

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
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Elul-Tishrei 5767

October 2007



Themes for the Coming Year

Marc Steinberg, president@dorsheitzedek.org

Shanah Tovah and a warm greeting to all! Now that the High Holydays and our first (very positive, from many accounts) experiences with Gann Academy are behind us, the Board is preparing to dive into the new year at CDT. With the Strategic Plan having been formally adopted last spring, we are expecting a somewhat quieter—though not idle—year. I want to take a moment to introduce the themes we're planning to pursue over the coming months.

Implementation Plan: The Board will continue working this year to develop an implementation plan that clearly shows how we will realize the visions which were outlined in the Strategic Plan. Although the Board began working on an initial draft of this plan after the Strategic Plan was formally adopted, we still have a fair bit of detail to flesh out. As part of this process, there will most likely be ongoing discussions throughout the year as necessary. One area we intend to focus on in particular will be the school and, more generally, educational offerings at CDT.

Torah of Chesed: In the spirit of the Torah of Money process we engaged in when we examined dues and Nediv Lev several years ago, **Amy Mazur** will be leading a process this year during which we will be invited to study *chesed*—acts of lovingkindness—using Jewish source texts. Building on what we learn from these texts and our engagement with them, we will work to build awareness and understanding of the notion of *chesed* within our own community. As we were just reminded on Yom Kippur, *chesed* (along with *teshuvah* and *zedakah*) forms the foundation of our communal lives, and this process promises to be a very rich and meaningful experience.

Congregational Israel Trip: We are planning our first-ever congregational trip to Israel! If you attended Rosh Hashanah, perhaps you had an opportunity to hear **Elaine Pollack** and **Rabbi Toba** speak about their own experiences and feelings about this country for whom many feel a deep connection. Whether or not you are able to join the group that will be traveling to Israel in the spring, the planning

process this fall and winter will provide the entire community with an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion and reflection about Israel.

Role of Non-Jews at CDT: One interesting statistic gathered during the strategic planning process last year is the rising percentage of interfaith households, which now stands at more than one-fifth of the membership. This reflects both the welcoming nature of our congregation as well as more general trends taking place in the Boston area as recently reported by the CJP. Interfaith households are an area of obvious strength and growth opportunity for our *shul*. In the past, we have not always been clear about the role non-Jews play in our community. When there is a lack of context and information about non-Jews and their observance (or non-observance) of Jewish ritual, for example, there is sometimes room for misunderstanding and conflict. We wish to avoid this, so next spring we plan to begin an open-ended series of study groups and discussions with and about our non-Jewish members. Stay tuned for more information.

I'm looking forward to an interesting, engaging, and productive year as your President. I wish you all a sweet new year.

INSIDE

Open Houses, Israel trip	2
Simchat Torah, Shabbat Programs	3
Bat Mitzvah Celebrations, School News	4
Havdallah on the Water, Member Potluck.....	5
Adult Education	6
Welcome New Members	7
Nediv Lev	8
Calendar	9-10
Chesed.....	11

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.

Simchat Torah

Thursday, October 4
6:15 pm potluck dinner, 7 pm celebration
60 Highland Street, West Newton
(see page 5)

Introduction to Dorshei Tzedek

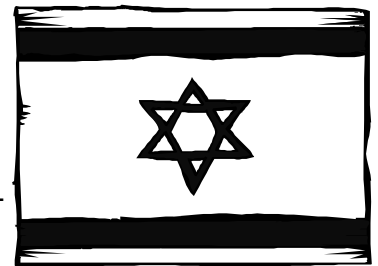
Sunday, October 21, 2 – 4 pm
60 Highland Street, West Newton

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.

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! Please contact **Louise Enoch** if you are interested in attending the trip.

JRF Clippings: Reconstructionist News on the Web

There have been many articles of interest to Reconstructionists in the news this past few weeks: Sad news of anti-Semitic vandalism at our Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore was reported in many papers, the No'ar Hadash Israel Experience was covered in this week's Philadelphia *Jewish Exponent*, and happenings at a number of our member congregations were among the top stories.



