

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465 617-965-0330
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Elul-Tishrei 5767

September 2007



An Elul Reflection

Rabbi Toba Spitzer, rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org

Elul, the month leading up to the new Jewish year and the holiday of Rosh Hashanah, began this year on August 15th. Traditionally, Elul is seen as a four-week period of preparation for the work of reflection, repentance, and resolve that we engage in during the *Aseret Yamei Teshuvah*, the Ten Days of (Re)Turning that extend from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur. If you think of those ten days as a sort of spiritual marathon, a time in which we make efforts towards redirecting our lives in ways that are healthy and positive, then the month of Elul could be considered the training period.

The Hebrew letters that spell “Elul”—*alef, lamed, vav, lamed*—have been read as an acronym for a famous line from the Song of Songs, “*Ani l’dodi v’dodi li*”—“I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine.” This verse has traditionally been interpreted as describing the relationship between God and the Jewish people, with God as the “beloved.” In this understanding, Elul becomes the month when the Jewish people and God turn towards one another in loving relationship. Elul is a time when the Source of Life, the Source of Forgiveness, is accessible to us in a special way.

How can we understand this metaphor as Reconstructionists? If we understand God/liness not necessarily as a Being or Person, but as a Power or organizing force that underlies all reality, then perhaps the meaning of “Elul” has to do with our own willingness to be received in love, to forgive ourselves and others in a spirit of compassion. The Power that is accessible to us at this time (and, truly, at all times) is one that invites us to turn towards our innermost selves with kindness and love. During the Ten Days of Repentance we will be asked to do the hard work of examining our thoughts and deeds from this past year, with the intention of doing better in the new year. The spirit of “*ani l’dodi v’dodi li*” teaches that we are not asked to judge ourselves or others harshly in this process. Quite the opposite. We are to imagine this process as a movement in a relationship of love—a “turning towards” that implies ac-

ceptance and care. If we truly love someone we are able to accept them as they are, even as we help them find ways to become their best selves. We are called to turn towards ourselves in this same spirit during Elul: to be honest in our self-assessment, to accept who we are, and to explore new paths towards healing and transformation from a place of compassion, not harsh judgment. Similarly, we are called to turn towards those around us in the same spirit, asking for forgiveness where necessary, or extending forgiveness if we are able.

Loving another person is not a simple or easy task; neither is loving ourselves in this way. It is easy to feel overwhelmed when confronting both our own shortcomings and those of the world around us; the temptations of despair and cynicism are often difficult to resist. As a kind of antidote to that malaise, *ani l’dodi v’dodi li* is a reminder of the transformative power of the qualities of compassion and lovingkindness. All we need to do is take one step towards the “Beloved”—towards the Source of compassion, towards others in the world, towards ourselves—and we will be supported and guided on our journey towards wholeness and peace.

May the new year, 5768, hold many good things in store for our community and for everyone of us, and may we each approach the work of *teshuvah* with full and open hearts. *L’shanah tovah tikkateyvu*, may you be inscribed for a good and sweet year!

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Rabbinic Interns

We are blessed this year to be joined by two rabbinic interns, who will start working with us after the High Holydays.

Minna Bromberg is a third-year student at the rabbinical school of Boston's Hebrew College. She has been working as a bar/bat mitzvah tutor with us for the past year, and will be joining us for approximately 5-6 hours a week to help with various ritual, educational, and other activities. Minna has a Ph.D. in Sociology from Northwestern University, and her graduate work focused on the experiences of interfaith (Jewish-Christian) couples. She is an accomplished musician, has worked in a variety of congregations as a cantorial soloist, and is certified as a teacher of Jewish meditation. We hope you'll get to meet her soon!

Michael Ramberg is a second-year student at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, PA. He will be joining us monthly to help support the work of our Tikkun Olam Committee, and to deepen his practice and knowledge of congregation-based community organizing. This internship is sponsored by the Jewish Funds for Justice, for rabbinical students who have taken a course in congregation-based community organizing at their seminary.

