

CONGREGATION
Dorshei Tzedek
AN AFFILIATE OF THE JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST MOVEMENT



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Tishrei, 5772 October, 2011



On Rituals

by Peter Katz, President



BECAUSE OF THE season and a recent trip, I have been thinking about rituals.

My wife and I recently returned from London, where we had a tour of the Houses of Parliament. At the opening session of each Parliamentary term, the Queen delivers a speech to both houses presenting the Government's legislative program. For this speech, the members of the House of Commons join the Lords in the Lords' chamber, but they don't just walk down the hall to attend. What happens is that an official known as Black Rod, carrying a black staff, marches down the corridor from the House of Lords to the House of Commons to summon the members. As he approaches, the door to the chamber of the House of Commons is slammed in his face. Black Rod bangs the door three times with his staff—our guide pointed out the scars in the woodwork—and is then admitted and issues the invitation of the monarch. The members then saunter to the House of Lords for the speech. This ceremony, which is about three centuries old, acts out the principle that the monarch's representative does not have a right to enter the Commons chamber, and in this way symbolizes the constitutional independence of the legislature.

This has been on my mind as an example of how rituals help to organize our practices and to focus us on their underlying meaning. Rituals ancient and modern are a basis of Jewish practice. We are in a season that is full of ceremonies of great symbolic and spiritual importance. The blowing of the shofar, Tashlich, Kol Nidre, fasting, reading the Book of Jonah, celebrating and re-rolling the Torah scrolls, all give structure to the High Holydays and Simchat Torah and in different ways seem to help inspire us in the spirit of repentance and renewal. By returning year after year to these rituals, we recognize, strengthen and benefit from their symbolic resonance and their comforting familiarity.

For materials on the High Holydays and other traditional and innovative Jewish rituals, you can visit the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College website on this topic at <http://www.ritualwell.org>.

L'shana tova.

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For info about Yom Kippur, go to www.dorsheitzedek.org.



ask lisa dee

Dear Lisa Dee, I know there are a few members of the congregation with serious and/or long-term health concerns. I'd like to say hello when I see them at services, but I don't want to burden them with questions. As embarrassing as this is to admit, sometimes I avoid even saying hello because I just don't know what to do. How do I let people know I care about them without making a big deal about their health? —Oy

Dear Oy,

I don't think you are alone in not knowing what to say. You are welcome to be embarrassed, but I'm not sure that is ultimately useful for you or other congregants.

It is often difficult enough to negotiate niceties with people we don't know well even when everything is hunky-dory. When someone is sick or recovering from an illness, in the midst of a divorce, or is grieving (or a combination of things), that can compound the challenge of greeting people. Often times there are things going on for folks and we don't even know about it.

Personally, I have taken a leaf out of the Jewish mourning customs and have changed how I greet people in general. Jewish tradition teaches not to ask a mourner: *How are you?* The Rabbis understood that mourners are not well or happy or in good spirits. Asking how someone is puts that person in an awkward position of either being facile and perhaps lying by responding, *Fine*; or burdens the mourner with having to say, *Shmendrik! I'm in mourning, how do you think I am?* Quite frankly, even people in good (or decent) health or circumstances, don't always feel happy or fine. So instead of how are you?, I try to remember to say, *It's nice to see you*. And it's often a relief to just say, *It's nice to see you too*.

My suggestion, since you are asking, is to go ahead and say hello. Often people like to know folks are thinking of them, so it's always okay to say, I've been thinking of you.

And, if you'd ever like to practice, come up to me at shul and tell me how nice it is to see me. I will be glad to see you, too.

Cheers, lisa dee

Have a question 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. Contact me at ldpw@rcn.com.

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

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Administrative Assistant: Jon Sarner

CDT Newsletter

The CDT Newsletter is published monthly with a July-August summer issue. Email articles, events, and 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, John Holohan, Barbara Pittel, Jo Ann Share, Emily Shumsky, Dan Halbert (Emeritus)

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 Shuvah—Contemplative Service

Saturday, October 1, 10:45am-12pm, 60 Highland Street

For this special Shabbat of “turning” that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we will have a contemplative service, focusing on themes of return and change. The service will combine song, silent and guided meditation, and Torah study. No meditation experience necessary!

All-Ages Erev Shabbat Services and Potluck

Oct. 14*, Nov. 4, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, Feb. 10, Mar. 2, Apr. 13, May 4, June 1
6:00pm Candle Lighting and Dinner;
6:45pm Service

Join us for this monthly, fun, musical erev Shabbat service, appropriate for all ages. We begin with candle-lighting kiddush at 6:00pm, followed by a potluck vegetarian dinner (please bring a dairy/vegie main dish or salad, enough for 15–20 people). The service begins at 6:45pm.

