

# CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation  
60 Highland Street, West Newton, MA 02465 617-965-0330  
www.dorsheitzedek.org info@dorsheitzedek.org

Adar II/Nisan 5768

April 2008



## Learning to be Free

Rabbi Toba Spitzer, [rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org](mailto:rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org)

The Pesach (Passover) holiday—which begins this year the evening of April 19—is called *z'man cheruteynu*, “the season of our freedom.” On Pesach we recall and re-experience the exodus from slavery in *Mitzrayim*, the Biblical name for ancient Egypt. The word *Mitzrayim* comes from the Hebrew root for “narrow,” and so can be understood metaphorically as a “narrow place”—a place of spiritual constriction and narrowed vision. From this “narrow place” the ancient Israelites emerged into the expanse of the wilderness and began their journey towards freedom.

It is interesting to think about celebrating freedom here in 21st century America. In many ways, we are freer in this place, at this time, than human beings have been at any other time or place in history. We are free of the catastrophes of famine, rampant disease, and political chaos that still plague millions of people around the globe. We are free to love whom we please, to have children or not, to choose our religion, our politics, our communities. And yet—I'm not sure that most of us live like we're reveling in freedom. We often experience our lives as an endless series of “shoulds” and “have-to's,” whether we're spending enormous amounts of time at work or enormous amounts of time in the car conveying our children from here to there. We and our kids are dealing with surprisingly high levels of anxiety and depression for people who have every reason in the world to be the happiest in history.

There are probably many reasons for this. Part of it is that even with all the freedoms and all the abundance we as a nation enjoy, as individuals we are still vulnerable to the inevitable disappointments and pains that come with being human. Part of it is living in a society that provides very little in the way of support for families and elders, forcing folks to earn enormous sums of money to achieve any measure of economic security. Part of it is living in an era of nanosecond technology, which forces us to keep up with machines that function at a pace that is simply not human.

And part of it, perhaps, is that we often do not feel that we are living our lives in service to that which is Ultimate—our own highest values. In the Pesach story, the Israelites did not become “free” just by leaving slavery behind; they became free by taking on a new kind of service—to the Source of Life—and in so doing they took on new obligations in order to create a free and holy society.

Interestingly, one of the top ten instructions they received in becoming such a community was the *mitzvah* of Shabbat. I have always been intrigued by the notion that even three thousand years ago, people had to be commanded to rest. People don't need to be commanded to work. We work because we have to eat, we work because it gives meaning to our lives, we work because it's in our nature to produce and consume and create. But apparently, resting takes a bit of a nudge.

Shabbat is one of our most precious gifts when it comes to figuring out how to live lives of balance and meaning. Shabbat is called a taste of *olam habah*, the “world to come”—the world as it might be, when all will be in balance. On Shabbat, we are encouraged to experience the abundance of our lives, not to focus on what we don't have. On Shabbat, we are encouraged to set down for a day all those things that keep us tethered and unfree—the machines that dictate the frenzied pace of our lives, the screens that keep us from facing our family and friends, the shopping that keeps us in consumer mode instead of being appreciative for what we already have. Shabbat helps us see how happy we are when we allow ourselves just to “be.”

**This year, we are celebrating “Shabbat Unplugged” the weekend before Passover begins. From Friday evening, April 11, through sundown on April 12, you are all encouraged to try out a Shabbat practice that might give you a taste of *olam habah*, the world as it should be. What can you refrain from—spending money, using your cell phone or computer or email, going in to work—that will allow you to slow down, to appreciate what you have, to interact with people instead of things? As a community, we want to see if we can “practice” this**

(Continued on page 2)

## Inside

Role of the Non-Jew, Fundraiser Recap.....	2
Shabbat Unplugged .....	3
Pesach, Caring for our Elders, GBIO.....	4
Shabbat Programs .....	5
Nediv Lev, Walk for Hunger .....	6
Chesed, Community Resources .....	7
Coed Softball, Adult Ed Bible Study, Synagogue Council...8	
Calendar .....	9-10
MAZON .....	11