Michael writes: "Hello, members of Dorshei Tzedek. It is an honor to serve as an intern with your congregation this year! Before starting at RRC, I worked as a community and union organizer with farm workers in Oregon and as a political fundraiser in Cincinnati and New York. I decided to attend RRC because of what it could teach me about making the world a better place, and also because I knew I would enjoy all the studying and singing that are always happening there. I am very excited about Dorshei Tzedek's involvement in GBIO and I expect that my time with you will be a great opportunity to learn and to contribute. I look forward to meeting you!"

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 rabbi@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.

High Holyday Divrei Torah: The Divrei Torah that have been delivered at various High Holiday Services by Rabbi Toba Spitzer are available on the CDT website at www.dorsheitzedek.org/divrei. Also of interest, see Divrei Torah Pages on the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation Web site of more than 100 Reconstructionist Divrei Torah available for online reading.

Dorshei Tzedek Fall Open Houses

Looking for a Jewish home? Wondering what happens at Dorshei Tzedek after the High Holydays? There are a number of opportunities to experience and learn about us this fall. Come meet our Rabbi, our Education Director and our members. Learn about our congregation, our religious school, our services, our style, and Reconstructionist Judaism.

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service & Potluck

*Friday evening, September 7
6 pm dinner, 6:45 pm service
(see page 7).*

This service is for members and prospective members, so bring a friend! Guests are welcome to join us for dinner (no need to bring anything) and a musical, fun-for-all-ages erev Shabbat service.

Sukkot Celebration

*Sunday, September 30, 4 - 6:30 pm
First Unitarian Society of Newton
1326 Washington Street, West Newton
(see page 5)*

Simchat Torah

*Thursday, October 4
6 pm potluck dinner, 7 pm celebration
60 Highland Street, West Newton
(see page 5)*

Introduction to Dorshei Tzedek

*Sunday, October 21, 2 - 4 pm
60 Highland Street, West Newton*

Come meet Rabbi Toba Spitzer and Ewa Maniawski Tuschman, Education Director. Learn about Reconstructionist Judaism, our congregation and school, and meet current members. Childcare provided.

High Holy Days

Mark your calendars! You should have received a High Holy Days mailing with specific information about services. If you didn't get one, contact our administrator, Marla Lichtman in our office at 617-965-0330 or office@dorsheitzedek.org. High Holydays registration forms are also available on our website, at www.dorsheitzedek.org. High Holydays registration and childcare forms must be returned to the office by September 1!

This year, Dorshei Tzedek will be holding its High Holydays services at Gann Academy: The New Jewish High School, in Waltham (about 10 minutes from West Newton Square). With a lovely space for our services and expanded room for children's programming, we're looking forward to our best High Holydays yet!

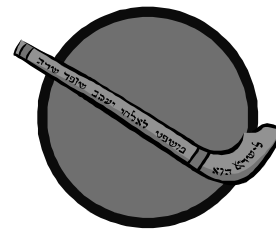
Erev Rosh Hashanah: *Wednesday evening, September 12*

First Day of Rosh Hashanah & Tashlikh: *Thursday, September 13*

Second Day of Rosh Hashanah: *Friday, September 14*

Kol Nidre: *Friday evening, September 21*

Yom Kippur: *Saturday, September 22*



High Holy Days Greetings: a Guide

In the days leading up to Rosh Hashanah and through Yom Kippur, there are a variety of traditional greetings. The simplest is "*Shanah tovah*" ("A good year") or "*Shanah tovah u'metukah*" ("A good and sweet year"). It is also traditional to wish that someone be "inscribed in the book of life" for the coming year: "*L'shanah tovah tikateivu*". After Rosh Hashanah, leading up to Yom Kippur, we add the wish that someone be "sealed" for a good year: "*G'mar hatima tovah*" ("a good and final sealing!") or "*Hatima tovah*" ("A sealing for good!"). It's also customary, right before Yom Kippur, to wish those who are observing the holiday a "*tzom kal*," an easy fast.

L'shanah tovah u'metukah to all of our members and friends!

