

CONGREGATION DORSHEI TZEDEK

An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
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Tamuz/Elul 5770

July-August 2010



President's Thoughts

Paul Hattis, president@dorsheitzedek.org

As I write this column, I have completed one year as synagogue president. While there is much I could comment on from this past year, I think best use of this space would be to reflect on a few key things that are currently on my mind.

First, I am incredibly impressed on how much volunteer energy gets put forward by so many people connected to our community. Some of it gets noticed because it is more visible with respect to core synagogue activities and functions tied to services or our school. But there are so many other things that take place in the background: the group working on the Newsletter, Chesed activities, Food and Justice and other Tikkun Olam work, support to the Board Nominations process, and the Limmud 2010 effort, to name just a few. For all of the people connected to these and other activities which help make our community stronger and meet the needs of our congregants, I just want to say thank you for your efforts!

Second, notwithstanding the dedicated efforts of many to connect with various DT activities, our recent board discussions have noted that for a number of members (and perhaps especially those who have joined in the last few years), it can remain a challenge to find value-adding ways to connect to other people and activities at Dorshei Tzedek. Our Board is focusing on how we as a community can both do a better job at making effective inquiries of what interests our members, as well as offer responses that lead to members making successful connections to activities that are meaningful to them. I hope that if during this next year, you get such an inquiry, you will be willing to share your hopes, ideas and desires for you or your family members to have a more engaged Dorshei Tzedek life.

Third, as we close this budget year, we find ourselves working hard to get to our goal of having only a small operating deficit for the year. While it will not be consequential if we don't quite get to break-even this year, we are concerned about the longer term. We currently have about 180 member households. In order to achieve a stable balanced budget, we really need to reach our strategic-planning goal of 200 dues-paying households. We have agreed on a specific plan for a balanced budget for this next year that was approved at the June Members' meeting, but the longer term challenge must be addressed so we can continue do all of the things we currently do, as well as

continue to grow and develop in ways that make us a vital community. I will be working with the Executive Committee of the Board next year to fully explore a range of ways to solve our structural deficit. Though growing to 200 households remains an essential goal, there may well be other productive things we can do to operate in a more financially consistent and stable way. Stay tuned for more information as we discuss different ideas.

Finally, as we noted at our recent Board meeting, whatever we do should be done with a great sense of fun and joy. This next year is a retreat year that brings us back to Camp Yavneh during the weekend of June 10-12, 2011. These retreats have always been a very special and fun experience for members of all ages. Also, Rabbi Toba has just completed her thirteenth year with us and we are planning a Bat Mitzvah fundraising celebration for her during the coming year. We hope that our entire community can join in the fun and celebration: more details in the fall!

Have a happy and healthy summer.

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Contacting Rabbi Toba: Rabbi Toba does not have regular office hours but is available to talk about any spiritual, religious, or personal issues that you might want to discuss. You can contact her at rabbid@dorsheitzedek.org or 617.965.0330 x2. If she is unavailable, there will be a rabbi on-call in case of emergency. The rabbi's voice-mail will have information on how to reach the on-call rabbi.

Members' Meeting Minutes

Peter Katz, Secretary, peter_katz@harvard.edu

A meeting of the members of CDT was held at Second Church on **June 6, 2010** at 6:30 pm after a pizza supper, illuminated by natural light due to a power failure at the church.

Paul Hattis welcomed the members and lead them in a blessing. **Rabbi Toba** gave a d'var.

This Year's Budget : **Michael Cohen** started off a discussion of the budget by reporting on this year's financial situation. This year's budget originally projected an \$18,000 deficit. Revenues are a little ahead of projections, mostly because of greater than planned High Holidays income. As a result, the deficit is now expected to be about \$10,000. The Nediv Lev goal for this year is \$72,000. We have received pledges of about \$65,000, with a participation rate of about 65%. If everyone who can gives what they can to Nediv Lev, we may succeed in further cutting the deficit.

During a discussion, Paul Hattis said that small non-profits usually like to have about 6 months of reserve funds; at the end of this year CDT will have somewhat less than that, but still will have fairly reasonable reserves.

Next Year's Budget: Michael then presented a proposed budget for 5771 (2010-11). The proposed budget projects a break-even situation for the year, based on past trends in income and expenses. Some key points of this proposal are: a small net increase (3 households) in membership, nominal increases in dues (about 2%) and tuition, an increase in the *Hatzi Shekel* amount from \$100 to \$125, an increase in High Holidays revenue, a Nediv Lev goal of \$72,000 plus a special fund raising event with a \$5,000 goal, a special one-time gap closing appeal of \$7,000 if needed, and a reduction of dues for JRF and GBIO to \$12,000 from the current \$18,000. Michael observed that the *Hatzi Shekel* amount has not been increased for ten years. He also noted that volunteers will be needed to conduct the fund raising event. The Board has approved this proposal guided by the view that it would be undesirable to budget for a deficit two years in a row. This proposal also assumes that there will need to be an on-going discussion this year of long-term measures to increase revenues and reduce the deficit.