*October 14 is a special Sukkot program at the First Unitarian Society. See page 4 for details.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Saturday mornings, 8:45-9:40am
Fall dates: October 22, November 12, December 10

Each month we will explore the *parshat hashavua*, the weekly Torah portion, through the lens of commentaries both traditional and contemporary, before the Shabbat morning service. No prior experience in Torah study is necessary. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

Junior Congregation

Oct. 29, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 11,
Mar. 10, Apr. 21, May 12
10:45am-12pm, Room 111

This is an awesomely fun, participatory service for 3rd through 6th graders (kids only!), led by our very own **Elana Rome**—teacher, singer, and youth leader extraordinaire! Spend a special Shabbat morning with your friends, or make some new ones! Kids enjoy their own kiddush after the service.

Tot Shabbat

Oct. 29, Dec. 10, Jan 28, Feb. 11, Mar. 17,
Apr. 14, May 12, June 9
10:45am-12pm, Rooms 110 and 112

Tot Shabbat is a monthly Shabbat morning program, led by **Susan Moser**, CDT member, musician, and Jewish educator, for children age 5 and under and their parents. Join us in celebrating Shabbat with songs, stories, crafts and other fun activities! **Contact Susan Moser at mosersm@yahoo.com for more information.**

First CDT Men’s Shabbaton

November 11, 5-9:00pm, Dinner & Erev Shabbat Gathering, FUSN: Alliance Room, Downstairs Kitchen

November 12, 9:45am, 60 Highland Street: Living Room, 5-9:00pm Dinner, Room 111
For CDT members only; sliding scale registration fee

What does it mean to be Fathers, Sons, Brothers or Friends? Discuss this and other questions about Jewish manhood at the First CDT Men’s Shabbaton November 11 and 12.

Join us as we share Shabbat meals, prayer, study and song. We will spend time exploring traditional and contemporary texts, and creating our own original responses to text and tradition as we discuss what it has

meant to be a Jewish man in the past and what it means for us in 2011. We are looking forward to a very provocative and interesting weekend!

The retreat will be facilitated by Rabbi Steve Nathan. Steve is a 1994 graduate of the RRC who has also trained at the Institute for Contemporary Midrash and the Meditation Leadership Training programs at Elat Chayyim Jewish Retreat Center. He has worked as rabbi, counselor, teacher, and spiritual leader in various settings. Steve’s writings on mindfulness and Jewish text can be found on his blog www.mindfultorah.blogspot.com.

For more information on the Shabbaton, please contact **David Lobron** at dlobron@gmail.com. The Shabbaton will include an erev Shabbat dinner, Shabbat morning service and study, and a late afternoon/early evening program on Saturday. Stay tuned for registration information on the CDT website.

Adult Erev Shabbat Service

Friday, November 18, 8:00pm

This adult-oriented erev Shabbat service will include singing, contemplation, and a possible special guest speaker—stay tuned!

Shabbat at Members’ Homes

Friday, December 9

Following on the success of our erev-Shabbat-dinners-around-town last year for Shabbat Unplugged, this year we will be organizing similar dinners three times over the course of the year. These will be opportunities for CDT members to gather in one another’s homes with folks with whom you share interests, a neighborhood, or kids the same age! **We need hosts** – if you’d like to host a potluck in your home, please be in touch with **Laurie Goldman** of the Ritual Committee, at laurie.goldman@tufts.edu.

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

Sukkot is the fall harvest festival where we celebrate our “ingathering” from the past year, and turn from the intense reflection of Yom Kippur to a celebration of abundance. Sukkot practices include building and eating meals in a *sukkah* (your own or your neighbor’s!), waving the *lulav* and *etrog*, and most importantly, being joyful! **Sukkot begins this year on the evening of October 12, and continues through Thursday, October 20.** We close the festival week with a celebration of a new cycle of Torah reading, with Simchat Torah!

Ordering Lulav & Etrog Sets

It’s time to order your Lulav and Etrog sets. Sets cost \$40 each and will be available for pick up at CDT before Erev Sukkot. To order, please mail a note indicating how many sets you’d like to order, along with your payment, (\$40 per set), to CDT, Lulav/Etrog Order, 60 Highland Street, West Newton, 02465. You may also submit your order to **Marla Lichtman** via email at admindirector@dorsheitzedek.org, but in either case, prepayment is appreciated. **Order deadline is Wednesday, October 5.**

Sukkot Morning Service

Thursday, October 13, 9:30–11:30am

Join us for this special Sukkot service, where we will shake, shake, shake—shake the lulav!

All-Ages Erev Sukkot in the Sukkah

Friday, October 14, 6:00pm dinner, 6:45pm service

For this month’s all-ages erev Shabbat service, we will begin with candle lighting in the CDT sukkah at 6pm, followed by a vegetarian potluck dinner (please bring a main dish or salad to share, enough for 20 people—drinks and dessert will be provided. And please, no nuts!). A musical erev Shabbat service follows at 6:45pm, featuring Sukkot songs and stories!