(Continued from page 1)

together. You can do this on your own, by pledging to “unplug” on our website, and you can also experience the joy of Shabbat with friends or with the community over the course of those 25 hours (see page 3 for the website link, suggestions for Shabbat activities, and the schedule of CDT Shabbat events). **I also want to encourage you to come to the program that closes Shabbat Unplugged, “I Want to But I Can’t,”** a wonderful opportunity for us to explore together how we can get our lives a little more in line with our highest values. May your Pesach be liberating, and may we all bring a bit more of *olam habah* into our lives and our community in this season

**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](mailto: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](http://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.

## Role of the Non-Jew at CDT

*Thursday, April 3, 7:30 pm, 60 Highland Street Living Room*

The date for the second community discussion regarding the role of the non-Jew at CDT has been set for Thursday, April 3, 7:30 pm. Last month’s initial discussion foray into the role of the non-Jew at CDT was very rich -- people came to share various perspectives and concerns, and this second meeting will be a continuation of this discussion.

These discussions are not just for people who are involved in an interfaith relationship: the topic affects the entire community, and anyone interested in engaging in this conversation is more than welcome to attend!

## CDT Auction Fundraiser a Success!

The March 9 “Spring Ahead” event was a great success both as a community-builder and as a fundraiser. We had a great crowd, raised about \$7,000 and created opportunities for smaller future events and sharing of lessons and services between members. We also highlighted the varied musical talent in our community. A heartfelt thanks is due to the people who helped make the afternoon go so smoothly, setting up, staffing the booths and check-out table, emceeing, getting and selling pizza, and cleaning up. They are: **Debbie Hemley, Jon Weisberg, Jan Small, Emily Shumsky, Tim Rosa, Caroline Rosa, John Holohan, Ben Newman, Ellen White, Elaine Landes, Debbie Waber, Jen Kaplan, Liz Reisberg, Benita Danzing, Sarah Little, Cora Hersh, Isaac Hersh, Jodie Siegel, Carole Slipowitz, Emma Halwitz, Sarah Hartman, Lisa Chedekel, Isabel Morais, Clifford Goldsmith, Sheree Galpert, Lisa Port White, Laurie Gould, Tessa Goldsmith, and Richard Fisher Gomborg** (sorry if we left anyone out!) Also, a tremendous thank-you is due to the many members who generously donated items and services.

—The Fundraiser committee (**Judy Hersh, Peter Hess, Amy Brodesky, Sharon Gorberg, Diana Fisher Gomborg, Allison Andrews and Erica Streit-Kaplan**)

## Shabbat Unplugged

April 11-12

Shabbat is a gift to us, an opportunity to step away from the busyness and *overwhelm* of daily life, and to “unplug” from all those things that keep us chained to work, anxiety, and an unhealthy relationship to time. Shabbat is a time to “plug in” to rest, family and friends, and just “being.” We hope everyone at CDT will take advantage of Shabbat Unplugged to taste Shabbat in a new or deeper way, either on your own or with the community!



**To unplug:** Go to [www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org) and click on “Shabbat Unplugged” (members only). There, you can make your very own Shabbat Unplugged pledge—to “unplug” from shopping, your e-mail or cell phone, watching TV, going to work, doing laundry, or whatever you’d like! There’s a page for adults and a page for kids.

**To plug in:**

### Erev Shabbat with Temple Hillel B’nai Torah

Friday, April 11

Temple Hillel Bnai Torah, 120 Corey Street, West Roxbury  
Dinner 6 – 7 pm, erev Shabbat service at 7:15 pm

For this joint service, Rabbi Spitzer will join Rabbi Barbara Penzner of Temple Hillel B’nai Torah (HBT) for a special erev Shabbat service featuring music, stories, and spiritual nourishment. The service will include teachings on Reconstructionism as well. All welcome, and tell your friends!

For the dinner, please bring appetizers, desserts or drinks to add to the main dishes provided by the temple.