After a discussion, the members approved the budget with one abstention.

Chesed: **Amy Mazur** spoke about the activities of the Chesed Committee. The Committee has almost completed a mourning booklet, with the help of Lisa Port White. A major theme for the Committee this coming year will be opportunities for children with special needs, including ways and means of being welcoming and inclusive and reducing roadblocks to participation.

Susan Nitkin spoke about some personal experiences of her son and family in this respect, describing both the challenges they faced and acts of members that were supportive.

Judy Hersh described the Chesed Committee's restructuring

plan, under which, beginning this month, pairs of members will be responsible for coordination of Chesed volunteers on a rotating three-month basis. Judy also described a new software tool on the CDT website that provides an easy way of signing up for Chesed; she encouraged members to let the committee know what kind of Chesed support they might be able to provide.

Amy thanked **Lisa Goodwin-Robbins** and **Pamela Schoenberg Reider** for their great Chesed work for the last two years. The members thanked Amy and the current committee for their ongoing efforts.

Limmud 2010: **Sheree Galpert** reported to the members on this year's Limmud 2010 activities, including well- received congregational meetings on the topics of learning about learning and trends in Jewish learning, as well as parlor meetings in the homes of members to discuss what Jewish learning means to CDT members. If there is sufficient interest, more parlor meetings may be scheduled. From October to January, members of the Limmud 2010 team will participate in a CJP leadership institute on learning, with the goal of developing specific actions to connect with other CDT activities. Sheree thanked her co-chair **Allison Andrews** for her help and support.

Departures: On behalf of CDT, Paul Hattis expressed the heartfelt thanks of the congregation for the service of a number of people who are stepping down (for now) from service in Executive Committee, Board and Off-Board positions, including:

Marc Steinberg, Immediate Past President (after three years as President)

Susannah Zisk, VP Membership

Sheree Galpert, VP Education

Theresa St-John Siegel, Communications Committee Chair

Cindy Marshall, Ritual Committee Chair

Betsy Hinden and **Lisa Samelson**, School Committee Chairs

Dan Rome, member at large

Janice Cole, member at large

Dan Halbert, Newsletter (after 10 years of coordination!)

Lisa Goodwin-Robbins, Chesed coordinator

Election: Paul presented the nominees for 5771 (2010-11). (See the back page of this newsletter for the full slate.) Two slots, Membership Committee Chair and School Liaison, are still under consideration. The members elected the nominees by acclamation.

The members also thanked **Esther Kohn** and the Nominating Committee for their hard and successful work.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

(also see Board Notes on page 8)

Tisha B'Av

*Temple Hillel Bnai Torah
Monday evening, July 19, 8 - 9:30 pm*

Tisha B'Av, the 9th of Av, is a traditional fast day on which we commemorate the destruction of the first and second Temples in Jerusalem. CDT will not be holding its own observance of Tisha B'Av this summer, but we are invited to join with Temple Hillel Bnai Torah for a program with Rabbi Barbara Penzner on "Feeling Besieged: How American Jews Respond to Jewish Power and Jewish Victimhood in America and Israel." Temple Hillel Bnai Torah is located at 120 Corey Street in West Roxbury; for more information, go to www.templehbt.org.

Avelut

*Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners
Monday, July 12, 8 pm, home of Benita Danzing, Newtonville
Monday, August 9, 8:45 pm, home of Hilary Marcus,
Jamaica Plain*

Avelut is a monthly gathering of CDT members in mourning, focusing on mutual support and a chance to share individual journeys in bereavement. July and August weeknight meeting dates have been set based on the schedules of those participating, and are posted in the newsletter and online member calendars. Please join us if you would like to remember a family member or friend. If you would like more information, or you can volunteer to host a meeting, contact **Hilary Marcus** (hmr99@hotmail.com).

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 weekly, starting at 9:45 am. **Childcare is provided every Shabbat morning.**

Summer Schedule – Shabbat Morning Services

*July 10, July 24, August 7, and August 21
9:45 am, 60 Highland Street*

Over the summer, we do not have weekly Shabbat morning services. We will have services on the following dates listed above. Child care will be available. Please join us!

On Shabbat morning, **July 24**, we will be celebrating the *brit bat* of **Rose Ermelinda Naumburg**, daughter of **Carla Naumburg** and **Josh Herzig-Marx**. Please join us for the simcha!

