

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
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Sivan/Tamuz 5769

June 2009



The People of the Book(s): Recommended Reading on Mindfulness, Politics, and Baseball

Rabbi Toba Spitzer, rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org

In the introduction to his book *Joseph's Bones*, the philosopher Jerome Segal muses that the Jewish people are like a 2,000 year-old book club that reads one book over and over and over again. That "book," of course, is the Torah. Yet what is wonderful about the whole concept of "Torah" is that it doesn't begin and end with the verses of Genesis through Deuteronomy, or even with Chronicles, the last book of the Hebrew Bible. In the rabbinic tradition, the moment of receiving Torah at Sinai was a Big Bang event, in which the written Torah exploded into existence and then proceeded to spread out and fill an ever-expanding universe of Oral Torah—commentary, inquiry and debate. Mishnah, Talmud, midrash, legal codes, philosophy, kabbalah, feminist critique, Israeli poetry, Yiddish drama, and on and on and on— it's all encompassed within the cosmic unfolding of "Torah."

In that spirit, and in preparation for summer reading, I thought I'd share here a few books that I've found useful to add to my "Torah" shelf - not all explicitly Jewish, but all worthy of being included in that ever-expanding universe of spiritual and ethical insight.

There are two books in the general realm of mindfulness practice that I would highly recommend. One is quite new— *Jewish Meditation Practices for Everyday Life: Awakening Your Heart, Connecting with God*, by Rabbi Jeff Roth (Jewish Lights, 2009). Roth is a Reconstructionist rabbi and a student of the acclaimed mindfulness teacher Sylvia Boorstein. Roth's book is a wonderful introduction to basic mindfulness practice from a Jewish perspective. He describes with great clarity the nature of mind and thought, and how we can learn to "wake up" to the life we are living, in order to make wiser choices and to live with greater freedom and happiness. The book blends psychological insight, Buddhist meditation techniques and Jewish approaches to Godliness and spiritual practices in a very accessible way.

The other is called *The Mindful Way through Depression: Freeing Yourself from Chronic Unhappiness*, by Mark Williams, John Teasdale, Zindel Segal, and Jon Kabat-Zinn (The Guilford Press, 2007). Accompanied by a CD with guided meditations,

this book is intended for anyone who suffers from depression (although the authors counsel that someone in the midst of a severe clinical depression should not undertake this program apart from professional help). The authors suggest insights and techniques to help shift patterns of thought that tend to make depression and unhappiness worse. I think the book is helpful for living a happier and fuller life in general, whether or not one has been diagnosed with depression.

Shifting to the political realm, there are two recent books that make important contributions. The first, *There Shall Be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice Through Jewish Law and Tradition*, by Rabbi Jill Jacobs (Jewish Lights, 2009), is great for anyone who wants an in-depth look at what normative Jewish law and tradition has to say about critical domestic policy issues, from poverty to workers' rights to health care to environmental sustainability. Rabbi Jacobs is well-versed in both Jewish law and public policy, and brings an honest and clear presentation of Jewish teachings, far beyond quoting a few random verses that support one point or another. Yet she doesn't presume a lot of knowledge in either the Jewish or public policy realms, so this book should be accessible to anyone who is interested in these topics.

This past fall I was privileged to hear Avraham Burg, former speaker of the Israeli Knesset, at the convention of Rabbis for Human Rights. Now available in English, Burg's *The Holocaust Is Over; We Must Rise From Its Ashes* (Palgrave Macmillan 2008) is a brave and forthright contemplation of what Burg views as the very problematic hold of the Holocaust on Israeli society (as well as on much of American Jewry), and how a certain kind of victim mentality has led to alarming trends within Israel. Burg attempts to articulate what he calls a "New Judaism" for his Israeli and diaspora Jewish audience, and his cri-

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tique from the "inside," as a scion of both Holocaust survivors and early Zionist leaders, makes this a very important and thought-provoking book.

Finally, on a much lighter note— it's not that new, but I love *Summerland*, by Michael Chabon (Hyperion Books 2002). Genre-wise, it's called youth fantasy, but really it's about the ultimate Truth - the fact that the universe is constructed according to the eternal verities of the game of baseball. It's difficult to describe, but totally fun! So enjoy, and happy reading!

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. In addition, CDT members' "Jewish Journey" talks are available in the "Members Only" section. 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.

JRF News

High Holydays Machzor preorders!

Save an additional 10% off of the price of the Kol Haneshama High Holydays prayerbook if you order before June 30th (plus 20% off for JRF members - so 30% off the list price of \$42). To order, go to www.jrfbookstore.org (to get the JRF member discount, call 1-877-JRF-PUBS for the membership discount code).

Tikkun Olam

Food Matters: You Can Help Family Table!

