

# CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation  
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May 2005



## President's Message: Death and Rebirth

Nancy Gertz, [president@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:president@dorsheitzedek.org)

In the typical month as President of CDT, I attend meetings and ritual events, engage in problem solving and business activities, plan and strategize for the upcoming months/year, oversee the board and staff, coordinate with the rabbi, mobilize resources, open and close the building, and the like. This month I found it difficult to do all of the above. In fact, on some of those days, it was just plain hard to get out of bed. The reason was simple: my heart was broken with grief, bleeding with sorrow, and I was unable to do all of the above. I just couldn't do much of anything. This was the first time I ever experienced grief of this magnitude, and those of you who know me also know that I am hardly a rookie when it comes to life's curve balls.

On March 31, a private plane crashed over Pennsylvania, killing the Weingeroff and Jacober families from Rhode Island. Jeff and Karen (Kwasha) Jacober were childhood friends of mine; with their parents before them they have always been part of my extended family. Karen and Jeff were with Jeff's and my parents in Florida the night before they left on this fateful trip, intending to visit their son Michael at college. The plane, for still unexplained reasons, dropped out of the sky in a nosedive, and the lives of six extraordinary people, including two children ages 15 and 10, were instantly taken. There are two homes in Rhode Island where nobody lives anymore. I am still, several weeks later, unable to come to grips with this tragedy. As we prepare for the first seder, I am utterly mystified by the oppression of loss that their immediate families and community are experiencing.

In this same month, along with members of our community, I sat *shiva* with Sheree Galpert and her family, remembering her dear father Alvin Galpert, *zikrono livrakhah*. Being there for Sheree helped somewhat with my own grieving process, but the tragic nature of this shocking loss can't seem to find a resting place within me. Perhaps it never will. I was comforted, however, by the

warm hugs and supportive ways that different members of the congregation held me as I made my way through the darkest time around the funeral and its aftermath. My life is enriched by community, and this experience highlighted for me, once again, the importance of the work we are doing around end of life and bereavement. I'm also grateful to Rabbi Marna and the members of the executive committee who filled in for me so I could take the time I needed without having to focus on CDT affairs.

During this narrow crossing of mine, as it is with light and darkness, there were three babies born in the life of our congregation! Spring is here, the blossoms are bursting and we are in the season of re-birth, both within CDT and all around us! One of the easiest ways of welcoming spring is to reconnect with our community through Shabbat morning worship. Boots and parkas can be left at home, and we can come together to pray with renewed energy and intention as the sunshine of spring enters our sanctuary. The community is calling to you just like the birds singing in the morning: are you the *davener*, the learner, the *leyner*, the committee worker, the thinker, the change agent, the mobilizer, the strategic planner, the event coordinator, the fund-raiser, the educator, the enthusiast, the foot-soldier? What gifts can you bring to CDT, and how can you help us with our re-birth this spring? If you were hibernating from CDT life through the long, dark winter, wake up, and come on over! We've missed you!

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There are three events coming up that are also calling out to you. First, our own **CDT Bat Mitzvah, on June 4!** This special service, when we will reflect upon and celebrate our passage over the past thirteen years is in the morning, followed by a lovely kiddush. We've invited special guests who were instrumental in the early development of CDT, and, of course, we will honor the founders of our community. Dancing with DJ—music and all sorts of other fun is planned for the evening, and children over 10 are welcome to join us. Please refer to the invitation for specifics, and send in your reply ASAP.

Second, the **Members' Meeting on May 22:** vote on next year's budget and the slate for next year's board and off-board positions. (See page 3.) The May meeting is always rich with discussion as we contemplate the next year.

Third, **Saturday evening, June 25, will be Rabbi Marna's farewell gathering**, when we will enjoy desserts and Havdalah under the summer sky! (see page 4.) Rabbi Marna will be leading services that morning and leaving the next day, so we'll be together that evening, details forthcoming. Please plan to join us and take part in extending our communal gratitude to Rabbi Marna for her many gifts during this sabbatical period. (*July is typically our month of lay-led services and availability of an on-call rabbi; Rabbi Toba will be returning as of August 1.*)

Last, a reminder to all of you who have not yet sent in your *nadiv lev* donations. Please do so as soon as possible, and be as generous as you are able. We are operating with a deficit budget, and next year is also financially challenging, so please stretch if you can, to support CDT. *Todah rabah* and welcome to spring! Finally!