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service

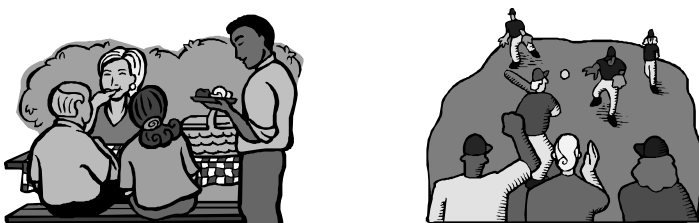
*No service in July; Friday, August 13
6 pm candle lighting and dinner, 6:45 pm service*

Join us for this fun, musical erev Shabbat service! We will gather for candlelighting and a potluck vegetarian dinner beginning at **6 pm**, followed by a musical, all-ages erev Shabbat service at **6:45 pm**. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian main dish or salad to share (enough for 15–20 people). Drinks and dessert are provided.

August in Auburndale!

August 29, 3 – 6 pm, Auburndale Cove

Please join us Sunday, August 29, from 3-6 pm at the Auburndale Cove for an afternoon of camaraderie, games, softball, and goodies on the grill! More information will be forthcoming via email over the summer, but please mark the date on your calendar. If you and your family are in town, please come! And bring a friend who might be interested in CDT.



CDT Sings

Sharon Sevransky, sharonsev@comcast.net

Do you enjoy singing? CDT Sings is looking for some new members. Previous choral experience helpful, but ability to read music is not required. We will sing at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services (including evening services). To prepare, we are scheduling 3 rehearsals in late August and early September. Please email Sharon Sevransky (sharonsev@comcast.net) if you are interested, or would like more information.

Ask Lisa Dee

Lisa Dee Port-White, ldpw@rcn.com

Have any questions for the Ask Lisa Dee column? Anything you want to know about CDT. Anything you want to know about anything. I'll do my best to get you the answers.

Rosh Chodesh Celebrates Five Years

Alison Lobron, auderial@yahoo.com, Erica Streit-Kaplan, ericastreitkaplan@yahoo.com



"Rosh Chodesh" means "Head of the Month". In many communities, Rosh Chodesh is a time when groups of women gather to explore themes of spirituality and healing with their peers. According to Kabbalah (Jewish mysticism), each Hebrew month has a spiritual theme that relates to the season in which it falls, as well as holidays and Torah portions that take place within that month. For example, the Hebrew month of Kislev corresponds roughly with the month of December. Because of the short days at this time of year, as well as the occurrence of Chanukah (the Feast of Lights), the spiritual energy of Kislev centers around finding light and hope during times of darkness in our own lives.

In the spring of 2005, a group of CDT women decided to bring the traditions of Rosh Chodesh to Dorshei Tzedek. According to co-founder, Erica Streit-Kaplan, "I was looking for a place to talk about more personal experiences than those shared over kiddush. At the time I was expecting my first baby and thinking a lot about how my life would be changing; the Rosh Chodesh group turned into a tremendous support system for me. It's been so rewarding to share my journey with other women at CDT, and support others on their paths." Laurie Schloff became a new member and joined the Rosh Chodesh group at the same time. Laurie said she "looks forward to the feeling of relaxation, great discussion, connection to spirituality and other women in CDT." Laurie would love to see women of all ages and stages become part of Rosh Chodesh.

The group that was started five years ago continues to be a presence in our community. Once a month, a small but spirited group of CDT women gather in the library at 60 Highland Street to welcome the new Hebrew month. The group is lay-led, and we use as our guide a book entitled, *Kabbalah Month by Month: A Year of Spiritual Practice and Personal Transformation* by Melinda Ribner. We use the book and its suggested meditations and activities as a springboard for discussion. How can we understand our own spiritual journeys in the light of the themes suggested for each month? How can we process the interactions we have in our various roles as mothers, daughters, partners and friends? How can we grow individually and as a supportive community?

For those of us who attend regularly, we feel a strong connection to one another. As we learn about each other's journeys, and open ourselves to share our own struggles, we draw on Jewish wisdom to add meaning to our experience. We hope that if you are interested, you will join us at our August meeting for a "Taste of Rosh Chodesh."

Celebrate the Month of Av with "A Taste of Rosh Chodesh" Gathering

Tuesday August 10, 7:30-9 pm
60 Highland Street

Would you like a reflective, friendly, and inspirational experience as we welcome the month of Av? We look forward to welcoming women of CDT and have you join as we regroup for the fall. Our time together includes sharing, reflection, meditation, crafts, and refreshments too. Members describe the experience as fun, meaningful and supportive. For more information, call **Laurie Schloff** 617.571.0944 (speaksmart@aol.com) or **Kristin Petersen** 617.512.5220, (petersenka@hotmail.com)

Limmud Boston!