An important message from Kitah Vav (our 6th grade class):

Hey Dorshei,

We Vav-ers have been learning about Family Table, Greater Boston's Jewish Food Pantry, as part of this year's Food Matters program. Family Table is part of JF&CS (Jewish Family & Children's Services), and helps Jews who are in need of assistance with groceries and materials for Jewish holidays. Since all the food is kosher, it is good for all Jews, whether or not they keep kosher. Family Table is the only kosher food pantry in Massachusetts. And now Dorshei is teaming up with Family Table!

"How can I help?" you ask yourself. Here's how! You can bring in donations of raisins and tomato products (diced tomato cans, tomato sauce) to the beautiful wooden bins: one is located in the school office, the other is outside the sanctuary at 60 Highland Street. The raisins do not need to have a hechsher (kosher symbol), but a hechsher is preferred for the tomato products. Our goal is to collect 20 boxes of raisins and 20 tomato products every month.

Also, on Sunday morning, June 7, our class will be going to the Family Table site in Waltham to pack up groceries and then deliver them to different drop-off locations. If you are able to help on that date, contact Joel Reider at joel.r@rcn.com.

Thanks in advance for donating! Sincerely, Kitah Vav

Team Zayin & Walk for Hunger a Success!

Yasher Koach to all 27 walkers on Team Zayin, the CDT Walk for Hunger team. The group walked from Newton Corner to the Boston Common and raised \$5,257 in contributions to Project

Bread, beating their goal of \$5,000. Way to go team! The entire Walk raised \$3.86 million this year. Team Zayin thanks everyone in Dorshei Tzedek who helped make this possible— student and parent walkers and so many of friends and family who sponsored them with their donations

Torah of Chesed Update

The Torah of Chesed work at CDT continues to move forward. At the March 22 Members' Meeting, five themes were introduced back into the community, and were based on conversations, readings, research and collaborative work that a team of interested CDT members undertook to find out more about what it means to be a caring community at CDT. Over 80 attendees chose one of five themes they wanted to learn about and work on, and now the community has moved from the information gathering and research phase of this process to the action phase where we take ideas and put them into practice. We are optimistic that the energy and commitment around one or more of these themes will take hold, and new initiatives or cultural shifts will emerge in the areas of Death & Mourning, Giving & Taking, Parenting, Breaking Silences, or Working to surface proactive responses to the current economic downturn (possibly connected to GBIO).

We are already a very caring community, but there is always more we can do ensure that all of our selves are at home at CDT, and all who are interested in taking part in our community are welcome.

If you were unable to attend the March Members' meeting, and want to be involved in any of the efforts going on in any of the areas mentioned above, feel free to contact Amy Mazur (acmazur@comcast.net).

We look forward to sharing the updates of all of the groups when we meet again at our June Members' Meeting.

Shabbat Programs

Unless noted otherwise, all Shabbat programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton. Shabbat morning services are held normally weekly (but see the summer schedule below), starting at 9:45 am. Child care is provided every Shabbat morning.

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service

June 5: 6 pm candle lighting and dinner, 6:45 pm service

*Note: The all-ages service does not meet in July;
it will resume August 7*

Join us for this fun, musical erev Shabbat 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/dairy main dish or salad to share (enough for 12- 15 people). Drinks and dessert are provided.

Tot Shabbat

June 13 (at the CDT Retreat), 10:45 am - 11:30 am

Tot Shabbat is a monthly program, run by parents, for children aged 3-5 and their parents. Join us for singing, fun activities, and celebrating holidays (and of course, a snack!). Please contact Jodi Sugerman-Brozan at jodi@ace-ej.org with any questions.

Teeny-Tiny Tot Shabbat

June 13 (at the CDT Retreat), 10:45 am - 11:30 am

For the youngest members of our community and their parents! If you have a child aged 0- 2, please join us for this monthly Shabbat celebration including songs, games, crafts and snacks. For more information, please contact Alison Lobron at auderial@yahoo.com.

Staff Appreciation Shabbat

June 6, 9:45 am

Please join us as we express our gratitude to our wonderful staff people, Marla Lichtman (Administrative Director) and Annette Lawson (Education Director), without whom our office and our children's education program would not function! Special Kiddush following services.

Summer Shabbat Service Schedule

During July and August, we have a reduced Shabbat service schedule. Shabbat morning services will be held July 11 and 25, and August 8, 15, and 29. There will be an all-ages Erev Shabbat Service August 7.

Important Notice: Due to the CDT Retreat, there will be no Shabbat morning services in our sanctuary on June 13.

CDT Goes to Fenway!

Sunday, June 7

Announcing the 2nd Annual CDT at Fenway event! Jeff Goldman has been able to secure a block of Right Field Box seats for the Red Sox vs. Texas Rangers game on Sunday, June 7, and is offering them for sale to CDT members. Due to the expected high demand, ticket sales will be limited to 2 tickets per family. Tickets are \$50 each, plus \$3 per order for handling (\$103 for 2 tickets). If you are interested, please email Bruce Miller at perrystop@rcn.com or call at 617.332.2505. The Farmer's Almanac predicts June 7 as sunny, highs in the 70's!

