

CONGREGATION
Dorshei Tzedek
AN AFFILIATE OF THE JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST MOVEMENT



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New Happenings with Our Reconstructionist Movement

by Paul Hattis, President



AT OUR Members' Meeting on March 13, our membership approved a resolution that calls for the creation of a new 'united organization for the Reconstructionist movement.'

This request to seek our approval comes after 18 months of discussions involving leaders from our movement focusing on how to revitalize Reconstructionist Judaism and gain both the synergies and cost savings from a well functioning unified organization that places the governance of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation under a single entity.

To that end, if on April 10th the resolution (available on the jrf.org website) gains the approval of the other Reconstructionist congregations from across the country, all movement activities will move to the new organizational home (name is still being discussed) based at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. The stated goals of the united organization will be to:

1. Cultivate Reconstructionist leadership—educating and training rabbis and other Jewish community leaders; fostering effective lay leadership within congregations and among youth; and providing public leadership on issues of importance to the Jewish community, Israel and North American society.

2. Enhance Jewish learning—developing and disseminating liturgical and educational materials; providing resources and training for teachers in congregational schools; developing outstanding adult education programs; and supporting the growth of Camp JRF and No'ar Hadash, the Reconstructionist program for teens.

3. Foster Jewish living—providing support, consultation and resources to affiliated Congregations and havurot. The united orga-

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Photo: Noah Marcus lifting a 30-pound bucket. Coalition of Immokalee Workers showed us that this is what tomato pickers fill up and then get a token placed in the bucket. Tokens are exchanged for cash at the end of the day. —Hilary Marcus

continued on next page

nization also will join with members of the RRA to develop and sustain Jewish engagement outside of the congregational setting, seeking to reach college-age Jews as well as Jewish seniors, individuals, and families who are served by Jewish chaplains. In addition, the Reconstructionist movement will continue to provide opportunities for unaffiliated individuals to connect with Judaism through new online media.

Given that the size of our movement is small—there are only about 100 or so congregations and havurot—having the congregational arm of our movement more organizationally connected to our Rabbinical school and teachers and rabbis connected to it makes good sense. Even more exciting to me, is that the agreement calls for: the expansion of the current RRC governing board to include a more diverse group of rabbinical and lay congregational leaders; creation of an 18-person Movement Advisory Committee (MAC), which will initially include Rabbi Toba, to serve as a center of creativity and vision for the movement; and to enhance and support activities for the movement and for congregations. Three new Commissions will be created to guide the board's thinking on programming and developments tied to: 1) Youth and Education; 2) Movement Growth and Financial Health; and 3) Tikkun Olam. JRF camp's director also has a secure board seat as a way to assure that camp issues and needs will come to the attention of the overall movement as appropriate.

In sum, I think the new unified organizational structure is much better positioned to help us and other Reconstructionist congregations do some creative thinking—perhaps even across congregations—on the Commission related topics as well as with other key themes that the MAC identifies. Stay tuned for an update on what happens with the April 10th vote and further developments with the new unified organization. Ultimately, there will be ways for lay members of our community to get directly involved with either the MAC or the newly created Commissions.



Photo: Sivan and Noa Nasoff at the biennial CDT Retreat, 2009. See back cover for information on how to sign up for this year's retreat!

CDT 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.

CDT Board

Executive Committee

President: Paul Hattis

First Vice President:

Peter Katz

VP Membership: Lisa Dee Port White

VP Finance: Michael Cohen

Secretary: Josh Lieberman

Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Board Chairs

Communications: Allison

Hausman and Susan

Silberberg-Robinson

Finance Secretary: Sivan

Nasoff

Leadership Development:

Esther Kohn

Ritual: Laurie Goldman

Tikkun Olam: Alex Sugerman-

Brozan

Membership: TBA

Member-at-large: Jonathan Rosenthal

Off-Board Chairs

Chesed: Elaine Landes and Mei See Sandson

Nediv Lev: Jeff Sacks

Newsletter: Tim Rosa

Rabbinic Liaison: Ora Gladstone

School Liaison: Lisa Goodwin-Robbins

Website: Stan Fleischman

Staff

Education Director:

Annette Lawson

Administrative Director:

Marla Lichtman

Administrative Assistant:

Jon Sarner

CDT Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and high-resolution photos to dtnews@dorsheitzedek.org by the 15th of the month for the following month's issue.