October 30 – 31, 2010; Temple Israel, Boston

Dorshei Tzedek Becomes Co-Sponsor of LimmudBoston Conference

LimmudBoston—it's a communiversity--community plus exciting learning opportunities. It is both the annual conference which celebrates Jewish culture and the camaraderie of the volunteers who create the program. Full of unpredictable, unforgettable, unbelievably bright shining stars of Jewish life, **LimmudBoston** is a happening! And in Boston, it is happening for the first time on October 30 – 31, 2010 at Temple Israel* of Boston. (www.LimmudBoston.org) LimmudBoston is one of the 45 global Limmud ("Limmud" means "study") conferences taking place around the world. Dorshei Tzedek is proud to be a co-sponsor of this event.

At **LimmudBoston**, your \$36 ticket to admission includes both Saturday night's Havdalah and entertainment and Sunday's all-day extravaganza of multiple, simultaneous choices for hands-on, experiential, Jewish study. At **LimmudBoston** *everyone is a learner and everyone can be a presenter*.

Hold the date—Volunticipate! **LimmudBoston** volunticipants create the conference. At this time, LimmudBoston is looking for more volunteers to help plan the programs and arrange this first annual event. As a co-sponsor, we would like to offer active 'volunticators' to help make this event shine. Register to volunteer at <http://tinyurl.com/LBvolunteer>.

To help create **LimmudBoston** --and to register for the conference -- see www.LimmudBoston.org

* *LimmudBoston* thanks Temple Israel for the generous donation of their building for our first conference.



Tikkun Olam

CDT On-Board as GBIO Anti-Usury Thrust Moves Forward

GBIO is moving ahead with its "Enough is Enough" campaign to curtail some of the most egregious usurious practices of the biggest banks around.

To date, GBIO has called US senators to support the Interest Rate Reduction Act which, if passed, would cap interest rates on all consumer loans at 15%. Earlier this spring, Massachusetts Treasurer, Timothy Cahill, answered GBIO's call and announced his intent to move over \$230 million state funds from national banks who do not abide by the state's usury laws.

This fall, GBIO member congregations, together with interfaith groups from around the country, will launch a new phase of the initiative to hold the national banks accountable to consumers. Now we'll build our power by moving our money out of the accounts we hold with national banks that charge excessive interest rates.

Five members of CDT attended the GBIO Delegates Meeting on June 21 at which we were brought up-to-date on a number of current campaigns and actions and then met in small groups to delve more deeply into the future of the Enough is Enough campaign. As GBIO moves forward, we will be calling on more of CDT's membership to become involved in this effort that will attack banking practices which include 30% interest rates on some account activities and loans.

The next opportunities for involvement are two training sessions for conducting the Individual Moving Our Money campaign, on July 13 and August 4, and the next Delegates Meeting on September 20 where we'll prepare our demands of the gubernatorial candidates. Stay tuned for more news on these initiatives and on how to become a CDT activist as the campaign progresses.

For more information see GBIO's web-site – www.gbio.org. To get involved call or email Ora Gladstone – 617-630-9050, gladstone@brandeis.edu.

A Simple Mitzvah: Family Table Donations

Whenever you come to shul or to the Hebrew school, consider bringing along some food to donate to Family Table, the kosher food pantry for greater Boston. We have two collection boxes at Dorshei Tzedek: one is next to the school office at FUSN, and the other is right outside the sanctuary at the Second Church, near the door out to Highland Street. **Our assigned foods are raisins and tomato products (sauce, canned, etc.).**

Also, one Sunday per month, we are responsible for bringing our food items to the Family Table office in Waltham. This is a very easy way to have you (and others of all ages in your family) do a simple mitzvah. As a driver, you would simply need to pick up the food at Dorshei Tzedek and transport it to

JRF News

JRF Convention

California Dreaming: Visioning our Jewish Future



You're invited! The JRF 2010 Convention will be held **November 11-14, 2010** in beautiful Newport Beach, California. Registration will open in July, 2010. For more information, please visit www.jrf.org/convention or call Rabbi Erin Hirsh at (215)

885-5601 ext. 16. The official website of the 2010 JRF Convention is now live! Want to get the most up-to-date info on all things Convention? Bookmark www.jrf.org/convention in your internet browser. Do you have a great idea for a Convention workshop? The workshop proposal form is now available on the Convention website.