Bat Mitzvah of Sofia Rosenberg

Please join us on June 20 as our daughter Sofia, *Shlomit Leah*, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Sofia is in seventh grade at F.A. Day Middle School where she has been involved in a variety of theatrical productions and with the newspaper, currently as the Features Editor, while juggling her school work, piano, and Newton girls' basketball. Sofia will also graduate on June 6 from the Workmen's Circle Shule, having attended since 2nd grade, and participated in numerous social justice projects involving fair labor practices and civil rights. For Sofia's Tikkun Olam project she is collecting donations of deflated soccer balls and money for Soccer For Peace, a non-profit organization which provides recreation, sports equipment, and training while promoting coexistence between Israel's Palestinian Arab and Jewish populations. We hope you join us for services followed by a light Kiddush lunch at Dorshei Tzedek.

– Danielle Klainberg and Mark Rosenberg

Community Happenings

Wednesday Night Wisdom: Old School Texts, New World Vision

Wednesdays: June 3, 10, and 17, 6:30-8:30 pm

Combined Jewish Philanthropies, 126 High Street, Boston

This three part series for young adults in their 20's and 30's, taught by talented teachers, will connect the current issue of "Hope and Spirituality During these Turbulent Times," with Judaism's treasure trove of texts. Join us as we explore these topics together in engaging sessions over dinner.

June 3: Making Lemonade Out of Lemons: How the Rabbis Grapple with the Curses of the "Tokheha" with Jonathan Lipnick.

June 10: And Moses Entered the Cloud": Revelation in Concealment with Sabrina Burger.

June 17: "Show Me the Money (Even if You Don't Have Any): The Spiritual Message in the Laws of Tzedakah with Rabbi Elliot Kaplowitz.

\$10 per session, \$25 for all 3 sessions. Light dinner will be provided; dietary laws will be observed. For questions, please contact Jasono@cjp.org or 617.457.8694.

Jewish Genealogy Program Beyond Search: More Google Tools for Genealogists

June 14, 1:30 - 4 pm

The June 14 meeting of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston (JGSGB) will feature a presentation by Michael Marx on lesser-known features of Google that go beyond web searches. It will be held on Sunday, June 14, 2009 from 1:30 - 4 pm at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street, in Newton Center. He will demonstrate how to find photographs and images of your ancestral town, get maps for towns and regions of interest, connect with other researchers with similar interests, find unique resource materials which can be downloaded, and use some of the new tools and finding aids coming out of Google Labs that

allow you to customize Google to your specific interests. The program is free for JGSGB members and \$5 for non-members. Refreshments will be served. For directions, please visit: <http://emanuel.jgsb.org>.

Adult Family Care Program from Springwell

Did you know that family members can get paid to be a full-time caregiver? The Adult Family/Foster Care program (AFC) provides seniors or individuals with disabilities with live-in care from a familiar loved one (other than a spouse) or foster caregiver. The recipient of care must be eligible for and enrolled in Mass Health and reside in the home with the caregiver. AFC caregivers receive a tax-exempt monthly stipend and two weeks paid vacation per year. For additional information or to learn more about Springwell's AFC program, call 617.926.4100.

National Havurah Summer Institute

August 3-9, 2009

This summer, join more than 300 people from a wide range of backgrounds at the National Havurah Committee Summer Institute 2009, "Walking in all your ways," August 3-9, 2009 at Franklin Pierce University, in Rindge, NH. Together, we will spend a week of in-depth study, moving prayer, spirited conversation, creative arts, social justice work, and enriching experiences for children and families. We'll enjoy late-night jam sessions, singing, dancing, swimming, meditation, and hiking, all while building new connections. Scholarships and travel grants are still available. The National Havurah Committee is a non-denominational, pluralistic, egalitarian, intergenerational, and volunteer-run organization, which has been dedicated to participatory Jewish living and learning, joyful grassroots Judaism, community building, and tikkun olam (repairing the world), since the 1970s. For more information, visit www.havurah.org/institute.

Recruiting for our School

It is the time of year when we are ramping up our efforts to reach folks in the Jewish community who may be interested in sending their kids to our school next year. The viability of our school depends on bringing in new families, and word of mouth from friends and acquaintances is by far the most important recruiting tool we have. *This is where you come in:* Would each of you please take a moment to think of Jewish families in your social circle, your neighborhood, your workplace, your child's school, your health club (you get the idea!) who might potentially have an interest in a progressive Jewish education for their children, and spread the word? Note that membership in CDT is not required for the first year of a child's enrollment in K-2.- *Susannah Zisk, Membership VP*

Religious School News

Annette Lawson, Education Director

Our Religious School students have had a busy spring. Our Kitah Zayin (seventh grade) students, assisted by some of last year's seventh graders, organized and led "Team Zayin" for Project Bread's "Walk for Hunger" on May 3. Kol hakavod to all for their successful fundraising effort for this worthwhile cause.