Volunteer Staff

Tim Rosa (Chair), Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Deb Albenberg, Stephanie Hackett, Barbara Pittel, Jo Ann Share, Emily Shumsky, Dan Halbert (Emeritus)

CDT Meeting Summaries

Board of Directors

The board met on **March 6, 2011** and considered the following topics:

JRF—RRC Resolution: **Paul Hattis** covered CDT actions in response to the recent resolution to merge these two movement organizations. The board then voted to recommend that members in turn vote to support the resolution at the upcoming JRF special plenary meeting.

Membership: **Lisa Port White** reported on CDT membership levels and also that the CDT communications committee will continue with its present composition.

Ritual: **Laurie Goldman** reported on an initiative to get more non-board members (with board members) to serve as greeters for services. She also led a discussion on a proposal allowing members to opt into having reminders of family yartzheits sent to them yearly.

Tikkun Olam: **Alex Sugerman-Brozan** reported that 12-15 people from CDT participated in the recent Immokalee workers event, sign-ups to the CSA (Community Share Agriculture) are still open, and that we are becoming an affiliate of national Hazon initiative around Judaism and CSA's.

Communications: **Allison Hausmann** reported on upcoming efforts to update and redesign the CDT website.

Retreat: **Peter Katz** noted that the announcement for the CDT retreat this June will go out soon. (See back page for details.)

Finance: **Michael Cohen** described the plan to add a new upper income bin (\$190K—\$225K) to the membership dues scale.

Space: **Josh Lieberman** reported that both the FUSN and 2nd Church

leases are up for renewal in August and discussions have begun on the terms for both leases, with a target of having draft leases for ratification at the June Members' Meeting.

CJP Grant: **Paul Hattis** reported that CJP has awarded CDT a \$10K grant, as part of our being chosen as a Program Experimentation Project for our 1st-3rd grade pilot project in the coming school year.



Members' Meeting

A CDT Members' Meeting took place on Sunday evening, **March 13**. More than 25% of the CDT member families were represented, a strong showing. **Rabbi Toba** opened the meeting by discussing a dvar Torah by Rabbi Benjamin Weiner, on the "physicality" of sacrifice, noting that while the time for animal sacrifice is clearly past, that physicality of devotion is still an important connection to make.

Stacy Chacker reported on the upcoming Shabbat Unplugged as well as registration for this June's CDT Retreat. **Alex Sugerman-Brozan** reported on a range of Tikkun Olam activities: CSA share availability, a meeting with the City of Cambridge on the Hyatt 100 and new shipments of Sindyanna olive oil. **Paul Hattis** also announced that there will be new GBIO activity on health care costs in late Spring.

Jeff Sacks introduced the 2011 Nediv Lev campaign; the membership will be receiving information about this at the beginning of April.

Michael Cohen discussed a plan to add additional income bins to the membership dues sliding scale in order to bring families in higher income ranges to a similar percent-

age contribution as other incomes. This new income "cap" level addition would balance the increase this year in the hatzi-shekel, from \$100-\$125 (neither the hatzi-shekel or the cap had been adjusted since the dues system was adopted in 2000). This will bring in some additional revenue but still remain at or below dues levels of other Newton synagogues.

Paul Hattis led a spirited discussion on the resolution passed by the boards of JRF and RRC to seek a merger of the two organizations. The sense of this discussion was that this is a positive development for both the Reconstructionist Movement and its congregations, including Dorshei Tzedek. Concluding the discussion, a motion endorsing a proxy vote to approve the merger resolution at the upcoming JRF special plenary meeting passed without objection.

The meeting continued with a Limmud 2010 presentation and activity introduced by Rabbi Toba and Education Director **Annette Lawson**. This initiative so far has included concept development as well as participation by several CDT members and staff in a CJP leadership seminar. Annette also announced that CDT will be one of three congregations receiving CJP grants to develop innovative educational programs. As part of planning for innovative learning beyond the religious school next year, members divided into 6 working groups to come up with concepts for future learning activities each covering these themes: Deepening Shabbat Practice, Food Matters, Aging and End of Life, Value of Work in Judaism, Finding My Way (Back) In, and Israel. Each group then reported on their concept choices to be further developed, communicated, and offered in the coming year.

Shabbat

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. Free childcare is available during Shabbat morning services in room 112.

Shabbat Unplugged

Getting a Taste of Olam Habah: The World As It Should Be April 1–April 2, 2011
CDT celebrates Shabbat Unplugged together starting on Erev Shabbat April 1st through sundown on April 2nd. Shabbat is a gift to us, a time to “plug in” to rest, a time to be with family and friends, or just be with yourself. We invite you to “unplug” from the business of daily life, and from all those things—phones, computers, television, work—that keep you tethered to distractions and stress. We hope everyone at CDT will take advantage of Shabbat Unplugged to taste Shabbat in a new or deeper way, either on your own or with the community! **Here’s how you can plug into Shabbat with CDT.**

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Potluck and Services

Candlelighting & Potluck Dinner,

Friday April 1, 6:00pm; Services, 6:45pm

At this service, we will be welcoming guests from K’sharim, a program that provides opportunities for Jewish adults with disabilities to participate in synagogue life.