Camp JRF Family Camp

August 18 – 22, 2010

Camp isn't only for kids anymore! Parents, children, and other family members can now join us for five days of swimming, sports, arts, havaya (experiential education), singing, dancing, and all the best that Camp JRF has to offer. Visit www.campjrf.org/parents/familycamp.htm to learn more and register. If you have any questions, please direct them to info@campjrf.org.

Tikkun JRF for Teens at Camp JRF

August 15-20, 2010

Want to make a difference? Post b'nai mitzvah teens and their parent(s) can spend a week working together to help local communities and provide much needed support, and at the same time build through a variety of tikkun olam (social action) community service projects such as building, home rehab and demolition, light carpentry, and more. Working side by side with one another, parents will model the caring and activist values they hold and teens will experience the power of their potential to make a difference in the larger world. Visit <http://www.campjrf.org/news/tikkun-jrf.htm> to register or call Isaac at (215) 885-5601 ext. 12 to learn more.

Tikkun Olam: Global Jewish Climate Change

Check out the great resources from the Reconstructionist movement and other general resources for living a sustainable, eco-friendly Jewish life! For more information about the Sustainable Synagogue Initiative visit: www.jrf.org/Sustainable_Synagogue_Resources and www.jrf.org/Jewish-Climate-Change-Initiative.

the Waltham office. We need only one car to drive the load over to the Family Table office. At this time, we need drivers on five more Sundays through July. If you want to be a driver, please go to this calendar and sign up: doodle.com/3whymp8tsqk7h775. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact **Pamela Schoenberg Reider** at jomela@rcn.com.

Chesed

Amy Mazur, acmazur@comcast.net

"Only in the intimacy of the present can we awaken. This intimacy connects us to one another, allows us to belong, and in this belonging...we move from our separateness, our contraction, our limited sense of ourselves."—Jack Kornfield, *A Path with Heart*

For the last three years, the work of Chesed at CDT has moved from informal conversations and concerns about transforming what it means to be a caring community, to the formation of the Torah of Chesed, where through intentional conversations throughout the community we have lifted up some themes that are of most concern. I would like to focus on three themes where there has been recent activity, and describe how we are moving forward with each theme.

The first theme is the work that has been done regarding **death & mourning**. This came up because members needed assistance in understanding what was expected, how to perform certain rituals, and how to act with and speak to members who are going through the mourning process. I am happy to report that the **CDT Death & Mourning Booklet** is nearing completion, and very comprehensively describes all facets of this process as we consider it at CDT. Thank you to **Lisa Port White** for all of her work on the Guide, and to **Lauren Gibbs** for her thoughtful additions and editing.

The second theme is connected to a new campaign regarding children **with special needs at CDT**. There has been energy and engagement around this theme, and stories like the one that Susan Nitkin so graciously shared at the June 6 Members' Meeting have led to the formation of a working group that has begun to create needs, goals and objectives that will be addressed over the coming year. The needs and goals that have been identified so are:

Needs of CDT members:

- To be able to bring our "whole selves" and families to congregational activities; to be recognized and not feel invisible
- To feel welcome and affirmed, both as individuals and as families

Communal needs:

- To better fulfill our mission of being a "warm, welcoming, and inclusive community"
- To share the special benefit of welcoming and affirming children in all their diversity and uniqueness
- To know that work is being done on this issue without feeling that we have to solve it all/figure it all out

Goals:

- To learn and grow as community members and as a community in these efforts
- To remove stumbling blocks that effectively block full participation in congregational life
- To think about the issue of welcoming special needs children in a Jewish framework, in consonance with our Jewish values
- To communicate to members and non-members that we are committed to this work
- To put structures and concrete resources into place so that any and all members who need them can access them with ease and without shame
- To access internal and external resources in the greater Boston and Jewish community

While we know we cannot solve all concerns related the greater theme of making every community member feel welcome and affirmed, we invite participation and input as we continue this important and necessary campaign, which will be the focus of our work in the coming Jewish year.

The final theme puts into practice a way to make it possible for the CDT community to most easily engage in the work of Chesed. Effective immediately, we will be **delivering Chesed** at CDT with a partner model. Every three months, two "partners" will oversee the coordination of Chesed needs for our community, helping to find volunteers to deliver meals, visit the sick, drive someone to appointments, or meet other needs that have previously been handled by one coordinator. The partners for June, July and August are **Ellen Hemley** and **Susan Manheim**. In addition to a new partner model, and to facilitate signing up for any Chesed needs that may occur, the sign-up system is being revised to include the use of the website, **www.**

lotsahelpinghands.com. Specific details will be explained in community e-mails, where we will ask member to visit **www.lotsahelpinghands.com** and log in to find out more about this easy and state-of-the-art solution to helping out at CDT. As a back-up to the website recruitment system, we are also gathering information from CDT members about their preferred way of helping out. If you have not done so already (and we have had a great response – thank you!), please fill out the Chesed needs survey on the Chesed page of the CDT website.