### Board Meeting Notes: March 13, 2005

*Peter Hess, phess@mit.edu*

**D'var** – Our opening *d'var*, given by Tessa Goldsmith, was on *Parshat Vayikra* from the first book of Leviticus, which details the proper way to make ritual offerings. When an offering was made by a member of the community, it was left to the *Kohanim* to mediate, to place the sacrifice on the altar, and in that way to help the community draw nearer to godliness. In a similar way, it is the role the leadership of our Dorshei Tzedek community to facilitate holiness and the drawing together of our community.

**Nominating Committee/Leadership** — Debbie Waber is leading the Nominating Committee in its effort to find people to fill empty positions on the Board and the Executive Committee and to replace departing committee chairs.

Time is already short, if the process is to conclude in time for the installation of new Board members at the May Members' Meeting. Two views were presented concerning our success at recruiting and developing new leadership for Dorshei Tzedek. There is agreement that we need to get better at moving people along from committee member to committee chair to Board member. If you have ideas of how we might improve our leadership development, please pass them on to a Board member.

**School Report** – Cindy thanked all those who participated in our school's year-long "Behind the Labels" project, which culminated in a very successful public event. The project was deeply rooted in Jewish values. The kids and staff were eager and inspired, and the project absorbed a lot of time, energy and thought in a very constructive way. The Board offers its heartfelt "*yasher koach*" to all the students who participated, with special thanks to Cindy Rome and Barbara Shatkin who brought the project into being.

Other good things are coming up before the year's end, and the school staff is already planning for next year. The school will be hiring new staff members for fall, and Cindy asks to hear from anyone who knows someone who might make a good Hebrew School teacher. It would also help if we could recruit a few additional Hebrew School students this year for the lower grades. Last year classes for grades 1 and 2 were under enrolled. It's hard to integrate new children beyond 3rd or 4th grade.

**CDT Bat Mitzvah Event** – The Dorshei Tzedek Bat Mitzvah, honoring the thirteen years that we have been together as a congregation, will take place on Shabbat, June 4. At services that day, special acknowledgement will be made of our achievement in reaching this auspicious age, followed by a special Kiddush luncheon. Judy Hersh is coordinating the luncheon and an evening celebration that will be held at our space on Highland Street. There will be a dessert table at 7:30, followed by dancing, a Havdallah service, and more dancing with a DJ. This event is not geared for youngest kids, and childcare won't be provided.

**Interest-free Loan Study Group** – Wendy Gedanken reported on a recent meeting of the CDT Interest Free Loan Society study/organizing group. Ira Schor gave a presentation based on his experience with the Boston Hebrew Free Loan Society and similar groups. There remain many questions to be resolved in getting this project underway. Will it be strictly a loan fund or loan and grant fund? Will it be devoted to specific purposes? People coming to us are likely to have a need far greater than our resources, so do we need to familiarize ourselves with what other services may be available in the community?

## Members' Meeting

*May 22, 7:15 pm, 60 Highland Street*

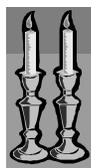
All members are invited to join in the spirit of community, for our last of three members' meetings of the fiscal year. During this meeting, the Board of Directors will propose a budget for the upcoming year and a slate of nominees for board and off-board positions. Members are encouraged to come and take part in the discussion and ultimately vote on proposals offered by the board. We will do our best to focus our discussion on the values that underlie our decisions, in the best attempt of the Reconstructionist model that we can muster. Please come, participate, vote, schmooze, and nosh.

### Kiddush Refresher

*May 22, 7 pm preceding Members' Meeting, Kitchen*

Pre-Party: For those of you who shudder when you get assigned to kiddush, and would like a refresher on kiddush how-to's, come early and we'll give you the behind-the-scenes brush-up!

## 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

*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

*May 20, 8 - 9 pm*

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

### Junior Congregation

*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

*Janet Boguslaw, boguslaw@brandeis.edu*

*May 7, 10:30 - 11 am*

*60 Highland Street, Childcare Room*

Join us for a young people's service geared for children in preschool—kindergarten and their parents.