For more information, contact HBT at 617.323.0486 or [hbtooffice@templehbt.org](mailto:hbtooffice@templehbt.org), or go to [www.templehbt.org](http://www.templehbt.org).

### Shabbat Morning Study and Services

Saturday, April 12, 60 Highland Street

**8:45 am, Torah Study with Rabbi Toba:** We will study texts on some of the deeper meanings of Shabbat. Bring your own coffee or tea, no previous Torah study experience necessary!

**9:45 am, Shabbat morning services:** Join us for a musical, participatory Shabbat experience! During the Torah service, we will be honoring our high school seniors, and a special Kiddush lunch follows services!

**10:45 am, Tot Shabbat & Junior Congregation:** Kids aged 3-5 and their parents are invited to an interactive and fun Shabbat morning experience! And kids in grades 3-6 are invited to join **Max Fischlowitz-Roberts** for a participatory, joyful and spirited kids-only experience!

**Shabbat afternoon – you can:**

- ❖ Take a nap
- ❖ Go for a walk with some CDT friends
- ❖ Read a good book
- ❖ Go for a bike ride
- ❖ Hang out with your family
- ❖ Do nothing at all

### Seudah Shlishit and Evening Program

Saturday, April 12, 60 Highland Street

**5:30 pm: Potluck dinner:** Join us back at the Second Church for the traditional “third meal” of Shabbat afternoon—bring a veggie/dairy/fish main course or salad to share, enough for 12-15 people (drinks and dessert with be provided)

**6:30 pm: “I Want To But I Can’t” with Judy Elkin:** Jewish educator extraordinaire and life coach Judy Elkin will join us for an adult program on figuring out how we can better live our lives according to the values we mostly highly cherish. How many times do you find yourself saying, “I want to, but I can’t,” about something that’s really important to you? This program is geared towards taking real steps in making our daily lives more in line with our values, and getting a clearer sense of what those values are in the first place.

**There will be kids programming parallel to the adult program, for kids aged 5-ish (pre-k) through second grade, and kids in grades 3 and up.**

Everyone will come together for a closing Havdallah ceremony at 8 pm.

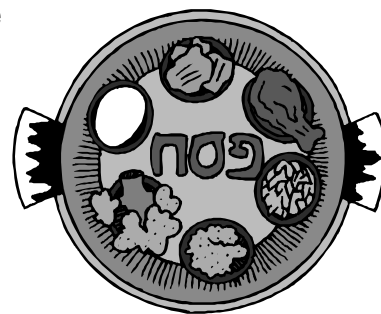


## Pesach/Passover

Passover begins this year on **Saturday evening, April 19**. This holiday marks the journey out of slavery in Egypt, and invites us to retell and re-experience that peak moment in our people's narrative. As a congregation, we will mark the seventh day of Passover at Shabbat morning services on **Saturday, April 26**, beginning at **9:45 am**. At this service we will celebrate (and read in the Torah about) the crossing of the Reed Sea with Hallel and other special songs. We will also be having a Yizkor service, an opportunity to remember loved ones who are no longer with us to celebrate the holiday.

**It's a mitzvah to go to a seder, and a mitzvah to welcome someone to your seder!** If you are a member of Dorshei Tzedek and in need of a Passover seder to attend, or if you have room at your table for another person or a few, or if you'd like to get together with others to create a seder, please contact our "Seder Matchmaker", **Abby Cohen**, by **Friday, April 11**.

According to Reconstructionist practice (which follows the Israeli calendar), the seventh day of Pesach marks the end of the holiday. So happy pizza and pasta that Saturday evening!



## Caring For Our Elders In CDT's Caring Community

We'd like to invite you to participate in the newly created listserv for Dorshei Tzedek members who are concerned about caring for elders currently or in the future, or who have done so in the past. The elder concerned could be someone you love or yourself.

The purpose is to share needs and concerns and to respond to others' needs with your knowledge and experiences.

In terms of protocol, we are asking that personal information shared on the listserv not be communicated outside of the listserv without the permission of the person who shared the information.