Students in Kitot Gimmel-Vav (third-sixth) had lots of fun while they learned all about the spring holidays of Passover, Lag B'Omer and Shavuot at a special Lag B'Omer game day on May 12. Teams of students played games such as *tzfardayah* (leapfrogs), Moses, May I?, Romans and Students Tag, and the Mount Sinai Relay Race.

As the school year draws to a close, I would like to thank all of our teachers for making it such a success. We are fortunate at CDT to have such a terrific staff. Todah rabah to Brenda Dolan, Amy Goldsmith, Rabbi Rachel Schoenfeld, Avraham Wachs Cashman, Reba Kolber, Ben Rotenberg, Hillary Pinsker, and Cindy Shulak-Rome.

Looking forward to next year, I am pleased to announce *Nitzan* ("buds"), our new program for 3 and 4 year olds. Nitzanim will be part of our Lower School, meeting one Shabbat morning a month. The program will encourage young children to explore the Jewish aspects of their lives through music, crafts, stories and games, and will provide opportunities for parent/child learning as well as a parenting discussion group. The program is open to both CDT members and non-members, so please spread the word. For more information, parents can email me at school@dorsheitzedek.org, or call me at 617-965-5443.

Adult Education

Meditation in the Morning

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Thursday mornings, 8-9 am, June 4, 11, 18 (final session)

60 Highland Street, Library

For the month of June, we will combine silent meditation with a bit of text study and meditation instruction. Join us for this weekly opportunity to slow down, reflect, and bring a bit of balance to your busy life! No meditation experience necessary.

Adult Education Planning Meeting

Tuesday, June 2, 7:30 pm

at the home of Matilda Bruckner

Please join Rabbi Toba and other CDT members to discuss plans for adult learning in the coming year.

Harmoniyah: Reconstructionist Music Network's Second Retreat!

Adat Shalom, Bethesda, MD, October 29 - November 1, 2009

Call for Workshop Proposals: Application Deadline - June 15, 2009

Join us for the second biennial JRF Harmoniyah Music Retreat-Thursday evening October 29 through Sunday morning, November 1, 2009 (special evening program Wed, October 28 for local participants and early arrivals). The goal of this retreat is to continue to build a participatory, community-affirming network of rabbis, cantors, lay leaders, music directors, educators, liturgists, musicians and music lovers that joyfully celebrates our collective experiences, skills and resources in the ongoing preservation and creation of music of and for the Jewish People.

What are we looking for? We are hoping to offer a range of music-related experiential workshops including: music for worship, sharing new instrumental music (electronic, klezmer, etc.), using music with families and children, folk music (Yiddish, Israeli, etc.), music connected to Tikkun Olam, and the arts.

Workshop proposals should be geared to meet the needs of: 1) Cantors, Soloists, Rabbis, Shlichei Tzibbur, Music Directors and Educators; 2) Choirs (not necessarily expert musicians, but those willing to devote time to practice); 3) Congregational Singing; 4) Music and Congregational Life (education for families, adults, children; tikkun olam, the arts, programming outside of worship services, etc.) Our goals are to help participants to be able to return to their home congregation with new tools, melodies, materials and ideas to enrich congregational life. We also hope this retreat will continue the task of growing and building connections among ourselves and our movement. Preference will be given to presenters who are attending the whole retreat. For details, visit <http://www.jrf.org/2009-Harmoniyah-Retreat>.

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@dorsheitzedek.org.

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.

Our New Torah Covers

A huge Todah Rabah and Yasher Koach ("remain in strength!") to wonderfully talented CDT members Wendy Gedanken and Steffi Karp, for the beautiful Torah covers they have crafted for us. We now have a full set of High Holydays (variations on white) and regular (multi-colored) Torah covers for our two *sifrei Torah*/Torah scrolls. Here are the explanations of their designs:

Wendy writes: "The first Torah cover I made involved putting on the 'outside' an aspect of what is on the 'inside.' So this cover's design is composed of five bands, representing the five books that compose the Torah. For the more recent cover, I recalled that the decorations that are placed on the Torah— the crown, the breastplate, etc., are all based upon what the High Priest wore at the time of the First Temple. So I thought, why not use the descriptions of the High Priest's clothing for the Torah cover itself? I reread the descriptions and looked at other artists' interpretations of what that clothing looked like, and then reinterpreted it as a Torah cover."

Steffi writes: "These two covers are based on the story of Creation as told in the book of Genesis/*B'reishit*."