For those not attending the All Ages Erev Shabbat, join other members for a Shabbat potluck at a variety of members’ homes in Jamaica Plain and Newton. To sign up, go to <http://www.dorsheitzedek.org/members/signups/>, and click on “Shabbat Unplugged Potlucks.”

Shabbat Morning Study and Services

Saturday, April 2, Kiddush lunch at noon

8:45am Torah Study with Rabbi Toba: Bring your own coffee or tea, no previous Torah study experience necessary! We will be exploring commentaries both ancient and modern on the Torah portion Tazria.

9:45am Shabbat morning services: Join us for a musical, participatory, Shabbat service. During the Torah discussion, we will discuss themes connected to ancient notions of exclusion from the community, and

our Torah of Chesed exploration of inclusion of special needs children and their families.

10:45am Junior Congregation (grades 3-6) and Tot Shabbat (ages 0-5)

Shabbat Afternoon

After kiddush you can: Take a nap, go for a walk, read a book, play with your family, do nothing at all, or join CDT members in the following activities:

- **Attend a Poetry Reading.** Andrew Sofer will be reading from his new book of poetry, *Waves*, following Kiddush at 1:00pm.
- **Go on a Nature Walk**, led by Doug Hersh.
- **Take a Bike Ride**, led by Tim Rosa.

For details on the nature walk or bike ride and sign up, go to www.dorsheitzedek.org/members/signups/.

Havdallah

While there is no formal program planned for this year, members are encouraged to join with others to celebrate the closing of Shabbat as a community.

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Services

April 1, May 13, June 3, 6:00pm Candle Lighting; 6:45pm Service

Join us for this fun, musical erev Shabbat service, appropriate for all ages. Once a month, we gather for a potluck vegetarian dinner, beginning with candle lighting & kiddush at 6:00pm, followed by the service at 6:45pm. Please bring a dairy/veggie/fish main dish to share, enough for 15-20 people (drinks and dessert are provided).

Junior Congregation

April 2 and May 7, 10:45am–12:00pm Room 111

This is a fun, participatory service for 3rd through 6th graders (kids only!), led by our very own **Elana Rome!** Spend a special Shabbat morning with your friends, or make some new ones!

Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

April 2, May 14, June 4; 8:45am Library, Free of charge

Join Rabbi Toba for exploration of the weekly Torah portion, with commentaries ancient to modern. Whether you’re a Torah study maven or wouldn’t know Genesis from Deuteronomy, bring your questions, early morning thoughts, and your own caffeine!

Tot Shabbat

April 2 and May 7, 10:45am–12 noon Rooms 110 and 112

Tot Shabbat is a monthly program, run by parent volunteers, for children ages 5 and under and their parents. Join us in celebrating Shabbat with songs, stories, crafts and other fun activities. We will begin each session with “Shira and Tef-

ilah" (songs and prayers), followed by free play for infants to age 2, and a special "Torah Time" story and craft for children ages 3 to 5. Please contact **Michele Arons** at m_aronsh@hotmail.com or **Alison Lobron** at auderial@yahoo.com for more information, questions or to participate in planning.

Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Katz

Please join us on April 16 as our son, **Joseph**, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Joseph is a seventh grader at the Edward R. Devotion School in Brookline. He enjoys soccer, snowboarding, reading, hiking, camping, and playing the viola. For his Tikkun Olam project, he volunteers at Bikes Not Bombs in Jamaica Plain to disassemble bikes for shipment to developing countries to promote community empowerment and environmental stewardship around the globe. He is also organizing a bike drive in Brookline on May 1. We invite everyone to celebrate with us at a kiddush lunch following the ceremony. —**Pam and Steve Katz**

Special Shabbat Morning Service—Celebrate with Kitah Vav!

April 30, 9:45am

To mark the *siyyum* completion, of their 6th-grade studies, our Kitah Vav students will be co-leading the Shabbat morning service this morning.

