

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
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Iyar-Tammuz 5767

June 2007



A Strategic Plan

Marc Steinberg, president@dorsheitzedek.org

By now, I imagine that most of you are aware that the Board has spent the past two years developing a strategic plan. As promised last year, the Board presented its initial draft of the plan at the spring members' meeting. There was some good discussion, there were some thoughtful questions asked, and I'm pleased to report that the final version of the strategic plan will be presented at the June members' meeting for adoption by the membership. I know that many of you could not be at the spring meeting, so I'm going to use the remainder of this column to discuss the "big themes" which have emerged. (The full plan will contain more detail than I have space to present here, but hopefully this overview will help frame the general outline of our goals for the next few years.)

We have identified seven overall goals:

1. Embrace growth! Grow to 200 households in three years. We chose this number because we felt that at this size, we would be most likely to find equilibrium between financial need and our current available resources (both staff and space) and to be able to complete the transition to a small program-size congregation. (To grow much beyond this point, we would need to be prepared to move to a significantly larger space, retain much more paid staff, and of course shoulder the additional expenses that would go along with a much larger size.) We think that for the upcoming three to five years, growth to 200 households is feasible, reasonable, and prudent. We plan to target growth both through aggressive marketing and through in-reach efforts to help post-b'nei mitzvah families maintain a long-term connection to the community.

2. Define our identity as a congregation and communicate it effectively, both externally and internally. Achieving this goal is important both because it will help us solidify our covenantal identity and because it will help us present a clear picture to prospective members. We expect to address this goal in part by focusing significant leadership effort next year on marketing and publicity, and we have

already begun the work of building a group that will help the Board move in this direction.

3. Foster a culture of giving: nediv lev is the only long-term solution to our financial challenges. In keeping with the membership's stated values, we will retain our existing dues structure, which in turn means that we will continue to rely on nediv lev to fund a significant portion of our annual operating expenses. As the current Nediv Lev Chair Peter Hess so eloquently put it earlier this year, nediv lev is optional but essential. No matter what household size we target, we cannot survive without also continuing to build a culture of giving.

4. Purposefully search for better space. Those of you who are unhappy with the High Holydays in the Schechter gymnasium, rejoice! We are currently finalizing a move away from Schechter to a new location: the Gann Academy in Waltham. In addition, starting next year the Space Committee will begin actively researching space options in advance of our lease expirations at the Second Church and FUSN.

5. Understand and articulate our goals as a community of learners. There are many fairly specific strategic goals in the area of community education which I won't discuss here, but I do want to note that the overall goal we've identified is that we need to engage in a separate process dedicated to examining the school curriculum, adult education, and community education, and we need to come up

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with a clear and achievable vision for integrating these disparate pieces into a coherent, values-based set of programming. The Board is planning to engage in and support this process next winter.

6. Create a "sukkat shalom" for our members, defining our spiritual needs and creating practices to meet them. Our members are looking to the Dorshei Tzedek community for help with finding balance in their lives, bringing their values into line with their practices, and simplifying their lives. I'm hoping that the "Committee Formerly Known as Ritual" (Nu? They need a new name already! Do we need to hold a contest?) will help us come together as a community to address these issues.

7. Nurture leadership throughout the congregation. We would all benefit from a steadier influx of new leaders, and we need to take additional steps to encourage leadership development as well as foster initiative and creativity. We also need to strengthen our succession planning and documentation. Towards this end, next year's Board will take a comprehensive look at our current committee structure and will make a concerted effort to create a set of up-to-date, accurate documentation that will make future leadership transition easier.

I want to close with some words of gratitude. We owe a tremendous debt to Laurie Gould, without whom we would have spent a great deal more energy and been a lot less productive. Thanks in large part to Laurie, we have a plan! I also want to recognize the various group leaders who worked so hard to gather and interpret the information that has gone into the plan: Mark Farber, Susannah Zisk, Cheryl Sacks, Diana Fisher-Gomberg, Steve Siegel, Stuart Snyder, Jeff Kichen, Tessa Goldsmith, Audra Karp, and Debbie Waber – yasher koach and mazel tov to you all on a job exceedingly well-done. I'm looking forward to moving from the information-gathering phase to the implementation phase. There's obviously a lot of interesting and exciting work to be done, and I'm honored to be around for another year as President to help get things started.