### What We Lost When We Lost the Cantor

*with Hankus Netsky*

*Saturday, May 7, 1:30 - 3 pm*

*60 Highland Street Reception Hall*

Stay for kiddush after services and join us for a Shabbat afternoon lecture and discussion with Dorshei Tzedek's own musicologist. He'll be speaking about the era of the great cantors and raising questions about the relationship between the cantorial tradition and Reconstructionism, as well as gender issues between the past and present in Jewish music. You've already enjoyed Hankus' many contributions to Klezmer, now expand your Jewish musical vocabulary!

## Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Rubin–Rattet

Please join us on **May 14**, Shabbat *Emor*, as our son Alexander Rubin–Rattet becomes a Bar Mitzvah, for which he has been joyfully singing and preparing. Alex has been pleased to attend our religious school since first grade, having made many new friends. He is a seventh grader at Brown Middle School in Newton; and he has been a happy camper at Grossman Camp for the past five summers. Alex is a major league fan of Boston's professional sports teams, hoping someday to be a pro ballplayer himself. Other fun activities of his include: card games, riding his bike and unicycle, snowboarding, and throwing a Frisbee with his older brother Zachary. On Sunday mornings, residents at the Falls at Cordingly Dam (an assisted living community) have looked forward to his visiting and playing cards with them. Alex has a deep compassion for all animals, including humans; and is committed to being a vegan.—*Debra Rattet and Leslie Rubin*

## Bar Mitzvah of Caleb Marcus

Please join us on **May 21 at 9:45 am**, when our son Caleb is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Caleb is a seventh grader at Brown Middle School. He has been a member of the Dorshei Tzedek community for six years. Caleb likes to ride his bicycle. He plays piano and lately is playing more of his own music. He enjoys canoeing, kayaking and learning about nature and has been going to Audubon summer camps for years. We hope you will join us at Shabbat services, followed by Kiddush, as we celebrate this joyous occasion.—*Susan Nitkin and Jeffrey Marcus*

## Bat Mitzvah of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek

You are warmly invited to CDT's Bat Mitzvah, with services on **June 4 at 9:45 am**, followed by a Kiddush luncheon, and an evening celebration of dancing and fun starting at **8 pm!** Watch your mail for the real deal invitation.

## Farewell Gathering for Rabbi Marna

*Saturday, June 25, 7:30 pm*

*Home of Cindy and Dan Rome*

What could be sweeter than an evening of dessert, touched by the magic of Havdalah (around 9 pm) as an opportunity for extending gratitude and sharing stories of the last ten months? As our Sabbatical Rabbi, Marna Sapsowitz has tendered us many gifts, and we have many reasons to be grateful. Join us at Cindy and Dan's home, sing some songs, count the stars, enjoy some sweets, and extend some of your own blessings to Rabbi Marna. Kids welcome! To give us a sense of how many are expected, please RSVP to Diane, our administrator, by June 20, at 617–965–0330, or [office@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:office@dorsheitzedek.org). If you forget, or your plans change, come anyway!

## Yom HaShoah / Holocaust Memorial Day

*Thursday, May 5, 7 pm in our sanctuary*

Please join fellow members of CDT, as well as guests from the Second Church and FUSN, in marking Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Memorial Day. We will meet in our Sanctuary at 7 pm for a brief memorial service, following which, at 7:30, we are deeply honored to have as our speaker Holocaust survivor Edgar Krasa. Mr. Krasa was a prisoner first in the Terezin ghetto/concentration camp, where he became involved with music as a tool of resistance. Deported to Auschwitz, Mr. Krasa was liberated by the Russian army after three days on the Death March., Mr. Krasa is involved with Facing History and Ourselves as a speaker in schools and universities. He also serves as a member of the Board of the Terezin Chamber Music Foundation, whose mission is to propagate music created by Jewish composers persecuted by the Nazis, and teaching tolerance through music. He will share some of his experiences and will speak on Music of Remembrance and Defiance.

(Note from Rabbi Sapsowitz: I believe passionately that, as long as we have survivors among us, it is a sacred obligation for us to hear their stories. Please come.)