Kiddush Assignments

SHABBAT UNPLUGGED All-Ages Erev Shabbat 4/1: Karen Wasserman, Haralie Alpert, Ellen White—in honor of *Paul White*, Nina or Jeremy Price

SHABBAT UNPLUGGED 4/2: Liz Carver, Rachel Greenberg, Andrea Jacobs, Rick Glassman

Shabbat 4/9: Vivienne & Norman Shein—in honor of our 38th anniversary, Ilene Spiro & Ira Schor

Shabbat & Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Katz 4/16: Ushers: Marcia Okun & Joshua Lieberman **Sanctuary Cleanup:** Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury

Shabbat 4/23: Ellen Hemley & Mark Bronstein, Barbara Shatkin & Andy Littman

Passover 4/25: Kiddush Ritual Committee provides kiddush

Shabbat & Kitah Vav Siyyum 4/30: Beth Brooks & Hankus Netsky, Chagit Steiner & Tom Brown

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.

No Fragrances, Please. So that Dorshei Tzedek events are accessible to all of our members and guests, we ask that people refrain from wearing fragrances (perfumes, scented oils, colognes, etc.) to all CDT events. While pleasant to some, fragrances can cause illness to those who are chemically sensitive. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

Religious School News by Annette Lawson

THIS YEAR, OUR BaDerech (8th and 9th grade) students have been exploring Jewish creativity and the arts as part of JRF's TEL (Teen Experiential Learning) program. As part of their studies in BaDerech, our 8th and 9th graders have been very fortunate to have the opportunity to meet with Jewish artists from our Dorshei Tzedek community. Todah Rabah (many thanks) to CDT members **Emily Sper** (author/illustrator of Jewish children's books) **Hankus Netsky** (Klezmer musician, composer and teacher) and **Cindy Marshall** (storyteller), who spent time with the BaDerech class, sharing their personal stories and their art. **Irena Fayngold** (film-maker), will be joining us in April.

Cindy Marshall also made her talents available to us by leading a storytelling workshop for Jewish educators which Kitah Alef/Bet teacher **Adina Mailick** and I attended. Cindy introduced us to storytelling techniques as a way of enhancing our work in the school. Adina's participation in the workshop was

made possible by a grant from the synagogue's Jill Volk Memorial Fund.

In March, our BaDerech students were joined by students from B'nai Keshet (a Reconstructionist synagogue in Montclair, N.J.) who are also participating in TEL. Further exploring the theme of Jewish art, they attended Lyric Stage of Boston's production of *My Name is Asher Lev*. The play, based on the Chaim Potok novel, examines the tension between traditional Jewish life and values and the Jewish artist's need to fulfill his artistic vision.

Also in March, twenty of our 5th and 6th graders participated in our 3rd Annual Shul-In. The Shul-In was an evening of fun and friends and a sleepover at the Second Church, ably led by informal education coordinator **Becca Richman** and Kitah Hey teacher **Avraham Wachs Cashman**. A great time (though not much sleep) was had by all.

Pesach / Passover

Passover begins this year on **Monday evening, April 18th**. This holiday marks the Biblical journey out of slavery in Mitzrayim, the “Narrow Place,” into freedom, and invites us to retell and re-experience that peak moment in our people’s narrative.

Why Is This Night Different? A Passover Learning Day

April 3, 2:30–5:00pm

First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton

Looking to spice up your seder? Learn some new Passover songs? Deepen your understanding of the holiday? Find out how Jews around the world celebrate Pesach? Then join us for this afternoon of all-ages learning and exploration!

For Adults and Teens

Clearing out the Chametz: Join Rabbi Toba for an exploration of how preparing for and observing Passover can be a physical and family ritual and a profoundly transformative personal practice as well. We will look at different texts that explore the psycho-spiritual-transformative aspects of the Passover story and some of the traditional Passover practices.

For Adults and Kids

Music workshop—Join Cantor David Rothberg of Temple Chayai Shalom to learn some Passover songs from different Jewish traditions. Want some new tunes for your seder? Wondering what a Pesach song in Ladino might sound like? Just feel like singing? Then this is the workshop for you!

Cooking workshop—Tired of the same old matzoh balls and brisket? Learn some new recipes to enliven your Seder meal from CDT cooking mavens **Clifford Goldsmith** and **Cheryl Sacks**.

Passover storytelling—Join storyteller **Cindy Rivka Marshall** who will expand your Passover horizons with stories that entertain and enlighten.

For Kids

Crafts—Join teacher **Adina Mailick** to create a beautiful matzoh cover for your Seder. Going to grandparents for the Seder? Make the matzoh cover as a gift that they will treasure. For students in Grades 1 and up.

Young children and parents—Enter the “Seder Zone”—a room for young children and parents to explore together Passover books, music, crafts and games.

Plus: A trip around the Jewish world with our Beit Midrash (grades 3–6) students, highlighting Passover customs from contemporary and historic Jewish communities in Iraq, Ethiopia, India, and Spain.