As we move to this new Chesed delivery system, we especially want to recognize and thank Lisa **Goodwin-Robbins** and **Pamela Schoenberg Reider** who worked very hard over the last few years on Chesed coordination. We also want to thank **Judy Hersh** and **Corinne Lofchie** who have spearheaded the new system with all its logistical and technological elements.

We hope that you will feel free to share your thoughts, ideas and time so that the Chesed work being done feels representative of the community of which you want to be a part. One final note: over the last few years, I may have been the public face of the Torah of Chesed work, but **Rabbi Toba, Lisa Schneier** and **Carole Slipowitz** have been constant companions, guides, mentors, resources, supports and sources of inspiration. Thank you Rabbi Toba, Lisa and Carole.

Summer Chesed Response

If you have a Chesed need in July or August—help while dealing with an illness, need for a shivah minyan, or other support—please note that Rabbi Toba will be off for 3 to 4 weeks over the course of the summer. Please check the congregational email for details about when she is away; at these times there will be a rabbi on-call. For Chesed help, please contact **Ellen Hemley** or **Susan Manheim**.

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.

Mazel tov

To **Valerie Graf** and **Doron Gan**, on the birth and brit bat of **Ruby Hazel**.

To **Carla Naumburg** and **Josh Herzig-Marx** (and to grandparents **Judy** and **Chayim**) on the birth of **Rose Ermelinda Naumburg**.

To **Abby Leonard** and her family, on Abby's becoming bat mitzvah.

To **Rose Friedman**, who graduated from Macalester College in May.

Condolences

To **Ellie Goldberg** on the death of her brother, Jesse Koenigsberg. May his memory be for a blessing.

To **Jamie Tessler** on the death of her mother, Eleanor Tessler. May her memory be for a blessing.

To **Jackie Fleischman**, on the death of her mother, Dorothy Sokol. May her memory be for a blessing.

Todah Rabah

Todah rabah to all of those who helped with Kiddush or B'nei Mitzvah in recent months: **Haralie Alpert, Karen & Sarah Arnold, Bryn Austin & Liz Carver, Amy Brodesky & Rex Flynn, Mark Bronstein & Ellen Hemley, Abby Cohen, Phyllis & Al Glazerman**—*In memory of Elie Friedlander*, **Wendy Gedanken, Lisa Goodman & Bill Weinreb, Irena Fayngold & Paul Schimek, Stacey & Bruce Gore, Peter Hess, Doug Hersh, Jen Kaplan**, **Pam & Steve Katz, Sherry Katz, Hope Kellman, Jessica Keimowitz & Polly Crozier, Jonathan Magaziner, Eileen Morrison, Michael Jablon, and Katy Jablon, Mark Paley, Barbara & Elliot Pittel, Jonathan Rosenthal, Staci Rubin & Jamie Wilson, Lisa Samelson & Paul Hattis, Cheryl Sacks, Linda Schiller & Steve Robins, Theresa St. John-Siegel & Steve Siegel**—*in honor of our 20th anniversary*, **Bonnie Tenniferello & Andrew Sofer**—*in honor of our 15th wedding anniversary*, **Ellen White**—*in memory of Paul White*, **Janelle Winston & Scott Lewis, Benjamin Wright**—*in honor of our 10th anniversary*.

A humongous **Todah rabah** to **Dan Halbert**, who after 10 years as newsletter coordinator and layout maestro is stepping down and handing the job on. Dan's leadership of the Newsletter Committee and his skillful and artful design has been enormously appreciated, and we are grateful to **Tim Rosa** for taking on the leadership of the new Newsletter Team. **Todah rabah** also to **Karen Engels**, who has served as an editor on the Newsletter Team for the past 5 years—we'll miss you!

Board Notes

Peter Katz, Secretary, peter_katz@harvard.edu

The CDT board met on May 16, 2010 and considered the following topics:

Chesed: **Amy Mazur** spoke about the activities and reorganization of the Chesed Committee. The Board expressed thanks for the work of Amy and the committee.

Budget: **Michael Cohen** presented a proposed break-even budget for 5771 (2010-2011). After discussion, the Board approved presenting the proposal to the members at the June members' meeting and thanked Michael for his valiant efforts.

Nominations: **Esther Kohn** described the slate to be presented at the June meeting of members. The Board thanked Esther and her committee for their hard work on finding nominees.

Limmud Boston: **Paul Hattis** reported that **Steffi Karp** is helping organize Limmud Boston, a day of Jewish learning to be held on the last Sunday in October. The Board approved CDT becoming a sponsor.