## Healing and Comfort Minyan

*Sunday, May 8, 5–6 pm (Mother's Day)*

*Wednesday, June 8, 5:45–6:45 pm*

*60 Highland St. Sanctuary*

Join Rabbi Marna and members of our community for prayer, centering, song and silence. We'll have an opportunity to remember our loved ones and say *kaddish* in an intimate setting, shoulder to shoulder. Not sure if this is for you? Give Rabbi Marna a call and chat with her about it. If you know someone who you would like to bring, we are happy to welcome anyone who would like to add their presence.

## Rosh Chodesh Celebration

*Monday, May 9, 7:30 pm*

*Home of Steffi Aronson Karp*

Dorshei Tzedek women are invited to a Rosh Hodesh Iyar celebration on Monday, May 9, 7:30-9 pm. This second CDT Rosh Hodesh group gathering will take place at the home of Steffi Aronson Karp. To RSVP or for directions contact Erica Streit-Kaplan at [ELStreit@yahoo.com](mailto:ELStreit@yahoo.com), 617-393-0216 or Steffi Aronson Karp at [shula@comcast.net](mailto:shula@comcast.net), 617-614-0722.

### Purim at CDT

*Marc Steinberg, [marc@skillcheck.com](mailto:marc@skillcheck.com)*

If you've ever attended a Dorshei Tzedek Purim Celebration, you've probably observed that Purim at CDT is really three events rolled into one two-hour extravaganza: it en-

compasses a Purim religious service, a mini-carnival/party, and a spiel written and performed by CDT members. In the coming months, the Ritual Committee is planning to re-examine the scope and structure of this event and will be seeking input from the congregation as part of this process.

## Nadiv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

### General Fund

(including donations to the Nadiv Lev campaign)

**Allison Andrews and Arthur Lent**

**Amy Bermar**

**Cindy Beth Bittker**

**Naomi Botkin and Joshua Gordon**

**Matilda and Edward Bruckner**

**Roberta and Paul Carson**

**Andrew Compaine and John Dubrow**

**Karen Engels**

**Meryl Epstein and Trish Nuzzola**

*In honor of Meryl's parents, Shelly and Lillian Epstein*

**Carolyn Fine and Jerry Friedman**

**Diana and Richard Fisher Gomberg**

*In honor of all the wonderful CDT volunteers!*

**Jackie and Stan Fleischman**

**Sheree Galpert and Peter Hess**

*In memory of Alvin Howard Galpert*

**Nancy Gertz and Michael Cohen**

*In memory of Sheree Galpert's beloved father, Alvin Galpert; in honor of the birth of Rebekah Ralen's grandson, Nathaniel Hank Grossman; in honor of the birth of Maayan Sarit Magaziner, the newest member of the Marcus-Magaziner family. In honor of the birth of Carrie Gabriell Lent, daughter of Allison Andrews and Arthur Lent. In loving memory of dear friends Jeffrey, Karen and Eric Jacober. In honor of the hard-working leadership of CDT with whom Nancy has had the pleasure of working this year; yasher koach and todah rabah.*

**Ora Gladstone and Mitchell Silver**

**Ellie Goldberg**

*In memory of Ellen Moss; in celebration of the birth of Maayan Sarit Magaziner and in memory of Alvin Galpert*

**Tessa and Clifford Goldsmith**

**Lisa Goodman and Bill Weinreb**

**Laurie Gould and Steve Ansolabehere**

*In honor of Dorshei Tzedek Bat Mitzvah year*

**Beth and Jeffrey Green**

*In honor of Elana Green's graduation from Northwestern University*

**Judy Hersh and Tim Rosa**

*In honor of the brilliant work done by Barbara Shatkin and Cindy Shulak-Rome on the Behind the Labels Project*

**Judy and Chayim Herzig-Marx**

*In memory of Howard and Chiaie Herzig and Kurt and Sharon Marx*

**Meryl Kahn**

**Steffi and Eric Karp**

*In honor of Julia Sklar's Bat Mitzvah*

**Linda and Peter Katz**

*In memory of Saul Weiss*

**Jeffrey Kichen**

*In honor of Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz*

**Caryn-Amy King**

**Idit Klein**

*In honor of the fabulous Purim Spielers!*

**Esther Kohn**

*In memory of Priva Kohn*

**Elaine Landes and David Felson**

**Alissa and Gerry Leonard**

**Corinne Lofchie and Noam Shore**

**Susan Manheim and Andrew Schiff**

*In honor of Behind the Labels*

**Cindy Marshall and Kathy Pillsbury**

**Amy Mazur**

*In memory of Marvin Mazur; in memory of Alvin Galpert; in honor of Maayan Sarit Magaziner*