Synagogue Council Unity Mission

The nationally recognized Unity Mission, now in its 21st year, will be held on **Sunday and Monday, November 4-5** in New York. This program brings together leaders of Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Orthodox congregations from throughout Massachusetts for a one-of-a-kind experience that will move you, uplift you and alter the way you perceive yourself and your fellow Jews for all time! Along with a diverse group of committed leaders from the other movements, you will meet, face to face, not only with prominent national and international Jewish leaders, such as Rabbi Irwin Kula, President of CLAL and author of *Yearnings*, Rabbi Avi Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of

Riverdale, eminent rabbis from Yeshiva University, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and Hebrew Union College, but also with rabbinical students from each of the seminaries. Our hotel this year is in Boro Park where you will have an opportunity to daven in a Chassidic Shul and to meet with a Rebbe. Other highlights include visits to rare book rooms, libraries and chapels, enabling you to view—up close—the sacred spaces, treasured archives and artifacts preserved and housed at each of the Unity Mission's itinerary sites.

Please contact Ellen Michelson at 617.244.6506, X17 or ellen@synagoguecouncil.org and check out the Synagogue Council's website, www.synagoguecouncil.org, for more information on how to participate in this exciting and meaningful program.

Bat Mitzvah of Savannah Greenly

We hope you will join us on Labor Day weekend, when our daughter Savannah is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. A native of Newton, Savannah will be entering eighth grade at the Day Middle School in September. She enjoys singing, being with her family and friends, softball, basketball, and training her dog, Daisy, a rescue dog from Louisiana. For her Tikkun Olam project Savannah has been volunteering at the Waltham Fields Community Farm, which grows food for homeless shelters and community groups. Please join us for a Kiddush luncheon after services **on September 1.**—*Ricky and Rob Greenly*

Family Education or Family Learning?

Ewa Maniawski Tuschman, school@dorsheitzedek.org

Before I mount my favorite horse, let me introduce a very much needed change in the structure of our family learning. Thanks to a grant from CJP we again have a staff member designated to take the lead in creating and coordinating family learning experiences during this coming school year! Enter Melissa Schick, an educator well known, especially to our younger students and their families, as last year's Kitah Aleph teacher. Melissa's portfolio will combine working with the families of Dorshei Tzedek and fulfilling requirements of a family education internship within the cantorial program at Hebrew College. No doubt all sides will greatly benefit from this arrangement. Welcome, and may it be a year of much excitement, thoughtful and fun learning, and strengthening our intergenerational community!

It is obviously a strange situation to write this column at the beginning of August, and speak of a school year that does not start until the second half of September. Therefore I hope you will be patient with me and wait until the next bulletin for the formal introductions and a list of "things to know" about our teaching staff. In the meantime—I am getting on my horse.

"Family education" is a term that was introduced quite a long time ago, when the Jewish educational community finally realized that solely attempting to teach children within the walls of the religious school is completely useless, unless at least some elements of their learning are shared and reinforced in the informal environment of their homes. There was an acute sense that without a bridge between the skills learned by the young people and the skills of their parents, the classroom learning was only an

elaborate, but meaningless choreography. Hence—family education: working on developing skills adults could apply and share with their children; using "scaffolding", an educational process of building educational programs for families in such a way that they progress in their ritual and factual knowledge feeling supported and validated.

These principles still hold. Over the years, though, something else started happening. Families began expressing a need for not only skill-building programs, but also for experiences when the adults could actually study *Torah lishma* (study for study's sake), delving into the same subjects that the young students were exploring in parallel sessions, and then have an opportunity to share the insights in an intergenerational settings. We, the educators, moved from "*we need to teach you*" to "*we need to create opportunities for your families to have common Jewish experiences and build Jewish memories, to think Jewishly together, to encourage you to feel that you are bringing to the table at least as much as we, the professionals*". The skill building aspect remains extremely important, but the paradigm shifted. We are in the world of **family learning**, where all of us are teachers, and all of us are students. And that's why you will see me being very particular and very obsessive about the "label" we are going to apply to these types of learning experiences in our congregation. Welcome to **Family Learning at Dorshei Tzedek!** Well, the only problem I have now is how to re-label the "Family Educator" position. Family Learning Coordinator? A mouthful. Ideas, anyone? I'll buy you ice cream?? Or coffee??

I am getting off my horse now.

Shanah Tovah u'Metukah!