Here is just a sampling:

- Jewish culture flourishes in Curacao
- Recon Sends Teens to Israel for First time
- Men arrested for anti-Semitic graffiti on the North Shore
- Who shall *kvetch* and who shall *geshrai*... Rabbi Richard Hirsh in NJ Jewish News on rating the High Holidays
- The air in there - Bnai Keshet's active role in Montclair, NJ Interfaith Environmental Coalition
- Concurrent holy days unite Jews and Muslims

To read all the stories, visit www4.jrf.org/jrfclipping. Note the "4" in "www4.jrf.org". This is the new version of the JRF website, still under development.

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.

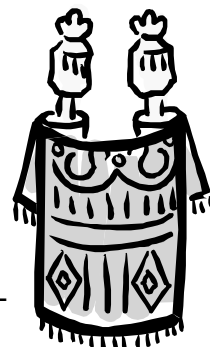
High Holyday Sermons: The talks that have been delivered at various High Holiday Services by Rabbi Toba Spitzer are available on the CDT website at www.dorsheitzedek.org/divrei. Also of interest, see Divrei Torah Pages on the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation Web site of more than 100 Reconstructionist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

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).



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

November 9, December 7, 6 pm dinner, 6:45 pm service

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 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!

Special Youth Participation Shabbat & Celebration of Avital Lewis

Shabbat morning, October 27, 9:45 am

Join us for Shabbat services on October 27 as our post-bar/bat mitzvah youth help lead our Shabbat morning service, and as we call **Avital** Lewis, daughter of **Jill Volk**, to the Torah in honor of her recent bat mitzvah. Avital and her dad, **Steve Lewis**, would like to invite the entire CDT community to a special Kiddush following services.

Shabbat Morning Learners' Minyan

Dr. Minna Bromberg, CDT Rabbinic Intern

Shabbat mornings, 10 – 11 am, November 17, December 1, 8, and 15

Looking for a way to familiarize yourself with the Shabbat Morning Service? We will spend four sessions learning the structure, content, and meaning of the prayer service, focusing on a different part each Shabbat. See page 7 for more details.

Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Zolit

We hope you can join our family on **October 13** as **Charlotte** is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Charlotte is a 7th grader at Brown Middle School, and has been a member of the Dorshei Tzedek religious school since Kitah Aleph. Charlotte enjoys soccer and dance, has a great love for all animals large and small, and has a strong sense of social justice. Her *tikkun olam* project is a continuation of her actions as a “super” volunteer at JFCS Family Table. Starting this fall she will coordinate Dorshei Tzedek’s participation in this very worthwhile program. Please join us for a Kiddush lunch following the service.

—Barbara and Jerry Zolit

Bat Mitzvah of Michal Lieberman

Please join us on **October 20** when our daughter **Michal Leah Lieberman** is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Michal is an 8th grader at Brown Middle School in Newton. She enjoys gymnastics and circus arts, including summer stints at Smirkus Camp in Vermont. Michal has a distinctive musical and artistic sense, constantly creating and re-creating her clothing when she isn’t painting, designing jewelry, fiddling, or putting together her own invitations. She also enjoys being outdoors and among animals, whether bird-watching, spinning around on her unicycle, or bounding up the side of a mountain. For her *tikkun olam* project, Michal is helping to monitor water quality along the Charles River. Please join us for Shabbat services, followed by a Kiddush luncheon.—Marcia Okun and Joshua Lieberman

School News

Ewa Maniawski Tuschman, school@dorsheitzedek.org

Our school’s fall lineup, or “Who is Who” in Dorshei Tzedek’s education

Well, the school parents already know, but the rest of you I hope will be interested as well. Again this year our students are going to spend with a cadre of experienced, lovely, passionate, and energetic teachers, for whom Jewish education is a calling and a way of life. And, by the way, all of them hold or are in process of acquiring, more than one academic degree. It sounds like boasting, but that’s my privilege as the Education Director. Besides, it will tell you a lot about the quality of the team. You will see some well known faces, some new ones. Please welcome them into our community as you usually do—with warmth and support.

Here are the special people you will meet:

Kitah Gan welcomes back **Lisa Jacobs**, whose lovely personality is enhanced by great musical skills and an unusual ability to immediately connect with five-year-olds and their parents.

Kitah Aleph welcomes a new teacher—**Tiffany Gordon**, whom

you will get to know as Rivka (preferred name!). Rivka has just begun the rabbinic training at Hebrew College. Selfishly, we hope it will take her at least ten years to complete it, so that we could benefit from her talents for many, many years.