To join or ask questions, please write to Lisa Schneier at [schneier.lisa@gmail.com](mailto:schneier.lisa@gmail.com).

Need Haggadahs? Order a Reconstructionist Haggadah from the Reconstructionist Press!

### ***A Night of Questions: A Passover Haggadah***

*Rabbi Joy Levitt and Rabbi Michael Strassfeld, Eds.*

*Illustrated in full color by Jeffrey Schrier*

Rooted in tradition, yet accessible to all, this beautifully illustrated volume is a rich resource for the Passover holiday and for your Seder. Softcover, 160 pp., \$22.00. JRF Members-only quantity orders: 1-11 \$18 each; 12+ \$15 each; 100+ \$13 each. Special offer: Order 12 books and receive a cassette recording of 30 traditional and contemporary Passover songs as a gift! (Cassette and CD version sold separately.)

See <http://jrf.org/pub/cat-passover.html> for more information.

## Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Gathering April 8

You are invited to be a part of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization's (GBIO) 10th Anniversary celebration and action on **Tuesday, April 8 at 7 pm at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street, Newton Center**. Join our fellow members to sing with harmonies across faith traditions, hear stories of our accomplishments and current efforts, and help make our message to state officials more powerful.

### **What are we working on?**

**Aging with Dignity:** We are working to invent and invest in policies and programs that will meet the demands of a growing number of older adults and those who care for them. GBIO is working to expand and improve home and community based long-term care services for all elders.

**Youth & Safety:** We are gravely concerned about the rise in shooting and youth violence in the City of Boston and other cities and we are equally alarmed by increases in teenage alcohol and substance abuse, teen pregnancies, unacceptable drop-out rates and teen suicides throughout the commonwealth. We are working to establish a state-wide, coordinated strategy to combat these critical problems facing our youth.

**Health Care:** In the past 24 months, GBIO and the Affordable Care Today Coalition have played a critical role in making health care reform, Chapter 58, in Massachusetts a reality. We will continue to make sure that this historic reform is implemented fairly and completely.

## 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

*April 4, May 9, June 6; 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.

**On April 4, we MAY not be having the usual potluck dinner before services. Please check your email or call the CDT office at 617.965.0330.** If there is no potluck, the erev Shabbat service will begin at **6 pm**, and will be led by our very own Kitah Dalet (4th graders), with Kiddush following services. In May, we'll be back to the regular potluck, followed by services.

**Our May 9 service will be a special outreach opportunity for prospective families, so tell your friends!**

### Tot Shabbat

*April 12, May 3, June 14; 10:45 am – 11:45 am*

Come join us for an interactive service designed just for 3-5 year olds! Each parent-led service includes songs, prayers, activities, stories, crafts and a snack. For more information, or to volunteer to help with a Tot Shabbat, contact **Jodi Sugerman-Brozan** at 617.983.3679 or [jsuger@comcast.net](mailto:jsuger@comcast.net).

### Erev Shabbat Services

*April 11 (at Temple Hillel Bnai Torah), May 2 (Yom Hashoah); 8 – 9:30 pm*

**On April 11, we will be joining Temple Hillel Bnai Torah in West Roxbury for a special erev Shabbat service, as part of our "Shabbat Unplugged"; please see page 3 for more information.**

## Special Shabbat Services

On Shabbat morning, **April 5**, our Kitah Vav (6th graders) will be helping to lead the Shabbat morning service. In addition, we will officially welcome Gabriel Nathan Lobron, born a few weeks ago.

On Shabbat morning, **April 12**, we will be honoring our high school seniors, as we give them a blessing on the upcoming transition in their lives. **This is also Shabbat Unplugged: see page 3 for more information.**

On Shabbat morning, **April 26** (also the seventh day of Passover—see page 3), we will bless Sid and Rita Hackett with their Hebrew names during the Torah service.

### Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

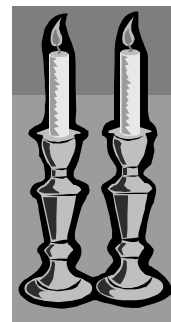
*8:45 – 9:45 am, April 12, May 17, Room 112 at 60 Highland Street*

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!

### Junior Congregation

*10:45 am, April 12, May 3 at , Room 111 at 60 Highland Street*

This is a fun and participatory service for third through sixth graders (kids only!). Spend a special Shabbat morning with your friends. Reminder to the parents - session dates are posted on our website as a part of the school calendar!



## Nediv Lev

### CDT Sings

*With thanks to Steven, Susannah & Leila Zisk for graciously hosting our rehearsals*

*With thanks to Karen Arnold for leading us and kindly helping us to be our best*

### Meryl Epstein, Trish Nuzzola & Tyler Ross

*With gratitude to our leader, Rabbi Toba, the Israel Trip Planning Committee (Elaine L, Louise, Cindy & Ora) and our amazing travel companions: Rabbi Toba, Peter & Linda K, Linda S, Steve, Sara, Louise, Ora, Elaine P, Ellen, Jacqui, Stan, Chayim, Judy, Sue Ann, Alan, Cindy & Dan!*

### Carla Naumburg & Joshua Herzig-Marx

*In memory of Carla's grandmother, Leda Herrald*

*In memory of James Kaplan's grandmother*

*With gratitude to Ewa Tuschman*

### Benjamin Newman

### Elaine Pollack

*In memory of Jill Volk*

### Rainbow Committee of Temple Sinai, Brookline

*With appreciation for Rabbi Spitzer's remarks at Temple Sinai's Rainbow Weekend*

### Cindy Shulak Rome & Dan Rome

*In memory of Annabelle Katz, mother of Sherry Katz  
In memory of Chelle Ramsey, sister of Janet Boguslaw  
In memory of Alex Fried*

*In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Ilana Galpert*

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

### Cindy Shulak Rome & Dan Rome

### Tess Siegel

*In memory of a dear friend, Harvey Yoffie*

### Dorea Vierling-Claassen

*In appreciation for Rabbi Spitzer's support and guidance during my conversion*

*Buy your books, electronics, and whatever else, and support CDT at the same time! We are now an "Amazon Associate": When you click on the Amazon link on our CDT homepage ([www.dorsheitzedek.org](http://www.dorsheitzedek.org)), a portion of any purchase you make will be contributed to Dorshei Tzedek.*

*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.*

## Dorshei Tzedek Walk for Hunger Team

**News Flash!** Kitah Zayin is organizing a Dorshei Tzedek team to participate in the 40th annual Walk For Hunger on **Sunday May 4!** We hope many from Dorshei Tzedek will join our team as walkers and contributors. Stay tuned for more specifics on how you can participate.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 **Abby Cohen**. May healing and comfort come to you and to those who care for you.

## Todah Rabah

A HUGE "Todah Rabah" and "Yasher Koach" to everyone who made our Purim celebration such a success. To **Minna Bromberg**, for logistical and leyning coordination, and everyone who helped with set-up and clean-up—**Stuart Snyder**, the **Nemeth-Cohen family**, the **Chedekel-Morais family**, **Barry Ingber**, **Susan Bernstein** and **Jodie Siegel**, **Liz Carver** and **Bryn Austin**, and the **St. John-Siegel family**. To our fabulous Megillah leyners, **Minna "Green Leprechaun" Bromberg** and **Chayim "Fifty Shekel" Herzig-Marx**, and to the kids of *Kitot Aleph* and *Bet* for their musical selections; to **Steffi Karp** for the kids' prizes and **Hankus Netsky** for the evening's musical accompaniment; to **Nathan Aronow** for being sound set-up man extraordinaire; and last but FAR from least, to our fabulous spelers: to **Sheree Galpert** and **Laurie Gould**, for reaching new musical and comedic heights, and their incredible company of singer/actor/dancers—**Diana, Maya** and **Lily Fisher-Gomberg**, **Susanna, Steve**, and **Leila Zisk**, **Stacy Chacker** and **Ariane Chacker-Bourrut**, **Doug Hersh**, **Bonnie Tenneriello**, **Linda** and **Steve Schiller-Robins**, **Marc Steinberg**, **Sarah Kramer-Fried**, **Julia Ansolabehere**, and the Ritual Committee, with rabbinic leadership from **Cindy "The Rebbe" Shulak-Rome**.