Contacting Rabbi Toba: Rabbi Toba 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 rabbid@dorsheitzedek.org or 617.965.0330 x2. If she is unavailable, there will be a rabbi on-call in case of emergency. The rabbi's voice-mail will have information on how to reach the on-call rabbi.

Members' Meeting

June 10, 60 Highland Street

7 pm meeting

Dessert and shmooze after meeting, end about 9:15

At our final Members' Meeting of 5767, we have some important business to attend to, so we hope all of our member households can send at least one member. In addition to voting on next year's budget, honoring those who serve on our Board and electing the new Board, we will be discussing and voting to adopt the strategic plan, which has been in process over the past two years. We look forward to seeing you there!

Board Meeting Notes

Dan Halbert, halbert@halwitz.org

February 25 Board Meeting: The meeting started with brief finance and nediv lev updates, and an update on the Beit Olam cemetery expansion. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by the Islamic Society of Boston.

March 18: This meeting was devoted almost entirely to detailed reports by each of the strategic planning groups and subsequent discussion.

April 11: Budget spending is on track, and nediv lev is underway. Membership reports that our growth is flat this year. The auction netted about \$6000, about the same as last year. We discussed issues with b'nei mitzvah kiddushes. We are investigating alternatives for High Holyday space. Some possible themes for congregational focus next year were discussed. The board reviewed the strategic planning presentation for the upcoming members' meeting.

May 20: Our budget spending continues to be on track. This meeting was largely devoted to developing the implementation plan that is one of the major products of our strategic planning process. The plan will be presented for approval at the June Members' Meeting.

Shabbat Programs

Unless noted otherwise, all Shabbat programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.

All-ages Erev Shabbat Services

June 8, 6p m: candle-lighting and dinner, 6:45 pm: Shabbat service

We'll gather for our usual potluck vegetarian dinner, beginning with **candle-lighting at 6 pm**, followed by a musical, all-ages erev Shabbat service **at 6:45 pm**. Please bring a vegetarian/fish main dish or salad to share (enough for 10 – 12 people).

June 2 Retreat – No Shabbat Morning Service at CDT

Because we will be on retreat this weekend, there is no Shabbat morning service on June 2 at 60 Highland Street.

Writings for Erev Shabbat from Kitah Dalet

On May 4, our Kitah Dalet (4th grade) co-led the erev Shabbat service with Rabbi Toba, sharing the prayers they've learned this year with the congregation. A number of the students also shared some writing they've done this year on the themes of Shabbat and the Shabbat service. Here are some of those writings—enjoy! (Editor's note: The writings are "as is" from the children; no adult editing.)

Shabbat Haikus

Family is comfort
Blessings are calm and peaceful
Happy family time Shabbat

—Sara Schiller-Robins

Flickering candles
Warming God's soul with peace
Full of happiness

—Abigail Leonard

The Night Sky (*Ma'ariv Aravim*)

Sarah Arnold

A breeze caresses the long grasses. An owl hoots asking a question that only God can answer. The moon's pale face glares at the earth like she was a spoiled child denied a pleasure. The black sky seems endless and you feel tiny

in comparison. The stars are plentiful but still only dot the midnight horizon. I feel no mortal could ever begin to count the stars, but if one ever did, they would be unfeeling. One does not count beauty. I wonder what they feel like twinkling on the black expanse they call home staring down at earth for millions of years. God has blessed the night sky.

Standing at Sinai (*Ahavat Olam – Shema*)

Charlotte Robbins

I am standing at Sinai and I feel the cool mist of the trembling trees. The sky is as bright a blue with streaks of lightning falling over it. I feel peaceful and excited just like reading a really good book. I think "does Adonai not want us to see Adonai" but suddenly I hear a strong voice clearly from the heavens. All the Israelites hear this differently but deep down we all know Adonai is One.