As I worked on them, they became "*B'reishit ba-Boker*" ("Creation of Morning") and "*B'reishit ba'Erev*" ("*Creation of Evening*"). The morning colors begin with shades of the first day. It opens with dawn's early pinks and purples which blossom into real yellows and daytime greens. Like a sunset, the colors of the first evening evolve into sunset's purples and turquoises, embellished with burnt oranges and midnight blues. The swirls represent the *tohu va-vohu*, the chaos from which we learn discernment, wisdom, kindness and love. All the circles are open, which remind us to open our eyes to see when we need to go out to offer help to others -- as well as to open our hearts to let others come in. Together, these Torah covers symbolize continued renewal, hope and potential. As a founder, and the mom of one of the first b'nai mitzvah at Dorshei, I imagine all of that hope and possibility for our congregation wrapped around our Torahs, our *Etzei Chayyim*, Trees of Life."

Todah Rabah

To everyone who helped make Shabbat Unplugged a wonderful experience: our Programming Chair, Theresa St. John-Siegel, for general coordination; to Stan Fleischman, for the "unplugging" web page; to our erev Shabbat hosts: the Engels family, Stan and Jackie Fleischman, the St. John-Siegel family, Erica Streit-Kaplan and James Kaplan, and Stacey Chacker; to our poetry reading organizer, Andrew Sofer; to Laurie Gould, for hosting the Shabbat afternoon garden party; and to our New Orleans crew, for the wonderful presentation about the February trip— Gina Fried, Amy and Clifford Goldsmith, Judy Hersh, Josh Lieberman, and Tim and Caroline Rosa. And thanks to everyone who relaxed, ate, *davvened*, rested, and unplugged!

Todah rabah to Elana Rome for another wonderful year of Junior Congregation. We look forward to Elana's spirit, voice and leadership returning to us in the fall!

To everyone who provided Kiddush in recent weeks: Haralie Alpert, Michele Arons & Michael Brann (in honor of Benjamin, Thais, & Rebecca Willens), Misha Dudnik, Louise Enoch, Diana & Richard Fisher Gomberg, Jackie Fleischman, Julie & Paul Fox, Lauren Gibbs, Peter Gittleman, Ora Gladstone, Rachel Greenberg, Jennifer Hochschild, Jen Kaplan, Howard Lurie, Willa Kuh, Alison & David Lobron, Richard & Rachel Nemeth Cohen, Susan Nitkin, Barbara & Elliot Pittel, Linda Schiller & Steve Robbins, Susie Tanchel, and Ellen White.

Condolences

To Cindy Rivka Marshall, and to Kathy Pillsbury, Jeremy, and Mikayla, on the death of Cindy's father, Arthur Marshall. May his memory be for a blessing.



To Phyllis Glazerman, on the death of her sister, Eleanor Friedlander. May her memory be for a blessing.

Mazel Tov

To all those who became *b'nei mitzvah* in recent months, and their families: Sophie and Rosalyn Aronow, Max Gordon, Jack Lewis, and Risa Paley-Zimble— *yasher koach*!

A belated mazel tov to Wendy Gedanken and Joa Branco, on the birth of their grandson Solan a few months ago!

To two CDT middle schoolers, Roz Aronow from Kitah Zayin and Liam Wilcox Warren from Kitah Vav, who were winners in the recent Newton Green Decade Coalition Energy Conservation Art and Essay competition. Roz, from Day Middle School, placed third in the Middle School Art category and Liam, from Bigelow Middle School, placed second in the Essay category. *Mazel Tov* to our young members!

To Mia Branco, who graduated magna cum laude from American University, receiving a BA from the School of Arts and Sciences, as a musical theatre major. This summer, she'll

be working at Imagination Stage in Washington, DC, as a choreographer and assistant camp director. In September, she plans to begin several months of travel, and will then begin seriously pursuing an acting career.

To Michael Gonzales, who just finished his master's in English Literature at U-Mass Boston.

To Isaac Silver, son of his proud parents Ora Gladstone and Mitchell Silver, who graduated The State University of New York at Geneseo, *cum laude*, with a BA in English and a boat-load-of-know-how in theatre tech (which he and they hope he puts to use shortly.)

To Noah Ives, who is receiving his Master's from University of Wisconsin (Madison) in Population Health and is then headed for further graduate studies in Architecture at Cornell University (Ithaca).

Mazel Tov to all of our graduating seniors:

Jeremy Bayes is graduating from Newton North High School. He will be attending Ithaca College in the fall.

Raphe Broh is graduating from Brookline High School. He will be working this summer at Brimmer and May Summer Camp and will attend Colorado College in the fall.

Jolie Demuth is graduating from Dana Hall this June. She decided to attend Tulane University in New Orleans upon discovering that Tulane shuts down for Mardi Gras which also happens to be her birthday next year!

Olivia Donnini will be attending NYU.

Adam Goldsmith is graduating from Newton South High School and will be going to Boston University in the fall.