“Top Chef” Charoset Contest

Enter your charoset in the second annual “Top Chef” Charoset Contest and win a valuable prize (plus bragging rights)! Email **Annette Lawson** for details at school@dorsheitzedek.org.

Family Table Passover Collection

Until April 5th, we are collecting boxes of **matzah meal** for Family Table, the food pantry for Jewish households in greater Boston. Please bring donations to the collection boxes at the religious school or outside the sanctuary.

Seder Match-Making

It’s a mitzvah to go to a Passover seder, and a mitzvah to welcome someone to your seder, so do a mitzvah! If you are a CDT member who needs a Passover seder to attend, or if you have room at your table for others, or if you’d like to create a seder, please contact our “Seder Matchmakers” **Linette Liebling** or **Melanie Adler** by Friday, **April 8 (or sooner!)**.

Seventh Day of Passover

Monday, April 25, 9:30am–11:30am

According to Reconstructionist practice (which follows the Israeli calendar), the seventh day of Pesach marks the end of the holiday week. In the rabbinic tradition, this is the day that the Israelites crossed through the Yam Suf (Reed Sea). We commemorate the crossing with a special Torah reading, the singing of Hallel, and other special songs. We will also have a Yizkor service, an opportunity to remember loved ones who are no longer with us. For those remembering a loved one, yizkor candles are lit after sunset on Sunday, April 24.

Fair Trade Olive Oil for Pesach!!

The Tikkun Olam Committee is continuing our olive oil collaboration with Sindyanna of Galilee. We are importing more of this delicious organic fair trade oil for Passover (it is Kosher for Passover). Sindyanna was founded in 1996 by Israeli Arab and Jewish women, to foster economic development within the Palestinian community and to promote better relations between Palestinian and Jewish communities within Israel. In addition to trainings and workshops for Israeli Arab women, Sindyanna works with Israeli Arab olive farmers and markets their fair trade organic olive oil in Israeli and internationally. Sindyanna also sells artisan goods from the Israeli Palestinian community in the north of Israel as well as olive oil soaps from the West Bank.

The olive oil and za’atar will arrive in time for our April 3rd “Passover Learning Day” and will be sold at that event (and from Jonathan Rosenthal). We will be selling 750 ml. bottles of Sindyanna’s award winning oil for \$18.00 and za’atar spice mix for \$5.00. **Questions? Please contact Jonathan Rosenthal: jonathan@just-works.com.**

CDT Events

Unless noted otherwise, all events are held
at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space:
60 Highland Street in The Second Church
of Newton, West Newton.

Rosh Chodesh

Thursday April 7, 7:30-9:00pm
Living Room

Celebrate the New Moon and the New Month! Rosh Chodesh Nisan will be celebrated with sharing, learning and spirituality. Women of all stages and ages are invited to join this meaningful monthly gathering. Bring a friend! Contact **Laurie Schloff** (speaksmart@aol.com) or **Kristen Petersen** (petersenka@hotmail.com).

Film Club

April 9, 6:00pm Potluck, 7:00pm Film and Discussion

Home of Emily Sper, 9 Frederick St.,
Newtonville, 617-332-5033

CDT Film Club's next film will be *Late Marriage**. If you're attending the potluck, please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share (if you're coming and know what you'll bring,

please let us know). Movie starts at 7 pm, to be followed by a group discussion. Feel free to come for any part of the evening. We hope you can join us!

Late Marriage (2001, 100 min, Hebrew): Yasha and Lili would like Zaza, their 32-year-old son, to be married in the Georgian way and tradition. Every night they set out to check yet another potential bride. Zaza charms them but at the critical moment, he ruins everything. Zaza is madly in love with Judith, a single mother with a 6-year-old daughter. When Zaza's parents find out about their son's secret affair, all hell breaks loose.

If you'd like to host a film—all you need to provide is the house and TV. Please let us know. Our last film of the year will be the Yiddish classic *Der Dibuk* (The Dybbuk) on May 7th. Contact **Stan Fleischman** (stanf@rcn.com) and **Emily Sper** (emilysper.com).

*This film replaces *The Shop on Main Street* which will be shown another time.

Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day

Saturday evening, April 30, 7:30pm

We are honored to be hosting Edgar Krasa, father of CDT member **Dani Krasa**, to mark Holocaust Remembrance Day this year (which falls on Sunday, May 1st). Mr. Krasa is a survivor of the Terezin concentration camp and of Auschwitz, and was recently honored by the Massachusetts State Senate for his educational work. Mr. Krasa will share his experiences at Terezin (where he was imprisoned from 1941 through 1944) and discuss how Terezin became a cultural showplace for the deception of the International Red Cross, in spite of its real mission as a way station for people being sent on to the gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Announcements

Welcome New Members

Ellie Baron and **Kate deBethune** live in Cambridge. Ellie is an infectious diseases physician and Kate is director of marketing for Skinner auction house. They share a love of the cello (as well as opera and classical music in general), cycling, hiking, growing (and eating) vegetables, and traveling. Ellie and Kate have enjoyed becoming a part of the Dorshei Tzedek congregation because of the beautiful musical services, warm and welcoming community members, and progressive, liberal atmosphere.

The Ritual Committee Wants You!

The Ritual Committee is always open to new members. If you are interested in the planning and coordination of services or other matters related to the spiritual life of our community, please contact Ritual Committee Chair **Laurie Goldman** at laurie.goldman@tufts.edu. We also offer training in lay service leading and leyning skills.

Shabbat Service Greeters Wanted


Do you like to be greeted with a welcoming smile when you arrive at services? We are looking for members

who can volunteer to be a greeter (usher) for about the first hour at Shabbat morning services. What do you do? Arrive on time at 9:45am, hang out near the door to greet people as they arrive, hand them books, help them find a seat, and answer any questions. Go to the website at Members, Sign ups, Greeting & Closing at Shabbat Services or click this link: <http://bit.ly/iaOrxs>

If there is no greeter present and you see the need, feel free to step in to this role. Setting a welcoming tone at our services makes a big difference!

CDT Calendar

April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.</p>						<p>SHABBAT UNPLUGGED</p> <p>All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service & Potluck 6p</p>
						<p>Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba, 8:45a–9:45a, Library</p> <p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a</p> <p>Kiddush 12p–1p</p> <p>Tot Shabbat 10:45a–12p, Rm 110, 112</p> <p>Junior Congregation 10:45a, Rm 111</p> <p>Poetry Reading, Bike Ride, and Nature Hike For details, see page 4</p>
<p>A Passover Learning Day 2:30p–5p, 1326 Washington Street, FUSN: Multiple Rooms</p>			<p>Intermediate Prayerbook and Biblical Hebrew with Michael Singer (Section 1) 7p–8:30p, Rm 111</p> <p>Telling Our Stories with Rabbi Toba 7:30p–9p</p>	<p>Service of the Heart with Rabbi Toba 8a–9a, Library</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh Celebration 7:30p–9p, Living Room</p>		<p>Shabbat Morning Service (lay led) 9:45a–12p</p> <p>Kiddush 12p–1p</p> <p>CDT Film Club <i>Late Marriage</i> 6p potluck, 7p film, Home of Emily Sper</p>
<p>Men's Softball Game 10a</p> <p>CDT Board Meeting 7:30p, Living Room</p>	<p>AVELUT—Monthly Support for CDT Mourners 7:30p, <i>Members Only</i>, Home of Pamela Schoenberg</p>		<p>Intermediate Prayerbook and Biblical Hebrew with Michael Singer (Section 1) 7p–8:30p, Rm 111</p> <p>Telling Our Stories with Rabbi Toba 7:30p–9p</p>	<p>Service of the Heart with Rabbi Toba 8a–9a, Library</p>		<p>Shabbat Morning Service & Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Katz 9:45a–12p</p> <p>Kiddush 12p–1p</p>
						<p>Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a–12p</p> <p>Kiddush 12p–1p</p>
<p>Men's Softball Game 10a</p>	<p>Passover Service 9:30a</p>		<p>Intermediate Prayerbook and Biblical Hebrew with Michael Singer (Section 1) 7p–8:30p, Rm 111</p>	<p>Service of the Heart with Rabbi Toba 8a–9a, Library</p>		<p>Shabbat Morning Service & Kitah Vav Siyyum 9:45a–12p</p> <p>Kiddush 12p–1p</p> <p>Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, with Edgar Krasa 7:30p</p>

Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact Rabbi Spitzer (617.965.0330) or Elaine Landes (erose116@yahoo.com) or Mei See Sandson (thesandsons@rcn.com) of the Chesed Committee. 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.

Mazel Tov

Mazel tov and yasher koach to **Julia Ansolabehere** and her family, on becoming bat mitzvah!