Sukkot

The holiday of Sukkot is known as *z'man simchateynu*, the "time of our joy". Come be joyful with us as we celebrate this week-long festival! Sukkot **begins the evening of Wednesday, September 26**; we will mark the holiday together with first day services, a special Sukkot Shabbat service, and an all-ages program and open house on **Sunday, September 30**.



Help us build the Dorshei Tzedek sukkah! We need a few adults to help put the frame and cover the top with s'chach (greenery). If you are interested in helping out on **Sunday, September 23**, contact Noam Shore at n_dshore@yahoo.com.

Order your own lulav and etrog: see page 11.

Gathering Our Harvests

Sukkot is also known as "*Hag HaAsif*" – a thanksgiving for the bounty of the autumn agricultural harvest. A few of us have grown gardens that reflect this bounty. The rest of us have done a lot of valuable cultivation in the fertile grounds of our professional lives, our families, and community. This Sukkot, Dorshei Tzedek will celebrate the second annual gathering of our collective "harvests."

What achievements are you most proud of? A new job or promotion? A graduation or college acceptance? A publication, performance, or art exhibition? A skill acquired? The first time doing something special? A difficult challenge overcome? An advocacy effort you helped actualize? Helping someone achieve a goal? The arrival of a new family member?

We'll string these accomplishments up in the sanctuary so that we can rejoice in Dorshei Tzedek's collective bounty for the year 5767.

E-mail a description of your favorite achievement of the year to laurie.goldman@tufts.edu by **Monday September 24**.

Sukkot Programs

**Services at 60 Highland Street Church
for the first day of Sukkot**

Thursday, September 27, 9 am – 11 am

Shabbat Service during Sukkot

Saturday, September 29, 9:45 am

Family Sukkot Program

*at the First Unitarian Society,
1326 Washington Street, West Newton
Sunday, September 30, 4 pm – 6 pm*

4 pm: Arrive and decorate the Sukkah!

4:30 pm: A variety of programs for adults and kids of all ages, including study with Rabbi Toba.

5:30 pm: Gather as a group to say blessings in the sukkah, sing and eat! We'll have a potluck dinner beginning at 6 pm. Based on your last name, please bring a vegetarian dish: A-J, bring a veggie, pasta or rice salad. K-Z, bring a main course (drinks and dessert provided).. Please bring enough to feed 12-15 people.

We welcome all interested parties who would like to use the Sukkah during the holiday. Feel free to come with family and friends any time during Sukkot, as the Sukkah will be located in the back of FUSN for the duration of the holiday. Our Sukkot celebration is a CDT Open House event (see page 2).

Build your Own Sukkah!

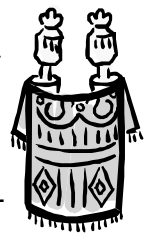
Neighborhoods can enjoy building a sukkah together and sharing in the holiday with friends and family! For more information about purchasing a sukkah-building kit, or to find out who might be interested in your neighborhood, contact Amy Mazur at acmazur@comcast.net.

Simchat Torah

Thursday, October 4

6:15 pm potluck dinner, 7 pm celebration

On Simchat Torah, we celebrate the completion of one year of reading Torah and beginning a new cycle. Join us for a vegetarian potluck meal (please bring a main dish or salad to share, enough for 12-15 people), followed by a kid- and grown-up-friendly festive evening service and dancing with the Torah! Test your Torah knowledge with "Torah quiz" (prizes for kids and grown-ups!), dance to the tunes of klezmer musicians, see the entire Torah unrolled! As with Sukkot, our Simchat Torah celebration is also a CDT Open House event (see page 2).



Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact **Rabbi Spitzer** (617.965.0330) or **Pamela Schoenberg Reider** of the Chesed Committee (617-244-3373 or jomela@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@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 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, and Alex Fried**. May healing and comfort come to you and to those who care for you.

Mazel Tov

To **Kelli Kirshtein, Wendy Angus, and Benjamin** on the arrival of **Daniel**!

To **Betsy Hinden, Karen Wasserman, and Henry**, on the arrival of **Jayla**!

To **Michael Fein, Marjorie Feld, and Isaac** on the birth of **Nathan**!