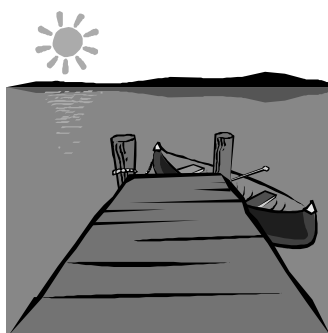
Kitah Bet—Another wonderful, new addition to our small community: **Jessica Shore** has lived in Oxford while pursuing her PhD. Energetic, fun, and creative, she will make sure that learning the aleph-bet throughout the year does not turn into a daunting task.

Kitah Gimmel. We have another new colleague – **Yuval Brokman**, who already scored big with the kids and the parents for his fast-paced, engaging and sometimes completely unexpected and “unorthodox” lessons. Parents—stay tuned for more!

Kitah Dalet sails under the kind, but watchful eye of **Mitzi Grossman**, who trained last year with Annette Lawson (coming up!), and to both sides’ delight (Mitzi’s and mine) is a full-fledged teacher this year. Great with drama—just wait for Sarah showing up in Dalet classroom to gossip about Abraham!

Kitah Hay continues its journey through the story of the Jewish people under the leadership of **Annette Lawson**. The students

(Continued on page 5)



Havdallah on the Water!

Saturday, October 13,
Gomberg's Home

The Gombergs will host a special canoe and kayak event on October 13. At **5 pm** canoeing, kayaking,

and (BYO) picnicking will begin. (Drinks and desserts will be provided.) At **7 pm** we'll gather in the middle of the Charles River for a very special Havdallah service on the water. The flickering Havdallah candle flames reflecting off of the water will be lovely, and the challenge of passing spices among the boats will be exhilarating! RSVPs are required by October 11 to make sure we have enough boats and candles. Or bring your own boats, candles, and spices if you'd like. **Please RSVP by October 11 to Diana Fisher Gomberg** at gofish4@comcast.net or 617.243.9424.

Potlucks in Members' Homes!

Friday night, November 2

Did you meet some of your best CDT friends at a potluck? Many members have! Sign up today to host or be a guest at a potluck in a member's home. It's easy and fun. We can even help with blessings and other Shabbat rituals if you are not familiar with them.

Please RSVP by Monday, October 29 to Ami Gordon at amisgordon@comcast.net. And let her know if you would like to host, be a guest, or do either. Also, please let her know any relevant information, preferences, or restrictions, (e.g., food or pet allergies, dietary restrictions, age preferences). When you RSVP, please make it a commitment. If your plan changes, please let Ami know right away.



(Continued from page 4)

and the parents formed wonderful bond with her last year, and this is their second year of working together. What new can I say about Annette? Annette is the tops!

Kitah Vav has a new/old teacher—**Hillary Pinsker**. You all know Hillary as the smart and fun Gimmel cheerleader. Well, this year Hillary is the smart and fun Vav cheerleader. Kitah Vav—brace yourselves for a wild ride through millennia!

Kitah Zayin. Can anyone guess? It's **Cindy Shulak-Rome!** Does anyone not know Cindy? Believe me, I'd keep it to myself. Kitah Zayin, small but very mighty this year, will go through a series of teaching units exploring their Jewish parts of their identities. Cindy, who has worked with many *kitot zayin* before, has not only developed (and is constantly tweaking) a great curriculum, but has a gift of executing it in an enthusiastic and engaging way.

Last, but definitely not least—our **Family Learning Coordinator**. As I mentioned in September bulletin, thanks to a small grant from CJP we were able to consolidate all the Family Learning Days under the wings of **Melissa Schick**, who is also a well known face around here as last year's Aleph teacher. Melissa will add her cantorial talents to her curriculum building talents and many other talents, designing a series of learning experiences for all ages. Stay tuned! The first event is at the end of October!

And then there is the Education Director, but it's the same old story.

Speaking of the curriculum. The staff is busy tasting and testing several different techniques of teaching, but also thinking about different methodologies of building a cohesive curriculum. There will be no major changes in what we teach (it's a very sound program, as you know), but we are tweaking things a bit to tighten it up. For instance: each teacher articulated an overarching theme/message/focus that will guide the students' learning throughout the year. The teacher will refer to it frequently, the statement will be virtually in front of the students' eyes (on the board or the wall), and hopefully this will be something they will walk away with at the end of the year. If anyone is interesting in more details about Understanding by Design—you know how and where to find me!