**Tatjana Meschede and Daniel Krasa**

*In memory of Helen Urban*

**Eileen Morrison and Michael Jablon**

*In honor of Julia Sklar's Bat Mitzvah, Katy Jablon's Bat Mitzvah and Miranda Phillips, Teacher Extraordinaire*

**Sivan Nasoff**

*In honor of Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz for her hard work this year on our behalf*

**Carla Naumburg and Joshua Herzig-Marx**

**Gertrude Nemeth**

**Rachel Nemeth Cohen and Richard Cohen**

**Nancy Osher Blumberg**

*In honor of the CDT community*

**Sue Pearce and Cindy Probst**

**Miranda Phillips and Bobby Kleinberg**

*In honor of the spring b'nei mitzvah kids and all their hard work: Scott Piltch, Julia Sklar, Katy Jablon, Alex Rattet-Rubin and Caleb Marcus*

**Tracey Rogers and Jane Schwartz**

**Mei See Sandson**

**Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz**

*In memory of Gertz/Cohen Family friends, the Jacober and Weingeroff families*

**Judy Shapiro and Brian Nadler**

**Barbara Shatkin and Andrew Littman**

**Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome**

*In memory of Francis Greenberg; in honor of Barbara Shatkin with gratitude for her leadership on the Behind the Labels Tikkun Olam project. In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Scott Piltch and the Bat Mitzvah of Julia Sklar; in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Katy Jablon; in honor of Miranda Phillips for her dedication to keeping our Dorshei Tzedek youth leyning torah! Thank you for organizing a beautiful Youth Service!*

**Carol Sklar**

*In honor of Katy Jablon's Bat Mitzvah, Julia Sklar's Bat Mitzvah, Miranda Phillip's excellent teaching, unending patience and Bat Mitzvah support; Cindy Shulak-Rome's hard work and dedication to our school and genuine appreciation of the children; Rabbi Sapsowitz's help in preparing Julia's d'var torah; Steffi Aronson Karp for her help in creating my tallit.*

**Carole Slipowitz and Dan Halbert**

**Ann Spanel**

*In honor of Barbara Shatkin and all the bringers to life of the wonderful Behind the Labels event*

**Emily Sper**

**Ilene Spiro and Ira Schor**

*In honor of our daughter Jamie's successful surgery*

**Erica Streit-Kaplan and James Kaplan**

**Angela and Dorea Vierling-Claassen**

**Debbie Waber**

*In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of CDT and in honor of the founders*

**Marcia Wasserman**

**Linda Weiss Katz and Peter Katz**

**Michael White**

*In honor of my sister and brother-in-law Shari and Gregg Harris for all they do*

**Shari Zimble and Mark Paley**

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

**Women in Development of Greater Boston**

*In honor of Sheree Galpert*

**School Fund**

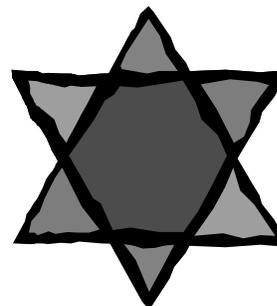
**Cindy Marshall and Kathy Pillsbury**

**Lisa Samelson and Paul Hattis**

*In honor of Barbara Shatkin (and family) for her outstanding efforts in Behind the Labels*

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.



## JRF News

### Reconstructionist Omer Initiative



Beginning on the eve of the second day of Pesach, we are instructed by our tradition to count the days of the “omer” —the barley sheaf—until the fiftieth day, which is when the first barley crop would be harvested. It is also

the Jewish holiday of Shavuot when, the rabbis tell us, we received Torah at Mt. Sinai. Reading *Pirke Avot* (Ethics of our Ancestors)—the most popular and accessible part of the Talmud—is also a traditional part of these seven weeks.