Rachel Gore is graduating from Newton North High School and will be attending Clark University in Worcester.

Joey Samelson Hattis is graduating from BB&N and will be attending Lafayette College in Pennsylvania.

Julia Hausman is graduating from Newton North and will be attending the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst.

Adina Hemley-Bronstein graduated from Newton North, enabling her to spend the spring semester in Puebla, Mexico living with a Mexican family and working as a teacher's aide in a Montessori style nursery school classroom run by JUCONE, a Mexican NGO that provides services to street working and living children. She heads off to the University of Chicago in the fall.

Elizabeth Holohan is graduating from The Winsor School and is off to Carleton College next fall.

Joey Ives is graduating Newton South High School and is headed to the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor).

Elias Kuh is going to NYU, but first taking a year to work at an orphanage in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Chloe Kuh will go to Williams College.

Annalise Littman is graduating from Newton South High School, and attending Tufts University in the fall.

Zach Miller is graduating from Lexington High School, and will be attending the University of New Hampshire in the fall.

Shoshi Paris-Saper is graduating from Newton South High School. She'll spend next year in Israel with the *Habonim Dror* workshop program and will attend Goucher College in the fall of 2010.

Nediv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

Allison Andrews & Arthur Lent

Naomi & Josh Botkin

In recognition of Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Helaine & John Carroll

In memory of John's father, Hy Carroll

In memory of Helaine's mother, Louise T. Dankner

Stacey Chacker

In memory of Fred Chacker

Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow

In honor of our daughters Sophia & Rosalyn Aronow on their Bat Mitzvah and all of the Kitah Zayin Bar/Bat Mitzvah families

In honor of Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director

Jackie & Stan Fleischman

Nancy Gertz & Michael Cohen

In memory of Jill Volk

In memory of Junius "Babe" Gertz

In memory of Leslie Chapman, for the bountiful gifts of learning she bestowed on CDT's community

In honor of Marc Steinberg's awesome reign as President of CDT, with gratitude

With appreciation for Rabbi Toba Spitzer

In honor of Amy Mazur's leadership of the Chesed Committee

In honor of Paul Hattis' upcoming role as President of CDT

In honor of Cindy Shulak-Rome, for organizing CDT's Walk For Hunger

In memory of Phyllis Sigal

Peter Gittleman

Phyllis & Alvin Glazerman

In memory of Phyllis' sister, Eleanor Goldberg Friedlander of Weston, who died May 5, 2009

Laurie Goldman

In honor of all who participated in the New Orleans building project and all who have been involved in the Torah of Chesed learning process

Laurie Gould & Steve Ansolabehere

Allison & Ezra Hausman

Debbie Hemley & Jonathan Weisberg

In memory of David Hemley, Emil Rosen & Herman Weisberg

Linda Hsu & Marc Steinberg

Linda Katz

In memory of Saul Weiss

Linda Kramer

In memory of Alex Fried

In honor of the conversion of Sara Kramer-Fried, with thanks to

Rabbi Spitzer and Rabbi Rachel Schoenfeld

Esther Kohn

In memory of Paul Sofer

In honor of the dedicated leadership of Marc Steinberg and Rabbi Spitzer

Alisa & Gerry Leonard

Linette Liebling

In memory of Susan Manheim's father

In memory of Caren Smith's sister

In memory of Lesley Chapman, a gifted educator

Alison & David Lobron

Barbara & Sheldon Magaliff

In recognition of Ellen Hemley, Mark Bronstein, Rachel & Adina

Ilana Mainelli

In honor of Annette Lawson and Amy Goldsmith

Hilary Marcus & Jonathan Magaziner

In honor of Roslyn Marcus, Elliot & Barbara Pittel, Al Glazerman, Betsy Hinden & Karen Wasserman and the CDT Eldercare listserv facilitating a caring community

Lissy Medvedow & Cliff Cohen

In memory of Lesley Chapman

Eileen Morrison & Michael Jablon

Joan Muros

In recognition of Wendy Falchuk & family

Ellen Pashall

In memory of Lesley Chapman

Diane & Allen Post

In recognition of a truly worthy community (CDT)

Debra Rattet & Leslie Rubin

In recognition of Steffi Karp and her beautiful Torah covers

Linda Rosenbluth

In loving and cherished memory of my recently departed partner, Arlene Litvak

Emily Saltz

In recognition of Cindy Shulak-Rome

Tess Siegel

In honor of Rabbi Spitzer's energy and devotion

Carole Slipowitz & Dan Halbert

Nessa Spitzer

In recognition of all the good works of CDT and the best High Holyday services anywhere!