In the effort to clarify what we teach, we are introducing more Jewish history, and making sure that once the students move out of the "mythical" period, i.e., Torah text, they begin to acquire a sense of the unfolding historical timeline. Again—this is also a "visual" project each *kitah* is working on, and will continue as the students progress through the grades.

In general—lots of exciting work. We hope you will enjoy periodical updates on its progress. And—spread the word!

Adult Education

Torah, Prayer & Practice

Wondering how to make Shabbat morning services more meaningful? Hoping to incorporate more spiritual practice into your daily life? Eager to study a little Torah? These classes are for you! **No fee. All classes will be held at 60 Highland Street, West Newton.**

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!

Shabbat Morning Learners' Minyan

Dr. Minna Bromberg, CDT Rabbinic Intern

Shabbat mornings, 10 – 11 am, November 17, December 1, 8, 15

Looking for a way to familiarize yourself with the Shabbat Morning Service? We will spend four sessions learning the structure, content, and meaning of the prayer service, focusing on a different part each Shabbat. Our learning, singing, and praying together will include time for reflection not only on what the prayer service can bring to you, but what you bring to it. The sessions will be appropriate both for beginners and for those who wish to deepen their connection. All are welcome to drop in or come to all four sessions. Participants are invited to join the Torah service and discussion in the main sanctuary at 11 am.

Shabbat Afternoon Bible Study Group

Dr. Sandy Goldfless

*First three sessions: Shabbat afternoons, 1:30 – 2:45 pm
October 27, November 3, 10*

Subsequent dates and times to be determined by the group.

An ongoing reading group is an effective, stimulating, and enjoyable setting for adults to attain broad familiarity with the literature of the *Tanakh* (Hebrew Bible). In this group, we will read extensively, in English, from the Torah, Prophets, and Writings. Dr. Goldfless will guide the study and provide context for interpretation, both from what is known about the biblical world and from the intricate relationships between one biblical text and another.

While the emphasis will be on experiencing the text itself and learning to listen for meaning in its tone, its choice of words, and the arrangement of its parts, we will also encourage a free-ranging discussion of the text's implications. Although no prior knowledge of Hebrew is necessary, the Hebrew language will be an essential part of our group's experience. We will introduce lan-

guage basics and key biblical terms in Hebrew as we go along, pacing ourselves by the interest and energy of the participants.

Sandy Goldfless began studying the Hebrew Bible as a child in yeshiva and then at Yeshiva University in New York City. He later earned a Ph.D. in biblical studies and Near Eastern languages, religions and literature at Harvard. He has taught biblical Hebrew for adults and has led Bible study groups in the Boston area for many years. Sandy is a retired software engineer.

Judaism & Practice: A Path of Transformation

Thursday mornings (October – May), 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.

Explorations in Israeli History and Culture

In 2008, the 60th anniversary of the founding of the state of Israel, CDT is planning its first congregational trip to the Holy Land! This fall we are hosting two scholars who will explore aspects of Israeli history and culture and current challenges facing the Jewish state. Come to the whole series or just a class or two. *These classes are free for CDT members; \$10/session for non-members. All classes will be held at 60 Highland Street, West Newton.*

Introduction to Zionism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Dr. Mitchell Silver

Monday evenings, October 29 & November 5, 7:30 – 9:15 pm

The first session will focus on the development of modern Zionism as an ideology and concrete political movement, including the historical contexts that gave rise to Zionism and the various forms the movement took. In the second session, Dr. Silver will focus on the history and dynamics of the Zionist, and later Israeli, conflict with the Arabs, and especially with the Palestinians. The class will conclude with a discussion of the current situation and possibilities for resolving the conflict.

Mitchell Silver teaches philosophy at UMass/Boston, and often speaks on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict for Brit Tzedek v'Shalom. He recently returned from his sixth trip to Israel. He is the author of books on secular Judaism and Jewish theology, and is married to CDT member Ora Gladstone.