Todah Rabah

A belated Yasher Koach and Todah Rabah to the Nominating Committee for developing the slate of officers approved at the June Members' Meeting: **James Kaplan, Betsy Hinden, Lisa Port White, and Marc Steinberg**.

Todah Rabah to the following members for helping with Kiddush during recent months: **Meryl Epstein & Trish Nuzzola, Allison Andrews & Arthur Lent, Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome, Judy & Chayim Herzig-Marx, Linda & Peter Katz, and Wendy Gedanken**.

Special Todah Rabahs from Our Administrator

To Olivia Medvedow, our wonderful summer Office Assistant, who helped me / us in so many important ways. We wish her a great school year school year as she returns to Connecticut College.

To the following members, who got our Membership Renewal and High Holy Day mailings out with alacrity, good spirit and smiles: **Sheree Galpert, Lauren Gibbs, Pearl Flax Gibbs, Ellie Goldberg, Diana Fisher Gomberg, Lisa Goodwin Robbins, Linda Kramer, Allison Robbins, Charlotte Robbins, Leah Vaks**. Your help was enormously appreciated!—*Marla Lichtman*

A Special Todah Rabah from Family Table

Dear Kitah Zayin Graduation Class, their Families and Cindy Shulak Rome,

Mazel Tov to all of you on becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. I'm sure you did a wonderful job and were proud of yourself, and your family was proud of you as well.

On behalf of all the recipients of Family Table, I want to thank you for your generous donation. It is very special that you want to share your Mitzvah celebration with someone less fortunate than yourself. This is a special day in the life of a family, and as you remember how special your day was, you should take even more pride in knowing that you helped others along the way.

When one becomes a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, you assume the role of an adult in the Jewish community. Choosing to help people less fortunate than yourself is a thoughtful, generous and adult way to work toward Tikkun Olam, repairing our world.

Jewish Family & Children's Service, Family Table provides more than 450 men, women and children with food, personal hygiene and paper products: basic necessities they otherwise would do without. This project has reconnected many isolated families to the Jewish community.

The world we share is made better by your act of loving kindness. Thank you for helping.—*Barbara Zolit*

Condolences

To **Marcia Okun and her family** on the death of Marcia's father, Sherman Okun, may his memory be for a blessing.

To **Allyson Cherkasky and Jacob**, on the death of Ally's father, and Jacob's grandfather, Dr. Paul Cherkasky, may his memory be for a blessing.



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 & Potlucks

September 7 (special open house, see page 2), November 9, December 7, 6 pm

Once a month, we gather for a 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 12-15 people) - drinks and dessert are provided. In September, we hope prospective members will join us for dinner and the service, with an opportunity to meet **Rabbi Toba** and our Education Director, **Ewa Tuschman**, and to learn a little about Reconstructionism and CDT. In October, our Simchat Torah celebration will take the place of the monthly all-ages Shabbat service.

Erev Shabbat Services

October 12, November 16, December 14, 8 - 9:30 pm

Each month we welcome Shabbat with a musical erev Shabbat service that includes a little Torah study and an opportunity to welcome Shabbat with community. Please join us!

Shabbat Shuvah Contemplative Service

Saturday morning, September 15, 9:45 am

For this Shabbat of "turning" that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we will have a special chanting and meditation service that focuses on the journey of *teshuvah*, of turning and returning, that we engage in at this time. No meditation experience necessary, please join us!

Adult Education

Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Saturday mornings, 8:45-9:45 am

Fall dates: October 13, November 17, December 15

Once a month, we gather before Shabbat morning services to explore a variety of commentaries—traditional and modern—on the weekly Torah portion. This study group is appropriate for Torah study regulars and for folks who don't know Genesis from Deuteronomy—just bring your questions, your interest, and your own cup of coffee or tea!

Judaism & Practice: A Path of Transformation

Thursday mornings (ongoing), 8-9 am

FIRST CLASS: October 18, 60 Highland Street (library)

Traditional Jewish practice is known as "*halakha*"—usually understood as "Jewish law," but literally meaning "the way." At its core, Judaism is a "way," a continually evolving set of spiritual and ethical practices that can potentially lead to profound personal and social change. In this year's Thursday morning class (running from October through May), we will explore together Jewish texts, teachings and practices that will enable us to live more mindfully and with greater patience, compassion, courage and peace.