Crossing from Slavery to Freedom (*Mi Camocha*)

Zachary Pittel

As we crossed the dry soft, beach, Pharaoh's army in back and the sea in front, Moses lifted his staff and the sea parted and we crossed. We felt a tingle in our spines, not of fear, but of happiness and joy. As we got closer to the end of the sea, the feeling grew stronger and as we got closer we felt better about what was happening. We finally felt free.

Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca May Forman

We hope you will celebrate with us as our daughter and sister Rebecca Forman is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on **June 9**, *Shabbat Shelach l'cha*. Rebecca joined Dorshei Tzedek when she was only weeks old, and is currently a seventh grade honor student at Wellesley Middle School. She is a passionate athlete who plays soccer year-round, as well as softball and squash. Rebecca is also a percussionist and school band member. Rebecca traveled to New Orleans last December, witnessed first-hand the continued devastation, and for her *tikkun olam* project decided to partner with and collect school supplies for a New Orleans K-8 school which only just re-opened a few weeks ago. She is looking forward to starting the Prozdor program at Hebrew College this fall. We invite you to *kvell* with us at the service and the Kiddush luncheon which follows.

—*The Northrop-Forman Family*

Bat Mitzvah of Cora Rivkah Alden Hersh

Please celebrate with us on **June 23** when Cora is called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah. Cora is a seventh grader at Wellesley Middle school. She enjoys making jewelry, pogo-sticking with no hands, working out with Dance-Dance-Revolution, hiking the Appalachian Trail, swimming with sea turtles, playing trombone and trumpet duets with her brother Isaac, and keeping in touch with both her Neo-friends and her real friends too.

For Cora's Tikkun Olam project, she organized a flea market to raise money for a local animal shelter, Stray Pets in Need, for whom she has raised money in the past. Please join us for the Shabbat service, followed by a Kiddush at Dorshei Tzedek.

—*Sarah Little and Doug Hersh*

Bat Mitzvah of Mira Netsky

Please join us on the morning of **June 30** when our daughter Mira is called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah. Mira will have just completed 7th grade at F.A. Day Middle School in Newton. Her numerous interests and activities include singing, playing piano, performing, visual arts, and caring for the world. Mira is proud to carry on her Jewish heritage through her studies at Hebrew school as well as her annual participation in *Klez Kanada* and other Jewish cultural experiences. We are looking forward to celebrating this special day with our friends, family, and community at Dorshei Tzedek. Please join us for a light Kiddush following the service.

—*Beth Brooks and Hankus Netsky*

Jewish Summer Camp Isn't Just For Kids!

There are many opportunities for adult (and family) learning and fun this summer. If finances for attending any of these programs is an issue, please contact Rabbi Toba.

"Re-Souling: Shabbat as a Day for Restoring the Soul"

July 5 – 8, 2007

Trinity Conference Center, West Cornwall, CT

Run by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, this adult retreat is an opportunity to experience a mindful Shabbat, including text study, meditation, yoga, davvening and singing. The retreat will be co-led by Reconstructionist rabbis Margot Stein and Sheila Weinberg, as well as by Rabbis Rachel Cowan and Jonathan Slater. Rabbi Toba and Cindy Shulak-Rome can both attest to the high quality of the IJS programs (not to mention the splendor of the food at this retreat center!). For more information or to register, go to www.ijs-online.org/Irjuly07final.pdf.

National Havurah Committee, 29th Summer Institute

August 6 – 12, 2007, Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, NH

Join members of participatory Jewish communities from around the country who gather each summer for a week of study, prayer, the arts, and celebrating Shabbat together. Classes are taught by a variety of rabbis, knowledgeable lay people, and an artist-in-residence. There is a full program for children and teens as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to immerse in Jewish learning and culture, and it's not far from Boston! For more information, go to www.havurah.org and click on "Summer Institute."