This year, Shavuot also corresponds with the 50th birthday of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. To celebrate our 50th birthday, JRF invites our entire movement to study *Pirke Avot* together. Each week three *mishnayot* (sections) from one *perek* (chapter) of *Pirke Avot* will be studied, along with commentary and study questions.

We ask you to react to the Mishnah and the commentary by creating your own pieces. These can be in the form of prose, poetry, or artwork ... whatever moves you. At the end of the *omer* period, we will have created a new resource together, “A Reconstructionist Commentary on *Pirke Avot*.”

JRF has created a email list that will be the forum in which we collect all of your voices, thoughts and wisdom. Sign up at [www2.jrf.org/cong/disc-cong.php](http://www2.jrf.org/cong/disc-cong.php). We will have the complete text of *Pirke Avot* and the commentary on the web each week for your study. Let's arrive together at Sinai, this year with all of our voices!

### Camp JRF

Camp JRF is looking for a few more fourth and fifth graders to round out our *Ilanot* program. Located at Camp Henry Horner in Ingleside, Illinois, Camp JRF is the first Reconstructionist summer overnight camp. During our 22-day session, campers have the opportunity to participate in exciting camp activities such as swimming, sports, singing, art projects, and enjoying nature and the outdoors. What makes Camp JRF different is that we infuse all of these moments with a sense of Judaism and community that is unmatched at any other camp. Campers learn how easy and fun it can be to incorporate being Jewish into daily life while making friendships that will last them a lifetime.

As a further incentive, the first fifteen campers to register for *Ilanot* who mention this article will receive \$180 towards tuition. In addition, our goal is for every child to have a

## Adult Education

### Shabbat Morning Torah Study

May 7, June 4 at 8:45 am

60 Highland Street in the Library

The early bird gets the wisdom! Once a month we will study 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!

### Dreaming Through a Jewish Lens

with Linda Schiller

Sunday, May 15, 10 am-12:30 pm

60 Highland Street

Members free, Non-members \$10

In Jewish tradition, Torah, Talmud, and Midrash all make reference to dreams and dreamwork. We will examine some of these Jewish sources, as well as learn a multi-layered method of understanding and working with dreams based on the four part method of Torah study in Kabbalistic tradition. Our intriguing night language of the soul can be tapped both to deepen our understanding and connection of self, spirit, and healing, and to enjoy the fun of the “aha” when we figure something out. Please bring a recent, prior, or repeating dream that you would like to work on if possible. Linda Schiller is a member of our congregation with experience she'd love to share with us. She has worked as a psychotherapist, has studied and taught dreamwork for the past twenty years, and has been a member of her own dream circle for the last eighteen years.

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chance to come to camp regardless of the family's financial situation, and we still have scholarship money available on an as needed basis.

We still have space for campers of all ages. For more information on any of our programs, or to request a brochure and application form, please give us a call at 877-CAMP-JRF or send us an email at [info@campjrf.org](mailto:info@campjrf.org). You can also find information about Camp JRF on our website, [www.campjrf.org](http://www.campjrf.org). We are going to have an amazing summer this season at Camp JRF, and we would love for your family to join us!