(Courses continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Jewish Identity, Israeli Identity—Images & Questions

Dr. Irit Aharony

Monday evenings, November 19 & 26, December 3, 7:30 – 9:15 pm

Session 1—From the "New Jew" to the "Lost Sabra": Figurative and textual images of people and land in Israeli culture from the end of the 19th century until today. An exploration of the changing image of the Israeli and changing values in Israeli society.

Session 2—Dividing lines: Right versus Left, Secular versus Orthodox, rich versus poor. A discussion of the differences among Israelis through the lens of poetry and short stories by writers from diverse sides of the socio-economic-political map.

Session 3—"Yordim/Olim - Back and Forwards": We will watch a prize-winning Israeli documentary about the *aliyah* of three young Israelis/Americans and their decision to serve in the Israeli army. It raises many questions of identity, most centrally "Is service in the army enough to give one an Israeli Identity?"

Dr. Irit Aharony is one of our most popular teachers at Congregation Dorshei Tzedek. She is returning for her third year teaching in the Adult Education Program. Dr. Aharony was born in Israel, and received her Ph.D. from Bar Ilan University in Modern Hebrew Literature. Since 1996, she has taught Modern Hebrew and Israeli Literature at Harvard University.

Tess Wishengrad Siegel attended services at Shir Hadash years ago and liked the community of members interested in exploration. Most of her adult years she was a member of Temple Emanuel but her kids were never comfortable there. **Eli Siegel**, Tess' husband, knows more about Jewish history than formal prayer. Study is his way of praying. He is a professor of biology at Tufts University. After years of soul searching, Tess decided that the right congregation for her was one that would accept the individual needs of her diverse family members. The need to formalize a commitment was brought about by serious health issues and also by a desire to feel a part of a larger family since her own had grown up and away. It takes a special congregation to welcome into its midst a family that has at various times included a young Iraqi girl rescued from the war and a Chinese son-in-law. Tess teaches piano. Music is the glue that holds her together and she is delighted to see both her students and their progress in her Waban home. CDT member **Ed Bruckner** is Tess' first cousin.

Nancy Kimelman, a long-time resident of Andover, MA, has finally decided to take the plunge and join CDT despite the commute. Nancy is an economist who is in the process of finishing an introductory economics book designed primarily for a female audience. She enjoys travel and is a committed Francophile. She has long been attracted to Reconstructionism for its blend of tradition, spirituality, and conceptions of Jewish life in the modern world. She has three children, the eldest, a son, in college, a daughter who attends Gann Academy, and another daughter in middle school. With each of her children secure in his or her own Jewish community, Nancy has finally found her own spiritual home in CDT. Welcome Nancy!

Rochelle Hahn and **Kenny Breuer** and their children **Matt** (15) and **Emily** (13) are very happy to be joining Dorshei Tzedek. Rochelle is originally from NYC, and Kenny grew up in London, but the family has lived in Newton Highlands for fifteen years. Matt is currently a sophomore at Newton South High School; Emily is in eighth grade at Oak Hill Middle School. Family interests and hobbies include music (Matt and Kenny play guitar and jazz piano, Emily plays the violin), theatre, dance, camping and cycling. Rochelle works as a poverty law attorney at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, where she currently coordinates a statewide website for legal services advocates. Kenny is a professor of Engineering at Brown University.

Welcome New Members

We offer a warm welcome to our newest members:

- **Michelle Arons** and **Michael Brann**, and their daughter **Tamar**
- **Lisa Chedekel** and **Isabel Morais**, and their children **Evelyn** and **Bernard**
- **Joy Chertow**
- **Dan Forman** and **Jennifer McGonagle**
- **Lynda Goldberg** and **Joe Bayes**
- **Rochelle Hahn** and **Kenny Breuer**, and their children **Matt** and **Emily**
- **Barry Ingber**, and his daughter **Naomi**
- **Marcie** and **Kevin Karty**, and their children **Rhea** and **Simon**
- **Nancy Kimelman**
- **Ben Newman**
- **Alison** and **David Lobron**, and their daughter **Shira**
- **Kristen Peterson**, and her daughter **Shayna**
- **Tess Wishengrad Siegel** and **Eli Siegel**



Nediv Lev

Matilda & Ed Bruckner

*In honor of Chayim Herzig-Marx and the
Ritual Committee's contribution to the Yamim N'oraim*