Coming soon! Check out the CDT Adult Education brochure which will be available at the High Holydays, with upcoming classes on Israeli history and culture, close reading of Biblical texts, a guest speaker series, and more!

Nediv Lev General Fund

(including donations to the Nadiv Lev campaign)

Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn

In memory of Kayla Ellen Flynn

Anonymous

CDT Men's Softball Team

(also for Rabbi's Discretionary Fund)

In honor of our May 13 Mother's Day Doubleheader and the 9 mothers who came out to cheer for us that day. We are donating for every mother who attended a game on May 13, and also are donating for each of the 12 runs we scored at the games.

Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow

Rick Glassman

Inge & Robert Gould

Rebecca Gutman

Allison & Ezra Hausman

Allison Hausman & Carolyn Fine *(corrected)*

In honor of Dan Halbert & his team, who brilliantly produce the Dorshei Tzedek Newsletter every month

Laura & Joel Katz

Linda Kramer & Alex Fried

Susan Lanser & Jo Radner

In honor of Elaine Bresnick

Alissa & Gerald Leonard

*In memory of Junius Gertz, father of Nancy Gertz
In recognition of the most fabulous retreat organizers:
Bill Shorr and Betsy Hinden*

Sarah Little & Doug Hersh

In honor of Aunt Judy

Cindy Rivka Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury

In appreciation of the Dorshei Tzedek community

Amy Mazur

Susan Nitkin & Jeffrey Marcus

Ruth Paris & Rob Saper *(also for School Fund)*

Thanks to Rabbi Toba, Cindy Shulak-Rome, and all of Maya's religious school teachers and classmates who helped her to become a Bat Mitzvah

Elaine Pollack

Lisa Goodwin Robbins

Susan Silberberg Robinson & Thomas Robinson

In gratitude to the congregation and Rabbi Toba for assistance in preparation for Isaac's Bar Mitzvah

Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith

In memory of Jill Volk

The Sacks Family

In memory of Marcia Okun's mother

Lisa Schneier

Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome

*In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Emma Weisberg, Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Silberberg, Bat Mitzvah of Maya Paris-Saper, Bat Mitzvah of Cora Hersh, Bat Mitzvah of Mira Netsky, and Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Forman
In honor of Ellie Goldberg's birthday*

In memory of Sherman Okun, father of Marcia Okun and grandfather to Amalia, Michal & Aryeh

Nessa Spitzer

In memory of Rabbi Toba's dad, Bill Spitzer

Susannah & Steven Zisk

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Nancy Gertz & Michael Cohen

Susan Silberberg Robinson & Thomas Robinson

In honor of Rabbi Toba, Cindy Shulak-Rome, Lisa Dee Port White, Eulalia Rose & Davin Paley-Zimble

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.

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Congregation: Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, Newton, MA

Or donate through the website at www.mazon.org.