# May Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Sun May 1	10:30 am - 12 pm	<b>New Member Orientation</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 11)
Thu May 5	7 pm	<b>Yom HaShoah / Holocaust Memorial Day Service, with Edgar Krasa</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 5)
Fri May 6	6 pm - 7 pm	<b>Erev Shabbat Family Service</b> (see page 3)	Ruth Paris & Rob Saper, Carrie & Michael Jasper
Fri May 6	7 pm - 8:30 pm	Kitah Dalet Siyyum / Class Dinner	60 Highland Street: Fellowship Hall
Sat May 7	8:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b>	60 Highland St: Library (see page 8)
Sat May 7	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Sherry Katz & Mark Farber Jamie Tessler & Peter Shapiro Lissy Medvedow & Cliff Cohen
Sat May 7	10:30 am - 11 am	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>	60 Highland St: Room 112 (see page 3)
Sat May 7	10:45 am - 12 pm	<b>Junior Congregation</b>	60 Highland St: Room 111 (see page 3)
Sat May 7	1:30 pm - 3 pm	<b>What We Lost When We Lost the Cantor with Hankus Netsky</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 3)
Sat May 7	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Kitah Gimmel Siyyum	FUSN: Headstart / Kitchen
Sun May 8	5 pm - 6 pm	<b>Refua v' Nechama - Service of Healing and Comfort: By Rabbi Marna</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 5)
Mon May 9	7:30 pm - 9 pm	<b>Women's Rosh Chodesh Celebration</b>	Home of Steffi Aronson Karp (see page 5)
Tue May 10	3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	No Classes — Staff Meeting	
Tue May 10	6:15 pm	Kitah Zayin - Regular class	
Sat May 14	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bar Mitzvah of Alex Rubin-Rattet</b> (see page 4)	Elena Eisman & Steve Strassberg, Angela Vierling & Dorea Claassen, Jennifer Hochschild & Tony Broh, Sanctuary Cleanup: Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury, Tatjana Meschede & Daniel Krasa
Sun May 15	10 am - 12:30 pm	<b>Adult Ed: Dreaming Through a Jewish Lens, with Linda Schiller</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 8)
Sun May 15	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Family Program #8 - Final session	FUSN
Sun May 15	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Members-Only Event: 60 Highland St: Parlor
Fri May 20	8 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Adult Erev Shabbat Service</b>	Julie Weiman, Rick Glassman Kiddush will be upstairs in our sanctuary. (see page 3)
Sat May 21	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bar Mitzvah of Caleb Marcus</b> (see page 4)	Jacqui Fleischman, Lisa Schneier, Susannah & Stephen Zisk, Sanctuary Cleanup: Ricky & Rob Greenly, Sheree Galpert
Sat May 21	10 am - 12 pm	Aleph & Bet Last Class	FUSN
Sun May 22	7:15 pm	<b>Members Meeting</b> (see page 3)	Members-Only Event Ora Grodsky & Jonathan Rosenthal, Barbara Shatkin & Andrew Littman 60 Highland St: Our Sanctuary
Sat May 28 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Linda & Peter Katz, Alissa & Gerry Leonard, Tania Mireles & William Shorr
Tue May 31		Final Class for Kitot Gimmel - Zayin	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.



# June Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush / Notes
Thu Jun 2	7 pm	<b>Prospective Member Open House for Congregation Dorshei Tzedek and our Religious School</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 11)
Fri Jun 3	6 pm - 7 pm	<b>Erev Shabbat Family Service</b>	Carole Slipowitz, Lauren Gibbs (see page 3)
Sat Jun 4	8:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study</b>	60 Highland St: Library (see page 8)
Sat Jun 4	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jill Volk, Jennifer Levine, Steve Siegel
Sat Jun 4	8 pm - 10:30 pm	<b>Bat Mitzvah of Dorshei Tzedek</b>	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland St: Fellowship Hall (see page 4)
Wed Jun 8	5:45 pm - 6:45 pm	<b>Refua v' Nechama - Service of Healing and Comfort: By Rabbi Marna</b>	60 Highland St: Sanctuary (see page 5)
Sat Jun 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bat Mitzvah if Amelia Lieberman</b>	Amelia Zalzman , Willa & Tom Kuh, Jodi & Alex Sugerman-Brozan <i>Sanctuary Cleanup:</i> Rebecca Gutman, Dan Rome
Sat Jun 18 *	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	JoAnn Share & Rochelle Weichman Tracy Rogers & Jane Schwartz Judith Wine & Aileen Cronin
Sun Jun 19	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland St: Sanctuary
Sat Jun 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Shoshana Simons Valerie Graf & Doran Gan Linda Schiller & Steve Robins

**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 [rabi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabi@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.

**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](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. contact **James Kaplan** at 617.393.0216 or [jameskaplan@hotmail.com](mailto: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](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)

## Prospective Member Open House

June 2, 7 pm

60 Highland Street



Tell your friends! Invite your colleagues! Spread the word! Membership Outreach and Inreach, along with the Religious School, are hosting a Prospective Member Open House on June 2. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals and families to learn more about our wonderful community—including our fabulous religious school. We know that most new households join because of a personal connection to CDT—through friends, neighbors, and colleagues. We need your help in getting the word out! If you know of households who might be interested in learning about our Religious School and Congregation, this is the perfect invitation for them. If you're in the mood, offer to accompany them!