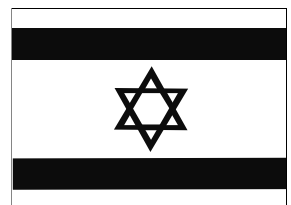
Elat Chayyim at Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center

June through August

There is a full summer of programming run by the Elat Chayyim Center for Jewish Spirituality, with workshops on everything from connecting to God, to meditation and yoga, to spirituality and politics, to environmentalism and Jewish arts, to Yiddish culture. There will also be opportunities for hiking, swimming, and celebrating Shabbat in community, and special programming for seniors, b'nei mitzvah families, and young adults. For the full catalog of courses and events, go to www.isabellafreedman.org.

Next February in Israel with CDT!

We are in the early stages of planning a congregational trip to Israel during February vacation week, 2008. Whether hiking in the mountains where our ancestors walked, meeting people from different segments of Israeli society, visiting historical sites or learning about the political situation (and, of course, shopping)—we hope to organize a trip suitable for someone who's never been as well as those who want to experience Israel in a new way. But we need to hear from you! Would you or your family be interested in such a trip? (Most likely, the trip will be limited to kids in the older elementary grades and above, with the cut-off somewhere between third to fifth grade.) If you'd be interested in going, please contact Ora Gladstone at gladstone@brandeis.edu.



Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Spitzer** (617.965.0330) or **Jackie Fleischman** of the Chesed Committee (617.332.5433 or jackief@rcn.com).

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@yahooogroups.com.

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

Refuah Sh'lemah

The community of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek sends blessings and prayers for healing, *refuah sh'lemah*, to **Zach Carson, Shari Zimble, Alex Fried, Bruce Miler, and Eileen Morrison**. May healing and comfort come to you and to those who care for you.

Condolences

To **Nancy Gertz, Michael Cohen**, and their sons **Stefan** and **Julian**, on the death of Nancy's father Junius "Babe" Gertz. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **Laurie Kahn-Leavitt**, and to **Jonathan, Anna, and Nathaniel**, on the death of Laurie's father Frank Kahn. May his memory be for a blessing.



Mazel Tov

To **Arthur Lent** and **Allison Andrews**, on the birth and *brit milah* of **Samuel Philip** (*Shimon Feivel*)!

To **Angela & Dorea Vierling-Claassen**, and to **Jodi and Alex Sugerman-Brozan**, on your new homes!

To the **Hemley-Weisberg, Silberberg-Robinson**, and **Paris-Saper families**, on **Emma, Isaac, and Maya** becoming bar/bat mitzvah!

To **Rachel Felson** and **Hadass Silver** on graduating from Prozdor Hebrew High School at Hebrew College on Sunday, June 3, 2007. Prozdor is the community Hebrew high school located at Hebrew College in Newton.

Mazel tov to our graduating high school seniors:

Dan Katz will be studying in Paraguay in the coming year and then attending Oberlin College.

Gabe Donnini will attend Ithaca College.

Jacob Farber will attend the University of Rochester.

Rachel Forman will attend Boston University.

Julia Pashall will be doing community work in Thailand next year, and then attend Pitzer College.

Sam Pashall will attend Pitzer College.

Dan Rosa will be studying political science and international relations at American University.

Jack Schiff will attend the University of Maryland.

And Mazel Tov to our college graduates and those receiving graduate degrees:

Daniel Bruckner is graduating from the University of Chicago with a degree in physics.

Elana Rome is graduating from Harvard University with a degree in psychology, and after student teaching, will be certified as a middle school math teacher.

Dorea Vierling-Claassen received her Ph.D. in Mathematics from Boston University this May.

Caren Smith graduated from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts in May with a DVM and will be doing a post doc fellowship in nutrigenomics at the Jean Mayer Nutrition Research Center at Tufts beginning in July.