Food Matters: **Alex Sugerman-Brozan** gave an update on Food Matters projects, including that the CSA project is fully subscribed, with about 30 CDT households participating.

The CDT Board meeting of June 17 considered the following topics:

Volunteerism: The Board discussed ways of improving the volunteer experience, including improving and strengthening interactions within the CDT community. The Board will encourage four steps: a "topic table" for conversation about a particular topic during Kiddush; reviewing information that has been gathered on the interests of members and following up where interests seem to match volunteer opportunities; a report in each newsletter by a different committee describing its work and the contributions of the members and other helpers and identifying needs that could be filled by other volunteers; and approaching Kiddush volunteers who may be interested in taking on other CDT tasks and talking to them about their interests.

Newsletter: The new newsletter committee is working on a re-design of the newsletter and a new submission schedule. Training is available for anyone interested in joining; contact Tim Rosa.

Limmud 2010: CJP has asked CDT's Limmud team to participate with other synagogues in a series of six seminars on education leadership from October 2010 to January 2011. The target date for the educational strategic plan is now the June 2011 members' meeting.

High Holidays: The Board approved experimenting with the use of PayPal for payments for tickets and child care this year.

Website: The website committee is working on redesigning the website.

Fund Raising Event: A fund raising event will be planned for winter or spring.

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.

Gateways:

Jewish Education for Special Needs Children

Gateways serves children with a special need or disability in its Jewish Education Supplemental Programs. Students in these programs have moderate to severe special educational needs, such as developmental delays, hearing and/or visual impairments, autism spectrum disorder, and cerebral palsy.

Children learn about Jewish holidays, customs and traditions, mitzvot and Bible stories. Gateways teaches students using a highly structured, multi-sensory, multi-modal approach. We provide multi-sensory Hebrew education (ages 4-18), two-year B'nei Mitzvah preparation (ages 11-14), and the Mitzvah Men-sches Class (ages 13-18) that includes advanced prayer study, conversational Hebrew and an imbedded social skills curriculum options. For more information, contact Nancy Mager at nancym@jgateways.org or 617.630.9010, ext. 4.

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. The talks are available in both HTML and Adobe Acrobat (PDF) formats. 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.



July—August



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Sat Jul 10	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Judy & Chayim Herzig-Marx, Ellie Goldberg (see page 3)
Mon Jul 12	8 pm	Avelut: Monthly Support for CDT Mourners	<i>Members-Only Event</i> home of Benita Danzing, Newtonville (see page 3)
Sat Jul 24	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Jonathan Gordon, Wendy & Charles Frankston <i>Rabbi Toba off (see page 3)</i>
Sat Aug 7	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Linda Hsu & Marc Steinberg, Elaine Landes & David Felson <i>Rabbi Toba off (see page 3)</i>
Mon Aug 9	8:45 pm	Avelut: Monthly Support for CDT Mourners	<i>Members-Only Event</i> home of Hilary Marcus, Jamaica Plain (see page 3)
Tue Aug 10	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Rosh Chodesh Celebration	<i>Members-Only Event</i> 60 Highland Street: Living Room (see page 4)
Fri Aug 13	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck	Karen Engels, Eric Karp, Linda Katz, Liz Reisberg (see page 3)
Sat Aug 21	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	Mei See Sandson, Sharon Sevransky, Michele Arons & Michael Brann (see page 3)
Sun Aug 29	3 pm - 6 pm	August in Auburndale: CDT Picnic and Softball Game	Auburndale Cove: Site 3; this event is free and open to prospective members (see page 3)

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 generally help out with B'nei Mitzvah kiddush, ushering and sanctuary clean-up, can primarily find their names listed on B'nei Mitzvah dates. Thanks for your help!—*Marla Lichtman, Administrative Director*



September



Date	Time	Event	Kiddush, Notes
Fri Sep 3	6 pm	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service, Open House, and Potluck	6 pm Candlelighting and dinner, 6:45 pm service. Everyone welcome! Prospective members, join us or for more info, contact us.
Sat Sep 4	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall
Sat Sep 4	8 pm	Selichot Service	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary
Wed Sep 8	8 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Gann Academy
Thu Sep 9	9:30 am	Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	Gann Academy
Fri Sep 10	10 am	Rosh Hashanah - Day 2	Gann Academy
Sat Sep 11	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Shuvah - meditation service	
Sun Sep 12	7 pm	"Food Matters" Meeting	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary
Fri Sep 17	6:30 pm	Kol Nidre	Gann Academy
Sat Sep 18	9:30 am	Yom Kippur	Gann Academy 7:30 pm Havdallah, Break fast
Sun Sep 19		Sukkah building	FUSN morning or afternoon (TBD)
Thu Sep 23	9:30 am	Sukkot Service	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary, Room 112
Fri Sep 24	6 pm - 7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat/Sukkot Program and Dinner <i>for families with kids entering Pre-k through 2nd grades</i>	FUSN; open to prospective school families. Please contact us for more information.
Sat Sep 25	9:45 am - 12 pm	Shabbat Morning Service	
Sun Sep 26		Sukkot	Service Learning Day, TBD 5-7 pm dinner at FUSN
Thu Sep 30	7 pm - 9 pm	Simchat Torah	60 Highland Street: Sanctuary, Room 112