September



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Sat Sep 1	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Savannah Greenly (see page 4)	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Karen & Jeff Arnold <i>Set-up:</i> Laya Steinberg & Bruce Miller, Annie Weiss & David Cash; <i>Clean-up:</i> Meg Wilcox & Robert Warren, Linda Schiller & Steve Robins
Thu Sep 6	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Israel Trip informational meeting	FUSN: Alliance Room (see page 11)
Fri Sep 7	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service, Open House and Potluck	Karen & Reinhard Engels, Linda Hsu, Kelli Kirshtein & Wendy Angus (see pages 2 & 7)
Sat Sep 8	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury, Deb Albenberg, Peter Shapiro
Sat Sep 8	8 pm - 10 pm	Selichot Study and Service	No Childcare Available (see page 7)
Wed Sep 12	7:45 pm - 9:15 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah - Adult Services	Gann Academy, Waltham Childcare Provided (see page 3)
Thu Sep 13	9:30 am - 1:15 pm	First Day of Rosh Hashanah - Services	Gann Academy, Waltham (see page 3)
Thu Sep 13	4:30 pm - 5 pm	First Day of Rosh Hashanah - Tashlikh	Newton City Hall Pond (see page 3)
Fri Sep 14	10 am - 12:30 pm	Second Day of Rosh Hashanah - Services	Gann Academy, Waltham (see page 3)
Sat Sep 15	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Shuvah	Amy Berman / Jeremy Kepner, Tessa & Clifford Goldsmith, Hope Kellman (see page 7)
Sun Sep 16	7 pm - 9 pm	GBIO Debt to Assets Support Group	60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA: Library
Tue Sep 18	3:15 pm - 6:15 pm	<i>Opening Day of Tuesday/Thursday School</i>	
Fri Sep 21	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Kol Nidre - Services	Gann Academy, Waltham (see page 3)
Sat Sep 22	9:30 am - 2:15 pm	Yom Kippur - Services	Gann Academy, Waltham (see page 3)
Sat Sep 22	5:15 pm - 7:30 pm	Yom Kippur - Mincha & Ne'ilah	Gann Academy (see page 3)
Sun Sep 23		Sukkah to be erected	FUSN - 1326 Washington Street (see page 5)
Thu Sep 27		<i>No school - Sukkot</i>	
Thu Sep 27	9 am - 11 am	Sukkot Morning Service	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary (see page 5)
Fri Sep 28	5 pm - 8 pm	Aleph & Bet Back to School Dinner	FUSN
Sat Sep 29	9:30 am - 12:15 pm	<i>Aleph & Bet - Opening Day</i>	FUSN
Sat Sep 29	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat, Sukkot Morning Service	Ora Gladstone, Cindy Shulak-Rome & Dan Rome, Carla Naumburg & Josh Herzig-Marx In Honor of Chayim Herzig-Marx's birthday (see page 5)
Sun Sep 30	4 pm - 6 pm	All-ages Sukkot Program & Potluck Dinner	Amy Mazur, coordinator <i>Set-up:</i> Nem Hackett, Jan Small, Meryl Epstein & Patricia Nuzzola, Liz Reisberg; <i>Clean-up:</i> Sherry Katz, Tania Mireles, Idit Klein, Benjamin Newman, Stephanie Hackett FUSN (see page 7)
Sun Sep 30	6 pm	Israel Trip Informational Session	<i>Following Sukkot program (see page 11)</i>

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. Some events are at FUSN, the First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton. 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.



October



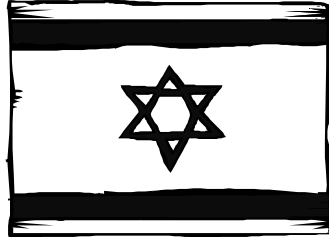
Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu Oct 4		<i>No school - Simchat Torah</i>	
Thu Oct 4	6:15 pm potluck 7 pm celebration	Simchat Torah and Potluck	Phyllis & Alvin Glazerman, Stephen Zisk, Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith (see page 5)
Sat Oct 6		<i>No School</i>	
Sat Oct 6	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jennifer Hochschild & Tony Broh, Stacey & Bruce Gore; <i>Rabbi's Shabbat off</i>
Fri Oct 12	5 pm - 8 pm	Gan - Back to School Dinner	FUSN
Fri Oct 12	8 pm	Adult Erev Shabbat Service	Ellie Goldberg - In Honor of her mother's birthday, Valerie Graf & Doron Gan, Lilly Platt
Sat Oct 13	8:45 am	Shabbat Morning Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street
Sat Oct 13	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Zolit	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Ami & Jonathan Gordon
Sat Oct 13	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sun Oct 14	2 pm - 4 pm	Opening Day - Gan Program	
Sun Oct 14	2 pm - 4 pm	Zayin Family Program	FUSN: Head Start Room
Sun Oct 14	7 pm - 9 pm	GBIO Debt to Assets Support Group	60 Highland Street: Library
Thu Oct 18	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice: A Path of Transformation with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 7)
Sat Oct 20	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Michal Lieberman	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Sandra Sedacca & Sherwood Ives; <i>Set-up:</i> Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow, Linda Schiller & Steve Robins; <i>Clean-up:</i> Lisa Goodwin-Robins, Amalia Zalcman, Abby Cohen & Stuart Snyder
Sat Oct 20	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sun Oct 21	2 pm - 4 pm	Introduction to Dorshei Tzedek	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary (see page 2)
Sun Oct 21	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	CDT Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Oct 25	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice: A Path of Transformation with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 7)
Sat Oct 27	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Linette Liebling - In Memory of Joel Liebling at his yahrzeit; Jennifer Levine Fried & Matt Fried - In Memory of Jonathan Levine; Stacey Chacker
Sat Oct 27	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN

CDT Goes to Israel

Join us, February 14-24, 2008

Next year (2008) in Jerusalem?