Todah Rabah

Todah rabah to the following members who have recently sponsored Kiddush: **Joshua Gordon, Rebecca Gutman Hope Kellman, Tania Mireles, Peter Shapiro, Bill Shorr.**

And todah rabah to all the parents who provided Kiddush (or who were prepared to provide Kiddush) for Junior Congregation this year. Thanks to: **Alissa Leonard, Diana Fisher-Gomberg, Doug Hersh, Lauren K. Gibbs, Rachel Nemeth Cohen, Amelia Zalcman, Allison Hausman, Sandy Sedacca, Sherwood Ives, Melanie Adler and Laura Katz** who were prepared, **Alissa Leonard, Lisa Dee Port White, Amy Brodesky, and Pamela Schoenberg Reider**. And special thanks to **Lauren Gibbs** for coordinating and being emcee for the end-of-year ceremony.

Nesiyah Tova! Bon Voyage!

Gai Gezeunt! Have a great trip! We are thrilled that 3 of our DT teens, who are Passport to Israel participants, are traveling to Israel this summer.

Shoshana Paris-Saper—Habonim Dror program.

Zack Miller and **Adam Goldsmith**—both going on Eisner/NFTY program.

Have the time of your lives!

In Memory of Jill Volk



It is with great sadness that we mourn the untimely death of **Jill Volk**, a founding member of Congregation Dorshei Tzedek. Jill was the congregation's first Membership Chair, and many of our members have fond memories of Jill as the first person who reached out to them at the congregation. Jill was also involved in the creation of our school, which began as the Dorshei Tzedek Family Education Program. She served as chair of the Education Committee for a number of years, and both taught in the school and served on two Education Director search committees. Her passion for Judaism and Jewish learning has been felt in our community not only through the school, but also in the lives of individual members whose connection to Judaism was enhanced or healed by Jill's example and instruction.

There are a few initiatives in Jill's memory. **Clifford Goldsmith** has created a beautiful website to remember Jill and celebrate her life, at jillvolk.blogspot.com. On this site you can read tributes to Jill and add your own (instructions for posting a comment can be found on the website). In addition, Jill's family has designated Dorshei Tzedek as the recipient of donations in Jill's memory. At some future point we will be deciding how to dedicate these funds.

May Jill's soul find peace and repose beneath the wings of the *Shechinah*, and may all of us who mourn her death find comfort from the Source of Life and of Love.

Avital and I will never forget the help we've received from the Dorshei Tzedek community. We were treated as family by everyone—so much more than simply a "community" reaction. With the help of our Dorshei family, Avital has been supported in the great burden faced by a child in mourning her mother, and has been greatly helped in bringing honor and dignity to her mother's memory. We deeply appreciate everyone's help.

—*Steve and Avital Lewis*

Todah Rabah to all those who contributed to help with Jill Volk's *shivah minyan*:

Wendy Angus & Kelli Kirshtein

Janet Boguslaw & Howard Kaufman

Elaine Bresnick

Tessa & Clifford Goldsmith

Lisa Goodwin-Robbins

Stacey & Bruce Gore

Laurie Gould & Stephen Ansolabehere

Betsy Hinden & Karen Wasserman

Steffi & Eric Karp

Jeffrey Kichen

Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury

Amy Mazur

Elaine Pollack

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks

Laya Steinberg & Bruce Miller

CDT Members Could Stand to Lose a Few Pounds!

Deb Albenberg, debalbenberg@verizon.net

Between March and May of 2007, nine CDT households came together to go on a weight loss program. We set out to lose 5,000 pounds. Each. While sitting on the couch eating locally grown popcorn and drinking smoothies. How did we do it?

By upgrading household systems and developing low carbon habits, we reduced the amount of carbon dioxide we emit into the atmosphere each year by 54,175 pounds (6,019 pounds per household). Using the Low Carbon Diet book, we chose specific actions to take to lighten our load. We then started installing low-flow showerheads, reducing bulk mail, composting, upgrading appliances, reducing vehicle miles, and hanging laundry (among other things). We then used the metrics in the book to figure out how we did.

According to the EPA, individuals can reduce one third of household carbon emissions just through electricity use, waste production, and transportation. Results from the CDT Low Carbon Diet Initiative prove that there is a lot we can do to reduce our energy use. In our meetings, we shared information and looked at how systems could better support us in our efforts to address climate change.