Many thanks to **Elaine Bresnick**, **Sheree Galpert** and **Jan Small** for their invaluable help in getting the Nediv Lev mailing done. Much appreciated!

## Mazel Tov

To **Alison, David** and **Shira Lobron**, on the birth and *brit milah* of **Gabriel Nathan**!

To **Phyllis** and **Al Glazerman**, on the marriage of their granddaughter, **Miriam Etta Gabel**!

To **Erica Streit-Kaplan** and **James Kaplan** on the March 24 speedy arrival of their new baby daughter, **Eleanor Jane Kaplan**!

## Advice on Elder Care

**CJP SeniorDirect**, a service of Combined Jewish Philanthropies, provides free advice on caring for your aging parents. Call 1.800.980.1982 from 9 am to 5 pm for answers, resources and expert advice on elder care. You can also visit online at [www.cjpseniordirect.org](http://www.cjpseniordirect.org) or email [info@cjpseniordirect.org](mailto:info@cjpseniordirect.org). For more information about CJP, visit [www.cjp.org](http://www.cjp.org)

## The Interfaith Resource Center at Jewish Family & Children's Service

**Mother's Circle:** The Mother's Circle Program is an umbrella of free educational programs and resources for women who are not Jewish who are raising Jewish children. There is an 8-month course that provides an introduction to Jewish practices and ethics and the "how-to's" of Jewish living.

**Interfaith Family Living—Couples' Workshop:** This series will address many of the issues facing interfaith couples, including the role of religion in family life, what is best for children, relationships with extended families, and belonging to a spiritual community. Small groups meet in a comfortable, non-judgmental environment.

Groups are forming in November, and each will meet four week-day evenings, at convenient times and locations for participants. For more information about any of these programs, please contact **Elana Kling-Perkins** at 781-647-5327 or [eperkins@jfcscboston.org](mailto:eperkins@jfcscboston.org)

## Hospice Volunteers Needed

Compassionate Care Hospice is looking for caring individuals who are willing to share some of their time and themselves with people in the community who are facing a terminal illness. Volunteers provide weekly visits to the patient's residence where they read to patients, play cards, take walks, talk, assist with a meal or errand, and offer invaluable emotional support and companionship. Volunteer training is provided to prepare volunteers for meaningful engagement with patients during this pivotal time in their lives. To become a volunteer member of the hospice team, call 781-935-5550 and ask for Jennifer, or e-mail [JFirestone@cchnet.net](mailto:JFirestone@cchnet.net).

## Coed Synagogue Softball Team

*Elliot Pittel, epittel@comcast.net*

The Coed Jewish Softball league begins the season on **Sunday, May 4**. The softball league is a lot of fun and a great way to meet people. All levels of players, from beginner to experienced, are welcome. Games take place on Sundays in Newton, West Roxbury and surrounding areas. The age of people in this league typically range from the 20's through the 40's (although older than that welcome!). Summer league games generally take place in the afternoon and early evening. Fall games will generally be scheduled to begin late morning to early afternoon.

**Elliot Pittel is interested in putting together a coed CDT team; please let him know if you're interested!** You can reach him at epittel@comcast.net or 617.964.7011.



## Adult Education

### Bible Study Continues

*Thursday evenings, 7:30 pm, at participants' homes*

Please join **Dr. Sandy Goldfless** for a close reading of a Biblical text. As Sandy describes the study: "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 language basics and key biblical terms in Hebrew as we go along, pacing ourselves by the interest and energy of the participants."

Contact Stan Fleischman at stanf@rcn.com or 617.332.5433 to find out the location of each upcoming class.

