sat Apr 30	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Bet Classes	FUSN

Welcome!

We welcome the following new members to the Dorshei Tzedek community.

Allyson Cherkasky and **Jacob Solomita** are excited to join the Dorshei Tzedek community.



Jacob is 5 and $\frac{3}{4}$ years old and is in kindergarten at the Pittaway School in Ashland. He is energetic and loves to swim, dance, read about animals and space, and do art projects. Ally is a clinical psychologist who specializes in behavioral medicine and women's health. She works at Walden Behavioral Care as the Clinical Director of the Eating Disorders Service and has a private practice in Wellesley. Her favorite pastimes include yoga, brunches, and spending time with Jacob. Ally was drawn to the CDT community after spending several years attending the High Holiday services and was particularly moved by the inclusiveness, participation, and spiritual integration. They both look forward to getting to know other congregants, learning more about Reconstructionism and ways to incorporate Jewish practice/wisdom into their everyday lives.

Tsunami Relief Benefit Concert



Temple Hillel B'nai Torah cordially invites the Dorshei Tzedek community for their **March 5** concert to benefit the American Jewish World Service's relief efforts.

We will share a special Saturday evening coming together as a community to

contribute to AJWS's Tsunami relief effort and help to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease in the world. The concert will feature Guy Mendilow and his trio. Guy is a most innovative composer, arranger and musician. He sings in English, Hebrew, Spanish and Portuguese drawing on South African, jazz, blues and folk influences. His compelling multicultural music, vocals with overtone singing technique, and warm spirit will captivate you.

We hope you will join us on **Saturday evening, March 5, at 7 pm**. For more information please call Chris at the Hillel B'nai Torah office at 617-323-0486.

Help Wanted

Space Committee

You will be part of the working group that is examining our current and future space needs. Our meetings will focus on the day-to-day issues related to our current space, particularly as they may impact our discussions with Second Church regarding the renewal of our lease. Contact Stuart Snyder at cohen-snyder@rcn.com or 617.965.6766

Membership Outreach Committee

You will make intake and follow up phone calls to new members. Great way to meet new members, and can be done from home. Help plan prospective member events two-three times per year, and attend committee meetings three times per year. Please contact Carla Naumburg at outreach@dorsheitzedek.org if you are interested.

Youth Education Committee

Shabbat childcare coordinator required. Does your young child enjoy Shabbat morning childcare? We are looking for a parent to help coordinate the childcare providers for Shabbat mornings. Your job would entail calling the childcare providers, informing them of upcoming B'nei Mitzvot, ensuring the supplies are up to date and orderly, providing some suggestions for simple Shabbat related activities, checking in with the child care providers to ensure the smooth running of the program. Please call Tessa Goldsmith at 617.965.7323.

CDT Sings: 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 meet approximately once a month, usually at the Parish Hall at FUSN. For more information, please send e-mail to **Elaine Bresnick** at 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. contact **James Kaplan** at 617.393.0216 or jameskaplan@hotmail.com.

CDT Sabbatical Liaison Committee: The Sabbatical Liaison Committee is available to help insure positive relations between rabbi and congregation. We are available to discuss any concerns or issues that may affect that relationship. Rabbi Sapsowitz and the committee will be in regular contact. Please feel free to call any one of us:

Ora Gladstone: 617.630.9050, gladston@brandeis.edu

Mark Bronstein: 617.332.8424, mark@bronsteinlaw.com.

Louise Enoch: 617.926.0836, lpenoch@aol.com

John Holohan: 617.244.4773, jholohan@mathworks.com

Andrew Schiff: 617.239.2523, manschiff@aol.com

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

News from JRF

Debbie Waber

Here is some of the latest news from the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. More details are available at www.jrf.org/news.manishma-lm.html, where you can find the latest edition of *Ma Nishma* (What's New).



Now is the time to order the Reconstructionist haggadah, *A Night of Questions*. You can find out more by going to the Reconstructionist Press website, <http://www.jrf.org/pub/cat-passover.html>.

The Israel Policy Task Force Report, recently accepted by the JRF Board at the Convention, provides a substantive framework to begin a process of in-depth engagement of the Reconstructionist movement with Israel. You can find the report at www.jrf.org/israel/israel-taskforce.html.

In cooperation with its external affiliates, JRF has been involved in a number of Tikkun Olam initiatives—the Southeast Asia tsunami, the tragedy in Darfur, and supporting a human rights bill for the disabled at the UN. Closer to home, JRF participated in lobbying against the same-sex marriage amendments and against changes in laws that protect reproductive freedom. To learn more about JRF Tikkun Olam initiatives, go to www.jrf.org/to/affiliations.

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.