Elena Eisman

Mark Farber

In honor of Chayim Herzig-Marx's 60th birthday

Sunny & Maier Fein

*In honor of the birth and baby-naming of
Nathan Jacob Feinfeld*

Marjorie Feld, Michael Fein & Izzy Feinfeld

*We thank Rabbi Toba for her welcoming
our new son Nathan to CDT!*

Ernest Friedlander

Laurie Gould & Steve Ansolabehere

In memory of Zachary Carson; in memory of Sol Elkin

Beth & Jeffrey Green

Rachel Greenberg

In memory of Gloria Dorfman

Anya Guyer

In honor of Ayala Galton

Judy & Chayim Herzig-Marx

*In memory of Jill Volk, Sidney Shapiro & Junius Gertz;
in honor of the arrival of Daniel, son of Wendy Angus &
Kelli Kirshtein; in honor of the arrival of Jayla, daughter of
Betsy Hinden & Karen Wasserman*

Steffi & Eric Karp

*In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer for the New Year
In memory of Sol Elkin, father of Susannah Zisk*

Alexandra & Jeremy Kepner

Gladys & Harold Jacober

In honor of Nancy Gertz's 50th birthday

Jan Linn & Richard Pincus

In memory of our niece, Jill Volk

Howard Lurie

In honor of Toba Spitzer

Amy Mazur

*To Betsy Hinden & Karen Wasserman & Henry, in honor of
Jayla; to Tim Rosa & Judy Hersh, Esther Kohn, Elizabeth
Ross & Laurie Goldman for making my life richer and my
work easier; to Linda Kramer, Alex Fried, David & Sara—in
honor of a wonderful family! In honor of Susan Manheim,*

*my Sukkot buddy; to Sheree Galpert
for her advice and support*

Carole & Les May

In honor of Chayim Herzig-Marx's 60th birthday

Carla Naumburg & Joshua Herzig-Marx

In honor of Rabbi Toba

Alan Segal & Maribeth Ortega

Lisa Port-White

Cheryl, Jeff, Lauren & Josh Sacks

In memory of Zachary Carson whom we loved deeply

Mei See Law-Sandson

Lisa Schneier

*In honor of Esther Kohn for her dedicated,
two year leadership of Tikkun Olam*

Sharon Sevransky & Jeffrey Goldman

*In honor of Sharon's grandfather,
Isidor Baum's 100th birthday*

Nicky Silver

In memory of parents Beatrice & Sidney Grossman

Jamie Tessler

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Allyson Cherkasky

Thank you!

Sherry Katz & Mark Farber

Michael Luckens

Cheryl & Jeff Sacks

School Fund

Stephanie, Ilan, Alexa, Lia, & Noa Sussan

In honor of Avital Leah Lewis' Bat Mitzvah

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.



October



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu Oct 4		No school - Simchat Torah	
Thu Oct 4	6:15 pm potluck 7 - 8 pm celebration	Simchat Torah and Potluck	Phyllis & Alvin Glazerman, Stephen Zisk, Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith (see page 3)
Sat Oct 6		No School	
Sat Oct 6	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Allyson Cherkasky, 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 (see page 3)
Sat Oct 13	8:45 am - 9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Sat Oct 13	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Zolit	Sanctuary Clean-up: Ami & Jonathan Gordon (see page 4)
Sat Oct 13	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat Oct 13	5 pm boating 7 pm Havdallah	Havdallah on the Water: BYO Picnicking	At the Gombergs'; they will provide drinks and des- serts. RSVP required by 10/10 (see page 4)
Sun Oct 14	2 pm - 4 pm	Opening Day - Gan Program	
Sun Oct 14	2 pm - 4 pm	Zayin Family Program	FUSN
Sun Oct 14	7 pm - 9 pm	GBIO Debt to Assets Support Group	60 Highland Street: Library
Sun Oct 14	7 pm - 9 pm	Practicing Health Care Justice meeting	60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Oct 18	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Sat Oct 20	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Michal Lieberman	Sanctuary Clean-up: Sandra Sedacca & Sherwood Ives; Set-up: Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow, Linda Schiller & Steve Robins Clean-up: Lisa Goodwin-Robins, Amalia Zalcman, Abby Cohen & Stuart Snyder (see page 4)
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 Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Sat Oct 27	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Linette Liebling - In Memory of Joel Liebling at his yahrzeit; Tania Mireles; Jennifer Levine Fried & Matt Fried - In Memory of Jonathan Levine
Sat Oct 27	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat Oct 27	1:30 - 2:45 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfess	(see page 6)
Mon Oct 29	7:30 - 9:15 pm	Introduction to Zionism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict with Dr. Mitchell Silver	(see page 6)

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.