Ellen White

In memory of Paul M. White

Barbara & Jerry Zolit

Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund

Caren & Nathan Bosk
In remembrance of Jill's second yahrzeit

Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow
In honor of Annette Lawson, Education Director

Rabbi Marna Sapsowitz
In loving memory of Jill Volk on her yahrzeit

Rhoda Volk
In memory of the second yahrzeit of Jill's death

On May 15, 2008 we marked the first yahrzeit of CDT member Jill Volk. In her memory, we have created the Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund, which will provide scholarships for teachers in the Dorshei Tzedek religious school to receive professional development and training. Jill was one of the founders of and first teachers in our school, and this fund will allow her love of Judaism and Jewish learning to continue to enrich our community. Donations to the fund should be made out to 'Congregation Dorshei Tzedek,' and noted for the fund. All donations to CDT received last year in memory of Jill have been deposited into this fund.

Camp JRF Fund Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Haralie Alpert
In memory of Paul White, brother of CDT member Ellen White
In honor of Marc Steinberg for three wonderful years as president of CDT

Benita Danzing & Nathan Aronow
In honor of Rabbi Toba Spitzer

School Fund Holy Books Fund Building Fund

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), 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.

Prayer for Our Country

*In honor of Barack Hussein Obama
 completing his first full day as President*

*by Ilana Streit
 January 22, 2009*

1. I love the photo
 on the front page of the newspaper
 of you sitting there in the Oval Office
 on the telephone to God
2. May all my cells
 take in this hope
3. May all parents of newborns
 get an extra half-hour of sleep
 every night
4. May Barack Hussein Obama
 live to 120
5. May hope, now that we've
 allowed it into us,
 may it now be free
 to roam around
 on city streets in the middle
 of the night
 when so many of us are asleep
6. May hope, now that we've
 seen it on each other's faces
 and tasted it in our tears -
 may it have little parades
 all the time
 along with each day's rush hour traffic
7. May hope, now that we keep naming it,
 remain.
 May we perhaps forget
 why we refound it,
 who helped us find it
8. May there be
 in my lifetime
 a female president
 of the United States

 May she live to 120
9. May none of us pray to President Obama
 May all of us pray for him
 May no one prey upon him
10. May we continue to merit
 leaders
 the sight of whom
 makes me start to cry
 with relief

CDT Softball

CDT breaks into win column with first win of 2009 Season! Hitters come out of slump. CDT avenges last year's loss by smoking the Temple Isaiah Red Lox-2.

Elliot Pittel, epittel@comcast.net

The Dorshei Tzedek Men's team registered their first win of the season this Mother's Day morning. CDT hit the road for a game against division rival Isaiah Red Lox-2 of Lexington at the Lincoln Field Complex. Playing across the street from the palatial Temple Isaiah, CDT showed no respect for our hosts by playing with focus, intensity, and spirit, and taking advantage of some shoddy defense by Isaiah-2. Although both teams entered the game with identical 0-3 records, sharing the basement of the Division, the game was highly competitive.

CDT opened the game with four runs in the top of the first inning. Stuart Snyder led off the game with a double, and was followed by singles contributed by Jeff Goldman and Jonathan Magaziner. After Nathan Aronow was safe on a fielder's choice, Mike Glazerman and Ira Schor both knocked in runs with singles. The last run in the inning was delivered by Paul Hattis' single.

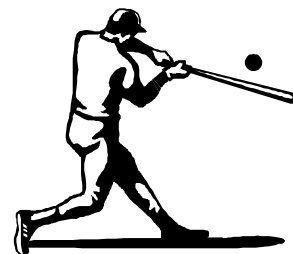
CDT held Isaiah-2 scoreless in the bottom of the first inning, and then got back to work in the top of the second with 6 consecutive singles by Snyder, Goldman, Magaziner, Aronow, Glazerman, and Schor. Three runs crossed the plate in the top of the second inning, staking CDT to a 7-0 lead.

In the bottom of the second inning, the Isaiah-ites rallied for three runs, and that's the way it stood until the fourth inning. Both teams were scoreless in the third inning. CDT mounted a rally to extend the lead to 9-3 by scoring two runs in the top of the fourth inning on a single by Magaziner, a long double by clean-up hitter Aronow (with Magaziner scoring all the way from first base), and a Schor single that scored Aronow from second base.

Pitcher Paul Hattis was breezing along until the bottom of the fourth inning, when he walked a couple of batters and Isaiah-2 had a big extra-base hit with the bases loaded. By scoring 5

runs in the fourth inning, Isaiah-2 got back in the game, and was down by only one run, 9-8, at the end of the fourth inning.

Unlike previous weeks when CDT found it difficult to crank up the offense in the middle innings, CDT countered with their biggest run total in an inning this season. With one out, Jonathan Weisberg was safe on an errant throw by the third baseman, and Mark Rosenberg, stroked a soft single to centerfield. The top of the order came up and continued slicing up Red Lox pitching. Snyder and Goldman both singled, Magaziner was safe on a fielder's choice, Aronow singled, and with the bases loaded, CDT got the long ball from Mike Glazerman who stroked a triple to an empty right center field, clearing the bases on that hit. Schor knocked in the last run of the inning with another single.