### Synagogue Council Annual Meeting

*Thursday, June 5, Temple Beth Shalom, Needham*

The Synagogue Council of Massachusetts will hold its upcoming Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 5th at Temple Beth Shalom, Needham. The evening -- which includes a dinner and dessert buffet, silent auction, and a musical performance in honor of Israel's 60th -- will be a wonderful gathering that supports the ground-breaking work of the Synagogue Council and recognizes the accomplishments of some outstanding individuals.

For further information, visit [www.synagoguecouncil.org](http://www.synagoguecouncil.org) or call 617.244.6506 x17.

## Calendar Notes

**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 room 112.

**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*





# April



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu Apr 3	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Thu Apr 3	7:30 pm	<b>The Role of the Non-Jew at CDT</b>	60 Highland Street: Living Room All members welcome to attend (see page 2)
Fri Apr 4	6 pm	<b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck</b>	Karen Wasserman, Jonathan Magaziner, Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis (see page 5)
Sat Apr 5	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Sue Lanser & Jo Radner, Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn
Sat Apr 5	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN - 1326 Washington Street
Sat Apr 5	4:30 pm - 6:30 pm	No'ar Chadash for Grades for and 5	60 Highland Street
Sun Apr 6	2 pm - 4 pm	Gan Program	FUSN
Thu Apr 10	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Fri Apr 11	8 pm	Shabbat Unplugged Erev Shabbat Service	<b>Please note location:</b> Hillel B'nai Torah, West Roxbury (see page 2)
Sat Apr 12	8:45 am - 9:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library (see page 5)
Sat Apr 12	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Elaine Landes & David Felson, Susan Moser & Thea Breite
Sat Apr 12	10 am - 12 pm	Aleph and Bet Family Program	FUSN
Sat Apr 12	10:45 am	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>	60 Highland Street: Room 112 (see page 5)
Sat Apr 12	10:45 am - 12 pm	<b>Junior Congregation</b>	60 Highland Street: Room 111 Led by Max Fischlowitz-Roberts (see page 5)
Sat Apr 5	4:30 pm - 6:30 pm	No'ar Chadash for Grades for and 5	<b>Please note location:</b> Hillel B'nai Torah, West Roxbury
Sun Apr 13	2 pm - 4 pm	Vav Family Program	FUSN
Sun Apr 13	4 pm - 6:30 pm	Ma'apilim 2.0	Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged
Sun Apr 13	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	CDT Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Apr 17	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Sat Apr 19		<i>No School</i>	
Sat Apr 19	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jeff Kichen, Toni Rosenberg, Elizabeth Carver & Bryn Austin; <i>Rabbi Toba's Shabbat off</i>
Sat Apr 19	<i>sunset</i>	<i>First Pesach Seder</i>	
Tue Apr 22		<i>No School</i>	
Thu Apr 24		<i>No School</i>	
Thu Apr 24	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Sat Apr 26		<i>No School</i>	
Sat Apr 26	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jamie Tessler, Laurie & Jonathan Kahn-Leavitt, Sharon Gorberg & John Holohan