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



November



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu Nov 1		Upper School Parents Night / Open House	
Thu Nov 1	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Fri Nov 2	6:30 pm	Potlucks in members' homes	(see page 5)
Sat Nov 3	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Marjorie Feld & Michael Fein, Carol Sklar, Jodie Siegel & Susan Bernstein; <i>Rabbi's Shabbat off</i>
Sat Nov 3	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat Nov 3	1:30 - 2:45 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Bible Study Group with Dr. Gandy Goldfess	(see page 6)
Sun Nov 4	4:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Gimmel, Dalet, and Hay Family Program	FUSN
Mon Nov 5	7:30 - 9:15 pm	Introduction to Zionism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict with Dr. Mitchell Silver	(see page 6)
Thu Nov 8	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Fri Nov 9	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck	Karen Wasserman, Linda Kramer, Allison & Ezra Hausman 60 Highland Street: Fellowship Hall 6:45 pm Service (see page XXX)
Sat Nov 10	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Schwartz-Rogers	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Pamela Schoenberg Reider & Joel Reider; <i>Set-up:</i> Rachel Nemeth Cohen & Richard Cohen, Theresa St. John-Siegel & Steve Siegel; <i>Clean-up:</i> Elizabeth & David Roll, Jacqui Bloomberg, Tatjana Meschede & Daniel Krasa
Sat Nov 10	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat Nov 10	1:30 - 2:45 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfess	(see page 6)
Sun Nov 11	7 pm - 9 pm	GBIO Debt to Assets Support Group	60 Highland Street: Library
Sun Nov 11	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	CDT Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Nov 15	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Fri Nov 16	8 pm	Adult Erev Shabbat Service	Becca Gutman, Beth & Jeffrey Green, Esther Kohn - In Memory of Kitty Greenberg (see page 3)
Sat Nov 17	8:45 am - 9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)
Sat Nov 17	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jeff Goldman, Corinne Lofchie & Noam Shore, Sivan Nasoff
Sat Nov 17	10 am - 11 am	Shabbat Morning Learners' Minyan with Dr. Minna Bromberg	(see page 6)
Sat Nov 17	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat Nov 17	1:30 - 2:45 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfess	(see page 6)
Sat Nov 17	4 pm - 6 pm	Vav Family Program	FUSN
Sun Nov 18	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Program	FUSN
Sun Nov 18	evening; times TBA	Members' Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> Judy Hersh & Tim Rosa, Ellen Hemley & Mark Bronstein
Mon Nov 19	7:30 - 9:15 pm	Jewish Identity, Israeli Identity—Images & Questions, with Dr. Irit Aharony	(see page 6)
Thu Nov 22		<i>No school - Thanksgiving</i>	
Sat Nov 24		<i>No School</i>	
Sat Nov 24	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Louise Enoch & Alan Epstein, Wendy Gedanken, Rick Glassman
Mon Nov 26	7:30 - 9:15 pm	Jewish Identity, Israeli Identity—Images & Questions, with Dr. Irit Aharony	(see page 6)
Thu Nov 29	8 am - 9 am	Judaism & Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 6)

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 **Shari Zimble and Alex Fried**. May healing and comfort come to you and to those who care for you.

Condolences

To Roberta and **Paul Carson and their family** on the death of their son, **Zachary Carson**. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **Alissa and Gerry Leonard**, and to **Susannah and Steven Zisk and their families** on the death of Alissa's and Susannah's father, **Sol Elkin**. May his memory be for a blessing.



To **Susan Nitkin and Jeffrey Marcus**, and to **Caleb, Noah, and Joanna**, on the death of Susan's mother, **Pearl Cahn**. May her memory be for a blessing. If you are able to help with a meal for the family, please contact Lisa Goodwin Robbins at lgoodrob@alumni.princeton.edu.