I'd like to acknowledge Low Carbon Dieters' active participation and willingness to make an honest assessment of our environmental impacts. While 5% of CDT households joined in this pilot, we are now ready to increase our efforts. If we organize 4 more CDT Low Carbon Diet teams consisting of five to eight households (children, pets, and overnight guests may be included), our congregation could drop 270,000 pounds. This is the equivalent of taking 20 cars off the road for one year! Many CDT members have expressed interest in joining us, so now is your chance. Take the Low Carbon Diet challenge to Curb Your Carbon. The team that loses the most weight will receive a much coveted, CDT Green Cup, hand-crafted from recycled materials. For information on coordinating or joining a group, contact me at the above email address or 617.522.8383.

Or, contact your fellow dieters: **Becca Gutman, Daniel Krasa, Elizabeth Ross, Ayala Galton, Doug Hersh, Caren Smith, Sarah Little, Rick Glassman, Audra Karp, Ann Spanel, Clifford Goldsmith**

Nediv Lev General Fund

(including donations to the Nediv Lev campaign)

Heather Angus

From the Angus family in honor of Zoe Miller's Bat Mitzvah and with deep appreciation for her kindness and compassion to Harriet Angus

Amy Berman & Alex Donnini

In memory of Jill Volk

Roberta & Paul Carson

Stacey Chacker

In memory of Frederic Chacker & Jill Volk

Karen Engels

Marjorie Feld & Michael Fein

Carolyn Fine & Jeremiah Friedman

We are grateful to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek for the educating and bat mitzvah-ing of all three of our daughters

Sheree Galpert & Peter Hess

In celebration of Amy Mazur's birthday; in honor of the birth of Samuel Lent

Nancy Gertz & Michael Cohen

In loving memory of Jill Volk; in honor of Marc Steinberg's first year as President of CDT; in honor of Laurie Gould's leadership of our Strategic Planning initiative; in honor of Elana Rome's college graduation; in honor of Ewa Maniawski Tuschman's first year as Education Director

Peter Gittleman

Phyllis & Alvin Glazerman

Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb

Jan Gortler

Inge & Robert Gould

Beth & Jeffrey Green

Barbara Huggins

Linda Hsu & Marc Steinberg

Laura & Jonathan Kahn-Leavitt

Steffi & Eric Karp

In honor of Rabbi Toba's 10 years at Dorshei

Marcie & Kevin Karty

Linda & Peter Katz

In memory of Saul Weiss

Idit Klein

Alissa & Gerald Leonard

In honor of Ewa Tuschman; in honor of Annette Lawson's great year with Kitah Dalet

Jennifer Levine-Fried & Matthew Fried

Amy Mazur

In honor of Zoe Miller's bat mitzvah

Amy Mazur

In memory of Marvin Mazur

Eileen Morrison & Michael Jablon

In memory of David & Dorothy Jablon

Gertrude Nemeth

In memory of Leonard Nemeth

Hanna, Zeev, & Ella Palmon

*Thank you for the warm welcome whenever
we attend services!*

Ruth Paris & Rob Saper

*In honor of Eileen Saper & Dorothy Paris; in memory
of Jill Volk*

Debra Rattet & Leslie Rubin

In memory of George Gorberg and Jill Volk

Liz Reisberg

Linda Schiller & Steve Robins

In memory of Bud Krohn & Myron Robins

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks

Jo Ann Share & Rochelle Weichman

Debbie Sher

In memory of Sid Shapiro

Jodie Siegel & Susan Bernstein

Emily Sper

In memory of Jill Volk

Toba Spitzer & Gina Fried

*In memory of Jill Volk; in honor of Marc Steinberg and the CDT
Board; in honor of Zoe Miller's bat mitzvah*

Laya Steinberg & Bruce Miller

*With gratitude to Rabbi Toba, Cindy Rome, Hillary Pinsker, and
the whole congregation for making Marina's
Bat Mitzvah a memorable simcha*

Jeane Ungerleider & William Stone

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Nina & Sophie Friedman

Barbara & Jerry Zolit

In memory of Eleanor Zolit

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Janet Boguslaw & Howard Kaufman