## May



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu May 1	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Fri May 2	8 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Yom Hashoah - Erev Shabbat Adult Service</b>	Ellen Pashall, Sue Lanser & Jo Radner, Elaine Bresnick ( <i>see page 5</i> )
Sat May 3	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bar Mitzvah of Jared Frankston</b>	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Ami & Jon Gordon
Sat May 3	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN
Sat May 3	10:45 am	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>	60 Highland Street: Room 112, childcare room ( <i>see page 5</i> )
Sat May 3	10:45 am - 12 pm	<b>Junior Congregation</b>	60 Highland Street, West Newton: Room 111 Led by Max Fischlowitz-Roberts ( <i>see page 5</i> )
Sat May 3	6 pm - 8:30 pm	Gimmel Siyuum	FUSN
Thu May 8	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Fri May 9	6 pm	<b>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck</b>	Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith, Hope Kellman, Nancy Kimelman ( <i>see page 5</i> )
Sat May 10	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Stacey Chacker - <i>In Memory of Frederic Chacker</i> , Joel Katz, Valerie Graf & Doron Gan
Sat May 10	10 am - 12 pm	Kitah Aleph & Kitah Bet Classes	FUSN - 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA ( <i>see page XXX</i> )
Thu May 15	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Sat May 17	8:45 am - 9:45 am	<b>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library ( <i>see page 3</i> )
Sat May 17	9:30 am - 12:15 pm	<i>Kitah Aleph &amp; Kitah Bet - Closing Day</i>	FUSN
Sat May 17	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service <b>Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Kaufman</b>	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb
Sun May 18	2 pm - 4 pm	<i>Last day of school - Gan</i>	FUSN
Sun May 18	4 pm - 6:30 pm	Ma'apilim 2.0	Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged
Sun May 18	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	CDT Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Library
Tue May 20	3:15 pm - 6:15 pm	<i>Closing Day - All school assembly with parents and pizza dinner</i>	FUSN
Thu May 22	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Sat May 24	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Michael White, Jacqui & Stan Fleischman, Sivan Nasoff; <i>Rabbi Toba's Shabbat off</i>
Thu May 29	8 am - 9 am	<b>Judaism &amp; Practice Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>	60 Highland Street: Library
Sat May 31	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Elaine Pollack, Tania Mireles & Bill Shorr, Cheryl & Jeff Sacks



**This night is  
different for us.**

**Help us make  
it different  
for her.**

**This Passover, you can help make a difference in  
the lives of 35 million Americans at risk of  
hunger. Your support enables them to eat and  
provides them the tools they need to achieve a  
better future.**

**Passover 5768/2008**



**A JEWISH RESPONSE TO HUNGER**

1990 South Bundy Drive, No. 260  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
Tel 310.442.0020  
Fax 310.442.0030  
mazon.org | mazonmail@mazon.org

**YES**, I (we) will join with MAZON and help make this  
night different.

☐ A check payable to MAZON is enclosed

☐ Please charge my credit card

Amount of contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ AmEx

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Congregation, City, State \_\_\_\_\_

or donate online at [www.mazon.org](http://www.mazon.org)

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek  
 60 Highland Street  
 West Newton, MA 02465

**Dorshei Tzedek Officers, Board, Committee Chairs, and Staff**

<b>Executive Committee</b>	President: <b>Marc Steinberg</b>
	Past-President: <b>Nancy Gertz</b>
	VP Membership: <b>James Kaplan</b>
	VP Finance: <b>Mark Farber</b>
	Secretary: <b>Dan Halbert</b>
	Education Director: <b>Ewa Maniawski Tuschman</b>
	<b>Rabbi Toba Spitzer</b>
<b>Board Chairs</b>	Kehillah (in-reach): <b>Diana Fisher Gomberg</b>
	Marketing/Publicity: <b>Ellie Goldberg</b>
	Membership Outreach: <b>Susannah Zisk</b>
	Member-at-large: <b>Paul Hattis</b>
	Member-at-large: <b>Andrew Sofer</b>
	Nediv Lev: <b>Peter Hess</b>
	Newsletter: <b>Dan Halbert</b>
	Ritual: <b>Audra Karp / Debbie Waber</b>
	School: <b>Judy Herzig-Marx / Betsy Hinden</b>
	Space: <b>Stuart Snyder / Steve Siegel</b>
<b>Off-Board Chairs</b>	Tikkun Olam: <b>Laurie Goldman</b>
	Adult Education: <b>Jeff Kichen</b>
	Chesed: <b>Pamela Schoenberg Reider</b>
	Rabbinic Liaison: <b>Ora Gladstone</b>
	Personnel: <b>Peter Katz</b>
	Website: <b>Stan Fleischman</b>
	High Holy Days: <b>Theresa St-John Siegel</b>
<b>Administrator</b>	School Liaison: <b>Tessa Goldsmith</b>
	<b>Marla Lichtman</b>

**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.