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek mourns the loss of **Zachary Carson**, son of Roberta and **Paul Carson**, brother of **Jacob**, and nephew/cousin of the **Sacks family**. Zachary's courageous fight against cancer over the past two years was an inspiration to all who knew him. Donations in Zach's memory can be made to:

Zachary Carson Brain Tumor Fund
c/o Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor
Brookline, MA 02445

A Huge Todah Rabah for High Holydays

A HUGE "Todah Rabah" to everyone who made our High Holydays so wonderful. To all those who helped with service leading and shofar blowing: **Elaine Pollack, Doug Hersh, Kelli Kirshtein, Dan Rome, Elana Rome, Karen Arnold, Bill Shorr, Judy Herzig-Marx, Ezra and Shana Hausman, Lisa Port White and Eulalia Rose Port White, Josh Sacks, Mira Net-**

sky, Caroline Rosa, Zoe Miller, Maya Paris-Saper, Jonah Reider; and Ellie Goldberg. To all of our Torah leyners: **Kelli Kirshtein, Elaine Pollack, Chayim Herzig-Marx, Debbie Waber, Karen Arnold, Amalia Lieberman, Olivia Donnini, Steffi Karp, Louise Enoch, Ed Bruckner, Cindy Shulak-Rome, Judy Herzig-Marx**. To those who shared their stories and teachings: **Lisa Schneier, Laurie Goldman, Clifford Goldsmith, Erica Streit-Kaplan, Alex Sugerman-Brozan, Esther Kohn, and Stuart Snyder**.

Another huge "Todah Rabah" to everyone who created such wonderful programs for our children and youth: The Children's Programming coordinator, **Allison Hausman**, and all of the other coordinators from Kitah Dalet: **Marcia Okun, Laurie Gould, Elizabeth Roll, Lisa Samelson, Amy Brodesky, Diana Fisher Gomberg**; and to our wonderful children's service leaders: **Jodi Sugerman-Brozan, Kevin Karty, Hillary Pinsker, Esther Kohn, Elana Rome, and Gina Fried**.

Our High Holydays program, including the smooth transition to Gann Academy, could not have happened if not for the efforts of **Theresa St. John-Siegel**, our High Holydays Coordinator. **A MASSIVE TODAH RABAH and YASHER KOACH** to Theresa! And a huge thanks to all those who helped with the logistics of the High Holydays: **Stuart Snyder and Steve Siegel**, for the coordination with Gann; **Barbara Zolit**, for coordinating the food; **Mark Bronstein**, for the sound system; **Ellie Goldberg**, for publicity; **Nancy Gertz**, for coordinating registration; and all those who helped with moving, schlepping, setting up and breaking down: **Bruce Gore, Mark Farber, Clifford Goldsmith, Benita Danzing, Lisa Schneier, Jamie Tessler, Abby Cohen, Ellie Goldberg, Janet Boguslaw, Howard Lurie, Naomi Botkin, Lauren Gibbs, Pamela Schoenberg Reider, Sue Lanser, Tatjana Meschede, Mark Bronstein, Carol Sklar, Allison Hausman, Ellen Hemley, Adina Hemley-Bronstein, Diana Fisher-Gomberg, Ora Gladstone, Linda Kramer, Stacey Chacker, Aviva Galpert, Ruth Paris, Ilana Mainelli, Carol and Julia Sklar, Eileen Morrison, Bonnie Tenneriello, Liz Carver, Steve Zisk, Sheree Galpert, Julianne Fried, Jen Levine-Fried, Bill Shorr, Judy Hersh, Amy Mazur, Joshua Lieberman, and Doug Hersh**.

A heartfelt thank you for those who created the Yizkor Scroll for Yom Kippur: to **Lauren Gibbs and Dan Halbert**, with support from **Marla Lichtman**, for coordinating and collecting the information, and to **Richard Tuschman and Joel Reider** for creating the beautiful plaque and frame.

Editor's note: With all the people to thank, we probably missed a few people. Please accept our apologies in advance. If you email dtnews@yahoogroups.com, we'll get your name into an upcoming issue.

Todah Rabah

Todah Rabah to the following members for helping with Kid-dush: **Wendy Angus & Kelli Kirshtein, Karen & Reinhard Engels, Tessa & Clifford Goldsmith, Linda Hsu, Hope Kellman, Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury**.

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**
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Newsletter: **Dan Halbert**
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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.