We are currently in the midst of planning our first ever congregational trip to Israel, tentatively scheduled for February vacation week (plus a few days) this coming year. This will be a trip for older kids and adults, for folks who've never been to Israel as well those who want to visit again and have some new experiences. The itinerary is still in development, but we hope to include a wide variety of activities, from nature hikes to visiting historical sites to learning about some of the critical social and political issues currently facing Israeli society. Plus, of course, having some fun, enjoying the sun, and shopping!



Informational Meetings

Please come to one of these remaining informational meetings to hear more details and learn about what such a trip could mean for your household:

September 6, Thursday evening, 7:30 pm (adults and teens), at FUSN.

September 30, Sunday, 6 - 7:30 pm. Join us at the end of the Sukkot program – a great time to learn about the trip. Children (4th grade and up) and adults (at FUSN).

Membership

We welcome **Marcie and Kevin Karty** of Newton Corner and their children: **Rhea** is almost 4 years



old and **Simon** is almost 18 months old. The Karty's moved to the Boston area about a year ago from Los Alamos, New Mexico. Marcie is an engineer still working for Los Alamos long-distance, while Kevin runs the statistical analysis group for a marketing innovation company, and tries to "do no harm." The tired parents said in unison that what they enjoy doing most these days is "SLEEP!" Before kids, Marcie enjoyed running, biking and swimming, while Kevin played tennis, wrote and did a lot of reading. Marcie and Kevin say they joined CDT "DEFINITELY for the PEOPLE!" They feel that Reconstructionism is a great fit for them because the Judaism is evolving but also includes the beautiful music that they grew up with. Marcie also wants to be sure her daughter isn't relegated to sitting in the back of the temple. The proud parents note that both children were born days after an equinox, and that Rhea was a Rosh Hashanah baby.

Dear Congregation Dorshei Tzedek,

We have relocated to Glendale, Arizona where I will be attending osteopathic medical school, a slight career change after a long time in the computer programming field. We will greatly miss the Dorshei Tzedek community and we hope to continue to be in touch.

—**Terry Traub, Rebecca Pomerantz, and Malka Rae Traub Pomerantz**, 18417 North 56th Ave, Glendale, AZ 85308, 602.748.4374, terryt@terrytraub.org

Lulav and Etrog Order Form

Celebrate Sukkot with your very own lulav and etrog! **Orders must be received by Thursday, September 20.** You can pick up your lulav at Sukkot services or at the Dorshei Tzedek office during school hours on Tuesday, September 25.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

I would like _____ sets @ \$40 each = \$ _____

Please enclose a check made out to Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, and mail to the Dorshei Tzedek office at 60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465.

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 Membership: **James Kaplan**
VP Finance: **Mark Farber**
Secretary: **Dan Halbert**
Education Director: **Ewa Maniawski Tuschman**
Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Board Chairs Kehillah (in-reach): **Diana Fisher Gomberg**
Marketing/Publicity: **Ellie Goldberg**
Membership Outreach: **Susannah Zisk**
Member-at-large: **Paul Hattis**
Member-at-large: **Andrew Sofer**
Nediv Lev: **Peter Hess**
Newsletter: **Dan Halbert**
Ritual: **Audra Karp / Debbie Waber**
School: **Judy Herzig-Marx / Betsy Hinden**
Space: **Stuart Snyder / Steve Siegel**
Tikkun Olam: **Laurie Goldman**

Off-Board Chairs Adult Education: **Jeff Kichen**
Chesed: **Pamela Schoenberg Reider**
Rabbinic Liaison: **Ora Gladstone**
Personnel: **Peter Katz**
Website: **Stan Fleischman**
High Holy Days: **Theresa St-John Siegel**
School Liaison: **Tessa Goldsmith**

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.