For more information, contact Carla Naumburg, Membership Outreach Chair: outreach@dorsheitzedek.org, or call us at 617-965-0330.

### A Survey: Why Do Jews Choose To Become Reconstructionists?



What attracts individuals to the movement, and in what ways, if any, have their religious practices changed since they became Reconstructionists? This is the focus of research being conducted by Susan Prager, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Brooklyn College, and she needs your input. If you would be willing to complete a questionnaire or be interviewed, each requiring about 20–25 minutes, please contact Professor Prager in the Dept of Sociology, at 917-545-2178, or profprager@aol.com. We're hoping that 20–25% of our congregation will be willing to participate in the study; other member congregations of JRF are also being solicited.

All respondents are assured anonymity and the option of skipping questions they choose not to answer. Any material identifying participants will be destroyed and individual congregations will not be identified. The study has been approved by Human Subjects Review at Brooklyn College.

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### Condolences

To Sheree Galpert on the death of her father, Alvin Howard Galpert, grandfather to Aviva, Ilana, and Adlai. May his memory be for a blessing.



### Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Sapsowitz** (617.965.0330) or **Annie Spanel** (617-547-1533, or tuurtle2@aol.com).

Who is graduating in your household? Any other important milestones or achievements? 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.

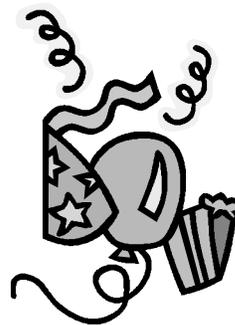
For congregants experiencing financial difficulties, help is available through the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. This fund is administered solely by the rabbi and is completely confidential. If you are in need of assistance, please call Rabbi Sapsowitz at 617.965.0330 x2.

### 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.

### Help Wanted

#### Membership Inreach Committee



Come help with the June 4 Bat Mitzvah party (scheduled for 8 – 10:30 pm) celebrating CDT's 13th year. Contact Judy Hersh at judyhersh@comcast.net or 617-332-2487 if you want to help out by being a party planner, *schlepper*, set-up, or clean up person. Many hands make light work!

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek  
60 Highland Street  
West Newton, MA 02465

## Tikkun Olam

### Petition on the Crisis in Sudan

*Stan Fleischman, stanf@rcn.com*

In response to the ongoing genocidal campaign in Darfur, including the deaths of more than 200,000 people, the displacement of nearly two million people, the continued presence of government armed and supported *janjaweed* militias, and the persistence of *janjaweed* and Government of Sudan attacks on villages in Darfur, together with the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, we urge you to sign the American Jewish World Service petition found at <http://action.ajws.org/action/index.asp?step=2&item=20171>, and to also consider contributing to AJWS Sudan Emergency Appeal. The petition collects signatures and sends a letter to Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, along with copies to Kofi Annan, President George W. Bush, US Ambassador to the UN Anne Patterson, White House Liaison to the Jewish Community Noam Neusner, and your US senators and representatives.

The petition urges the international community to force the government of Sudan to end its genocidal campaign, punish those responsible, and ensure the safe and voluntary return of those who have been displaced. Jews remember all too well the consequences of global indifference. Following the Holocaust and the Rwandan genocide, we said, "never again." In Darfur, we cannot stand idly by.

### Donation Made to Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity

\$ 883 was donated to the Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity (BCWS) by the students of CDT's religious school. This money was raised at the Behind the Labels Event, and came from the students' craft sale, the Fair Trade Raffle, the congregants' services raffle, admission tickets, and the sale of snacks donated by Judy Hersh. In addition, a humongous quantity of pennies was donated by Cindy Bittker towards the BCWS donation.

The BCWS was founded in 2000 in Dhaka, Bangladesh by a group of women who had unsuccessfully tried to form a garment workers union. BCWS is an NGO that serves to empower women mainly working in Bangladesh's garment industry. It teaches literacy and offers free legal help, child care, access to primary health care clinics, and emergency housing. BCWS helps workers to develop collective action strategies to win the basic labor rights contained in Bangladesh's more than adequate, but seldom-enforced labor code.