In memory of Jill Volk

Thea Breite & Susan Moser

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Zoe Miller

Elaine Bresnick

In memory of Jill Volk

Carolyn Fine & Jeremiah Friedman

*In appreciation of Rabbi Toba for bringing wonderful energy to
Nina & Sophie's b'nei mitzvah*

Tessa & Clifford Goldsmith

In memory of Jill Volk

Lisa Goodwin-Robbins

In memory of Jill Volk

Stacey & Bruce Gore

In memory of Jill Volk

Laurie Gould & Steve Ansolabehere

In memory of Jill Volk

Betsy Hinden & Karen Wasserman

In memory of Jill Volk

Steffi & Eric Karp

In memory of Jill Volk

Jeff Kichen

In memory of Jill Volk

Marla Lichtman & Larry Johnston

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Zoe Miller

Elaine Pollack

In loving memory of Jill Volk

Debra Rattet & Leslie Rubin

In honor of Rabbi Toba

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks

In memory of Jill Volk

School Fund

Sheree Galpert & Peter Hess

In memory of Jill Volk

There are many ways to financially support Congregation Dorshei Tzedek: through contributions to the General Fund, or to targeted funds such as the School or the Holy Book Funds. Donations can also be made to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. This fund is not part of the congregation's operating expenses and is administered solely by the rabbi. Monies in this fund are used for tzedakah in the greater community, for special needs of the congregation (e.g., to buy books or help pay for an adult education program), and, most importantly, to help out congregants in need. These additional contributions should also be made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, but marked as intended for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

Nediv Lev Update

Peter Hess, phess@mit.edu

Dear Chaverim (friends),

Before proceeding to the Nediv Lev update, here's a little fund-raising humor (it's OK to skip it if you're in that much of a hurry to get down to business):

A doctor, a lawyer and a fund-raiser arrive in heaven and stand before the throne of God. They are told that they each may request one thing to take with them into the afterlife. The doctor is first, and she asks, for a million dollars. With a clap of thunder, it is done, and she strolls into the heavenly mists. Her example is not lost on the lawyer, who asks for two million dollars. A bolt of lightning, the request is granted, and the lawyer proceeds down the golden path. Finally, it is the fund-raiser's turn. An awesome voice commands her to state her request. The fund-raiser moves up close to the throne of the Almighty, and asks in her most reverent tones, "O Merciful One, if it is not too much trouble, could I just have the names of those two people who were ahead of me in line?" We fund-raisers know our priorities

Now the update as promised: to date we have raised \$46,000, leaving us \$26,000 to raise to reach our Nediv Lev goal of \$72,000. We are very pleased with the progress we've made toward the goal thus far, and are hoping to close in on it by the end of the month. If you are among the many who have already donated or pledged, please accept our very heartfelt thanks. If you haven't donated or pledged yet, it is our hope that we hear from you soon.

Here's how to make your pledge or donation:

1. Complete the pledge card you received in the mail and send it to the Dorshei Tzedek office at 60 Highland St, West Newton, MA 02465
2. Pledge on line at www.dorsheitzedek.org by clicking the "Pledge Now" button at the top. Fill out the very short on-line form (no password necessary), and we will bill you.
3. Just mail a check to the CDT office with "Nediv Lev" in the memo line.

Thank you again for your support of this vital fund-raising effort. With great appreciation, your obedient fund-raiser.

CDT Joins Amazon Associates Program

Dorshei Tzedek is now enrolled in the Amazon.com Associates program: for every purchase members make through Amazon.com, CDT will receive at least a 4% commission at no additional cost to you!

To make sure that your purchase results in a donation to CDT, **do not go directly to the Amazon.com website.** Instead, click the Amazon.com graphic in the "What's New" section on the CDT home page (www.dorsheitzedek.org).