CDT was able to take a 15-8 lead into the bottom of the fifth inning, and held Isaiah-2 to 1 one in the fifth. CDT held Isaiah-2 scoreless in the sixth inning, and survived a rally when Isaiah-2 scored two in the bottom of the seventh inning.

CDT was able to hang on for a win not only because of timely hitting, but because CDT played an excellent defensive game. Defensive star goes to Mike Glazerman, who made two running and sliding catches of balls in short left field, and ranged back to the fence to take an extra base hit or away from an Isaiah-2 batter, while battling the stiff windy conditions. Tight defense was also played by Magaziner at 3B who made some nice grabs and throws, and blocking one ball off his chest to take an extra base hit away from an Isaiah-2 batter. Unfortunately, Stuart Snyder was unable to pull off another triple play as he did last week. Interviewed after the game, Snyder said he would much rather get a win than any personal acclaim for a triple play.

So CDT stays out of the cellar of the divisional standings with this win, and with this win, CDT stays alive in the hunt for a play-off berth in the Kiddush Cup Post-Season Playoffs.

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, Administrative Director*



June, July, August



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Thu Jun 4	8 am - 9 am	Morning Meditation with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (<i>see page 5</i>)
Thu Jun 4	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfless	TBA
Fri Jun 5	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck	Stephanie & Nem Hackett, Janelle Winston, Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Bill Shorr (<i>see page 3</i>)
Sat Jun 6	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Rick Glassman, Helaine & John Carroll, Dan Rome
Sun Jun 7	10 am	CDT Men's Softball Team game	Forte Field, 233 California Street in Newton v. Shalom-Newton
Thu Jun 11	8 am - 9 am	Morning Meditation with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (<i>see page 5</i>)
Thu Jun 11	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfless	TBA
Fri Jun 12 - Sun Jun 14		CDT Retreat	Camp Yavneh, W. Nottingham, NH
Sat Jun 13		Shabbat Morning Service Tot Shabbat Teeny-Tiny Shot Shabbat	At the retreat (<i>see page 3</i>)
Thu Jun 18	8 am - 9 am	Morning Meditation with Rabbi Toba Spitzer	60 Highland Street: Library (<i>see page 5</i>)
Thu Jun 18	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Jun 18	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfless	TBA
Sat Jun 20	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Sofia Rosenberg	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Lauren Gibbs, Elizabeth Samelson; <i>Set-up:</i> Kristen Petersen, Elena Eisman, Lisa Goodwin Robbins, Peggy Rose, Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn; <i>Clean-up:</i> Pamela & Steven Katz, Ora Grodsky & Jonathan Rosenthal (<i>see page 4</i>)
Mon Jun 22	7 pm - 9 pm	Rosh Chodesh	60 Highland Street: Living Room
Thu Jun 25	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Bible Study Group with Dr. Sandy Goldfless	TBA
Sat Jun 27	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	David Felson, Susan Manheim, Elizabeth Ross & Caren Smith, Jen Kaplan <i>Rabbi Toba's Shabbat off</i>
Sat Jul 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	<i>Rabbi Toba off (see page 3)</i>
Sat Jul 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	<i>Rabbi Toba off (see page 3)</i>
Fri Aug 7	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck	(<i>see page 3</i>)
Sat Aug 8	9:45 am	Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Clara Ives	<i>Sanctuary Clean-up:</i> Tracey Rogers & Jane Schwartz; <i>Set-up:</i> Susan Nitkin, Marcia Okun & Josh Lieberman, Barbara & Elliot Pittel; <i>Clean-up:</i> Susan Silberberg & Thom Robinson, Karen & Jeff Arnold, Barry Ingber, Jacqui Bloomberg
Tue Aug 18	7 pm - 9 pm	Rosh Chodesh	60 Highland Street: Living Room
Sat Aug 29	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

Dorshei Tzedek Officers, Board, Committee Chairs, and Staff

Executive Committee	President: Marc Steinberg First VP: Paul Hattis VP Membership: Susannah Zisk VP Finance: Mark Farber VP Education: Sheree Galpert Secretary: Peter Katz Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Board Chairs	Membership: Corinne Lofchie Programming: Theresa St-John Siegel Nediv Lev: Peter Hess Leadership: Esther Kohn Newsletter: Dan Halbert Ritual: Cindy Marshall School: Betsy Hinden Space: Steve Siegel Tikkun Olam: Laurie Goldman Member-at-large: Dan Rome Member-at-large: Sharon Sevransky
Off-Board Chairs	Marketing/Publicity: Ellie Goldberg Chesed: Pamela Schoenberg Reider Rabbinic Liaison: Ora Gladstone Website: Stan Fleischman
Education Director	Annette Lawson
Administrative Director	Marla Lichtman

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.