Todah Rabah

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Purim celebration so wonderful! To our Megillah reader, **Laurie Goldman** (and to **Andrea Jacobs** for her preparation); to our writing/directing/producing Spielmeister, **James Kaplan**, and his merry band of Spielers— **Doug Hersh, Lilly Platt, Sivan Nasoff, Susan Silberberg-Robinson, Stacey and Ariane Chacker, Gabby Cummins, Livia and Ben Reider, and Henry Wasserman**, accompanist **Nathan Aronow**; and special effects wizard **Clifford Goldsmith**. Thanks also to **Alison Lobron, Michele Arons, and Emily Shumsky** for the young children's program; to **Scott Gordon** for the wonderful prizes; and to **Alissa and Gerry Leonard** for arranging for our first ever Purim DJ! And a big todah rabah to all those who helped with logistics, setting up and cleaning up: **Jeff Goldman, Sarah Little, Susan Manheim, Melanie Adler, Tatjana Meschede, Irena Fayngold, Judy Hersh, Tim Rosa, Emily Sper, Rick Greenly, Emily and David Shumsky**.

Todah rabah to all of those who helped with Kiddush or B'nei Mitzvah in February and March:

Andy Cohen, Bryn Austin, Abby Cohen, Amy Dain, Benjamin Newman, Benjamin Wright, Carolyn Fine and Jerry Friedman, Bonnie Tenneriello, Betsy Hinden, Haralie Alpert (in honor of Francis Greenberg), **Ellen White, Sherry Katz and Mark Farber, Cheryl and Jeff Sacks, Mark Paley, Matilda and Edward Bruckner, Ellen Pashall, Jen Kaplan and Susie Tanchel, and Ilana Streit**.

Refuah Sh'leyma

We send blessings of healing to CDT members **Susannah Zisk, Carol Hemley, Steve Robins, Debbie Sher, and Tess Siegel**.

Condolences

To **Pamela Schoenberg**, on the death of her father, Mickey Schoenberg, may his memory be for a blessing. May the Source of Comfort bring comfort to Pamela and her family, along with all who mourn.

To **Harriet Budd**, on the death of her mother, Muriel Budd, may her memory be for a blessing. May the Source of Comfort bring comfort to Harriet and her family, along with all those who mourn.

Yarzheit

We remember **Lesley Chapman**, a longtime teacher at CDT, whose second yarzheit falls this year on April

17th. We will be remembering Lesley at Shabbat morning services on April 23rd. May her memory always be for a blessing.

Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners

Monday, April 11th, 7:30 pm (note earlier time), at the home of Pamela Schoenberg: 135 Langley Road; entrance on Maple Park

Avelut is a monthly gathering of CDT members in mourning, focusing on mutual support and a chance to share individual journeys in bereavement. Meeting dates will be posted in the newsletter and the member calendar of the CDT website. Please join us if you would like to remember a family member or friend. If you would like more information about the group, contact **Ellie Goldberg (ellie.goldberg@gmail.com)**. To volunteer to host a meeting or for scheduling details, contact **Jamie Tessler (jtessler@igc.org)**.

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.

Please notify the Newsletter of life cycle events, significant accomplishments, or other moments **you would like to share with the community.** (See page 2 for details.)

Tikkun Olam



ON FEBRUARY 27, OVER A DOZEN MEMBERS OF DORSHEI TZEDEK JOINED MORE THAN 900 PEOPLE IN THE MARCH to Stop Sweatshops, organized by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), an organizer of farmworkers based in Florida. The CIW's Campaign for Fair Food is pressuring Stop & Shop and other supermarket chains to sign "Fair Food Agreements" in which they agree to purchase tomatoes from growers who adhere to a code of conduct that protects farmworkers' rights, health and safety, and to pay a penny more per pound for tomatoes. That penny goes directly to the farmworkers who pick the tomatoes, and increases the amount they receive for picking tomatoes by 50%. Members of Dorshei Tzedek and Rabbi Toba have been working for over seven months as part of an interfaith delegation to pressure Stop & Shop and its parent company, Ahold, to come to the table and meet with the CIW.



We were inspired to be in the midst of so many people from an incredibly wide range of cultural, religious, social, geographic, and linguistic backgrounds, all coming together to fight oppression and injustice.
—Tom Brown

I felt very proud to have CDT members at the march in force, with our wonderful new banner! I was privileged to offer the invocation along with a Catholic colleague, and especially thrilled to see some of our CDT youth adding their powerful young voices to the calls for justice.
—Rabbi Toba



It was really exciting to be part of the rally and demonstration. The most memorable part to me was walking up Huntington Avenue. I had to step out of the line a few times to see how long the line of marchers was (it seemed to stretch a quarter mile to me!). There were lots of people along the route who were watching and curious about what was going on. A couple stopped me to ask what the march was about, and was excited to hear what we were trying to accomplish.