June / July / August



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Fri Jun 1		Retreat - June 1 - June 3	<i>Members-Only Event</i> ; Camp Ramah
Wed Jun 6	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Judaism & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Thu Jun 7	8 am - 9 am	Letting God In: Study & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Fri Jun 8	6 pm	All-ages Erev Shabbat Service & Potluck	Michael White, Ally Cherkasky, Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis (<i>see page 3</i>)
Sat Jun 9	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Forman	<i>Sanctuary Clean Up</i> : Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow; <i>Set-up</i> : Susan Manheim & Andrew Schiff, Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen, Laurie Kahn-Leavitt; <i>Clean-up</i> : Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb, Laurie & Jonathan Kahn-Leavitt, Peter Gittleman (<i>see page 4</i>)
Sun Jun 10	7 pm - 9:15 pm	Members' Meeting	Louise Enoch, Susan Nitkin <i>Members-Only Event (see page 2)</i> <i>Board Members and a representative from every member family are requested to attend</i>
Wed Jun 13	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Judaism & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Thu Jun 14	8 am - 9 am	Letting God In: Study & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Sat Jun 16	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Alissa & Gerry Leonard, Andy Diamond, Susannah & Stephen Zisk (<i>Rabbi Toba off</i>)
Wed Jun 20	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Judaism & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Thu Jun 21	8 am - 9 am	Letting God In: Study & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Sat Jun 23	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Cora Hersh	<i>Sanctuary Clean Up</i> : Abby Cohen & Stuart Snyder; <i>Set-up</i> : Toni Rosenberg, Sandra Sedacca & Sherwood Ives, Sheree Galpert, Abby Cohen & Stuart Snyder, Steve Siegel; <i>Clean-up</i> : Annie Weiss & David Cash, Susan Manheim & Andrew Schiff, Howard Lurie (<i>see page 4</i>)
Sun Jun 24	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i>
Wed Jun 27	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Judaism & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Thu Jun 28	8 am - 9 am	Letting God In: Study & Practice with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland St: Library
Sat Jun 30	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Mira Netsky	<i>Sanctuary Clean Up</i> : Laurie Gould & Stephen Ansolabehere; <i>Set-up</i> : Rachel Greenberg, Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury, Amelia Zalzman, Ilene Morrison; <i>Clean-up</i> : Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen, Sheree Galpert & Peter Hess (<i>see page 4</i>)
Sat Jul 14	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	
Sat Jul 28	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	
Fri Aug 10	6 pm - 6:45 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck	
Sat Aug 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	
Sat Aug 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	

Kiddush Note: The complete kiddush and holiday assignment schedule is available in the members' calendar on our website. When notified of your dates, please be sure to put them into your personal calendars. The whole congregation counts on your participation in kiddush and each assigned person is needed and expected to show up.

Parents of students in 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th grades, who help out with B'nei Mitzvah kiddush, ushering and sanctuary clean-up, can find their names listed on B'nei Mitzvah dates only. Thanks for your help!—
Marla Lichtman, Administrator

Events and services are held at The Second Church, 60 Highland Street, West Newton, unless otherwise noted. During Rabbi Toba's weekends 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. **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.

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

Dorshei Tzedek Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs

Executive Committee	President: Marc Steinberg
	Past-President: Nancy Gertz
	VP Strategic Planning: Laurie Gould
	VP Membership: Andrew Schiff
	VP Finance: Mark Farber
Board Chairs	Secretary: Dan Halbert
	Adult Education: Jeff Kichen
	Finance Secretary: Sivan Nasoff
	Kehillah (in-reach): Diana Fisher-Gomberg
	Membership. Outreach: Susannah Zisk
	Member-at-large: Betsy Hinden
	Member-at-large: James Kaplan
	Nediv Lev: Peter Hess
	Newsletter: Dan Halbert
	Ritual: Debbie Waber / Audra Karp
	Space: Stuart Snyder / Steve Siegel
	Tikkun Olam: Esther Kohn
Off-Board Chairs	Chesed: Jackie Fleischman
	Rabbinic Liaison: Ora Gladstone
	Personnel: Peter Katz
	Website: Stan Fleischman
	High Holy Days: Theresa St-John Siegel
	School Liaison: Pamela Schoenberg Reider

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.