Nediv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:

Michele Arons and Michael Brann and family

In honor of the 109th birthday party we had on May 13, 2010 for Eva Arons, grandmother and great-grandmother of Michele Arons and Tamar Arons-Brann

Helaine and John Carroll

In loving memory of Louse Dankner (mother of Helaine Carroll) and Hyman B. Carroll (father of John Carroll)

Amy Dain and Michael Dudnik

Vilunya Diskin

Elena Eisman

Louise Enoch and Alan Epstein

In honor of Rob Saper, in appreciation of his help to Alan Epstein

Laurie Goldman

In appreciation for the work of the heart that CDT members devote to making this a vibrant and caring community

Tessa and Clifford Goldsmith

Stacey and Bruce Gore

Inge and Robert Gould

Gail Harris and David Reider

Jennifer Hochschild and Tony Broh

Alissa and Gerry Leonard

In honor of Rabbi Toba and all of the wonderful CDT teachers who helped prepare Abigail for her Bat Mitzvah

Sarah Little and Doug Hersh

Cindy Marshall and Kathy Pillsbury

Susan Nitkin and Jeffrey Marcus

Bonnie and Craig Pinsker

In honor of Anna Joan Engler

Lisa Goodwin Robbins and Andrew Robbins

Marion Ross

In memory of Mae Enoch, mother of Louise Enoch

Cheryl and Jeff Sacks

Pamela Schoenberg Reider and Joel Reider

In honor of Rob Saper, for his kindness, wisdom and compassion

Lisa Schneier

In honor of Laurie Goldman, Amy Mazur and Carole Slipowitz, for their contributions to the CDT community

Cindy Shulak-Rome and Dan Rome

In honor of the memory of Ellie Goldberg's brother

In memory of Mae Enoch, Louise Enoch's mother

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Abigail Leonard

In honor of Louise Enoch, Alan Epstein, Gina Fried, Barbara Shatkin and Elaine Pollack, for all the work they did organizing a fabulous

Cuba trip for members of Dorshei Tzedek

In honor of the college graduation of members of our very first Dorshei Tzedek Religious School class!

Susan Silberberg Robinson and Tom Robinson

Carol Sklar

Mazel Tov to the 2010 graduates and Todah Rabah to Tony Broh for all his help and advice

Erica Streit-Kaplan and James Kaplan

In memory of Erica's grandparents, Irving Streit and Blanche Harris Streit, on their 10th yahrzeit

Debbie Waber

Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund

In memory of CDT member Jill Volk, 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 our school and one of its first teachers. This fund will allow her love of Judaism and Jewish learning to continue to enrich our community.

Camp JRF Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Michael Luckens

Hilary Marcus and Jonathan Magaziner

In honor of Lisa Schneier, Laurie Gould, Karen Wasserman, Barbara Shatkin, Alex Sugerman-Brozan and the many members who were so supportive leading up to and following my mom's death

In honor of the members of Avelut

In honor of all the B'nei Mitzvah this year

Lorna Shapiro

School Fund

Kitah Zayin Families

In honor of Cindy Shulak-Rome's work with our kids

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.

Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465

Dorshei Tzedek Officers, Board, Committee Chairs, and Staff

Executive Committee	President: Paul Hattis First Vice President: Peter Katz VP Membership: Lisa Port White VP Finance: Michael Cohen Secretary: Josh Lieberman Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Board Chairs	Communications: Susan Silberberg Robinson and Allison Hausman Finance Secretary: Sivan Nasoff Membership: <i>TBA</i> Leadership Development: Esther Kohn Ritual: Laurie Goldman Tikkun Olam: Alex Sugerman-Brozan Member-at-large: Jonathan Rosenthal
Off-Board Chairs	Chesed: Ellen Hemley and Susan Manheim Nediv Lev: Jeff Sacks Newsletter: Tim Rosa Rabbinic Liaison: Ora Gladstone School Liaison: <i>TBA</i> Space Liaison: Josh Lieberman 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.