The tone and feel of the crowd was so positive and enthusiastic. The only negativity I felt was from the security guards at Stop and Shop who were quite hostile towards me when I tried to walk across the small plaza in front of the store to join my family. They threatened to have me arrested for trespassing. Lily (age 12) and Maya (age 10) had a wonderful time (despite the cold) and were interested in learning about the world and happy to be involved with seeking social justice for people who are less fortunate. —Richard Gomberg

I loved the march! It was uplifting and it made me feel like I was making a difference! I especially liked chanting. “¡Un centavo mas! ¡Un centavo mas!” —Lily F. Gomberg

It's sad that CIW members have to fight...really fight...for just ONE MORE PENNY per pound. This is no reflection on CIW—their members' courage, tenacity and strategic organizing is inspiring. That CDT supports this struggle and others always makes me proud to be a member. It was great to stomp feet (to keep them warm) with so many CDT members...and of course, good ol' Abe (too bad he shaved the beard). —Stacey Chacker

While really freezing at the Boston demonstration, it made me more determined to demonstrate to the cold-hearted corporate officials that their behavior is immoral, and that people want them to do the right thing, to work with the CIW. —Ellie Goldberg

It was exciting to be part of such a diverse group of activists. While I admit it was tempting to head home early since it was such a cold, wet day, my daughter was adamant that we stay and do our part. Once the march started, our whole family enjoyed contributing our presence and loud voices to this important action! I'm so glad Dorshei Tzedek involved us in this great project. —Diana Fisher Gomberg



Nediv Lev

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions.

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.

General Fund

Amy Brodesky and Rex Flynn—*In honor of Rabbi Toba, with thanks for her help and inspiration for Annalisa's Bat Mitzvah*

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

Ora Grodsky and Jonathan Rosenthal

Allison and Ezra

Hausman—*In honor of Cindy Shulak-Rome, for her dedication to education at Dorshei Tzedek*

Linda Hsu and Marc Steinberg—*In honor of Cindy and Dan Rome*

Linda and Peter Katz

Esther Kohn—*In honor of Laurie Goldman and her service to the CDT community*

Sue Lanser—*In honor of Rabbi Toba, Rabbi Elaine, Michael Singer and my leyning class*

Linette Liebling—*In memory of Jill Volk*

Alan Segal

Susan Silberberg-Robinson and Thomas Robinson

Theresa St. John-Siegel and Steve Siegel—*In memory of Eileen Morrison's mom*

Sivan Nasoff

Edith and Melvyn Halbert—*In honor of Jesse Halwitz*

Jodi and Alex Sugerman-Brozan—*In memory of Louise Sugerman and Joe Sugerman*

Camp JRF Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Helaine and John Carroll

School Fund

Holy Books Fund

Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund

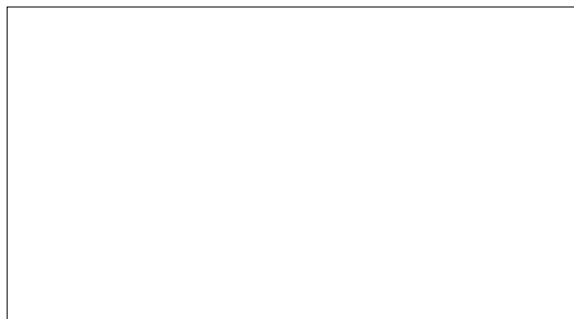
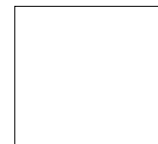
In memory of CDT member Jill Volk, we have created the Jill Volk Teacher Development Fund, which will provide scholarships for teachers in the Dorshei Tzedek religious school to receive professional development and training. Jill was one of the founders of our school and one of its first teachers. This fund will allow her love of Judaism and Jewish learning to continue to enrich our community.

Erica Streit-Kaplan and James Kaplan—*In honor of the many gifts and talents that Alison Lobron has brought to CDT, especially around educating our children*

Building Fund



**Congregation
Dorshei Tzedek**
60 Highland Street
West Newton, MA 02465



CDT Retreat

June 10–12, 2011

Camp Yavneh, New Hampshire

REGISTER NOW!

This is the year for our biennial CDT Retreat!

We are returning to the lovely **Camp Yavneh** for weekend of fun in the sun and by the water. In addition to a variety of Shabbat experiences, there will be arts and crafts; sports; learning opportunities; and more! The retreat is for all ages. This year we are committed to making the retreat as inclusive as possible for our families with special needs, and have received special funding towards that end. Please be sure to let us know what types of support would be helpful to you and your child to make this a wonderful retreat experience. **Go to www.dorsheitzedek.org/members/retreat.pdf to register.**