Sukkot Sunday: Harvesting & Helping

Sunday, October 16

During Sukkot, we are instructed to live in a temporary shelter, the sukkah, as a way of fostering gratitude for the basic necessities we enjoy, especially food and shelter. Sukkot is also an opportunity to connect to the agricultural cycle of the year, and in particular the fall harvest. We will have opportunities this Sukkot to both help those who have not been blessed with abundance this year, and to participate in harvest activities at local farms.

Sukkot Sunday activities include:

- **Family Table:** Adults and children of all ages are needed to pack food and to distribute it to families in need as part of Greater Boston’s only kosher food pantry. This is a great family activity, and an opportunity to learn about hunger with our own local Jewish community.
- **Boston Area Gleaners:** We need a dozen adults and youth (aged 12 and over) to volunteer at a farm with Boston Area Gleaners, a group that harvests leftover produce from fields and delivers it to “Food for Free”, an organization that distributes food to pantries and shelters.
- **Harvest Festival:** We are joining with Ganei Beantown, an organization devoted to engaging the Boston community in hands-on Jewish agricultural programs, to participate in a Sukkot Harvest Festival at Lands Sake Farm in Weston, MA, from noon-4pm. Activities for adults

and kids of all ages include working on the farm (e.g., weeding strawberries); Jewish text study, do-it-yourself skill learning, and children’s programming, as well as cooking demonstrations. Ganei Beantown is also asking for help building a sukkah and setting it up on the farm that day; coordinating carpooling or biking to the farm; help at the registration table; making signs; recruiting vendors and organizations interested in setting up tables; and site clean-up and take-down.

There is a sign-up for all of these activities on the CDT website: www.dorsheitzedek.org.

Simchat Torah!

Thursday, October 20, 7–9pm

It’s time to turn from the very end of the Torah, the book of *Devarim*/Deuteronomy, back to the Beginning—*Bereshit*/Genesis. Come celebrate with the Torah! We’ll begin with a fun Maariv service (with Torah Quiz and prizes, for kids and adults!) followed by dancing with the Torah scrolls. We’re happy to have joining us again this year musicians extraordinaire Terry Traub and John Chambers, who will regale us with Israeli dances, Klezmer, and few Scottish fiddle tunes as well!

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.

Film Club

Saturday, October 22, 6pm potluck dinner, 7pm film

Home of John Holohan and Sharon Gorberg

CDT Film Club's first film of the year will be *The Concert* (2009, French/Russian, 119 min.) on Saturday night, October 22. Golden Globe-nominated as Best Foreign Language Film, this uplifting comedy follows fallen Russian maestro Andrey Filipov, who seizes a chance to reunite his orchestra and reclaim his life 30 years after politics cut short his music career. After intercepting an invitation sent to the Bolshoi to perform at a Paris theater, Filipov gathers a ragtag band of ex-colleagues and a French violinist to realize his dream.

Potluck dinner starts at 6pm. Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert

to share. Movie starts at 7 pm, to be followed by a group discussion. We hope you can join us!

Saturday, November 5, 7pm film (no potluck), 60 Highland Street

On November 5, we will have a Special Event jointly hosted by the Film Club and the CDT Softball Team. We will have a baseball-themed havdalah starting at 7 PM in the Sanctuary followed by the film *Jews and Baseball*. This event will not be a potluck.

Actor Dustin Hoffman narrates this decade-spanning documentary that highlights the contributions of Jewish Americans to the most American sport of them all: baseball. Highlights include a rare interview with legendary pitcher Sandy Koufax.

We are looking for hosts! All you need to provide is the house and TV,

or white wall. Please let us know if you are a potential host.

Please contact Stan Fleischman (stanf@rcn.com) and Emily Sper (emily@emilysper.com) if you have any questions.

Rosh Chodesh

Sunday October 30 from 7:30-9pm

60 Highland Street, Living Room

We will welcome the month of Heshvan with learning, readings, and importantly, conversation and community. All CDT women are invited to this special gathering.

Email Kristen Petersen at petersenka@hotmail.com with any questions. We look forward to welcoming the new month together.

Religious School News

by Annette Lawson, Education Director

ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR at Dorshei Tzedek is just about to begin as I write this. It is a busy time of ordering books and supplies, emailing schedules and registration forms, and all the minutiae of getting a school open and running. But most importantly, Rabbi Toba, the teaching staff and I have just spent several afternoons meeting to learn together and discuss some important issues: how do we teach prayer to children, what is the most effective way to teach Hebrew reading skills, what is a "Reconstructionist pedagogy", how can we foster effective communication between home and school, to name a few of our topics.

The quality of the conversations at these staff meetings is another reminder for me of how fortunate we are at Dorshei Tzedek to have such insightful, creative, and caring teachers who are passionate about sharing their love of Jewish living and learning with our students and their families.

I am delighted to welcome back to our staff this year: **Ali-son Lobron** (Kitah Nitzanim-Pre-K), **Vered Schreiber** (Kitah Bet -Grade 2 and Kitah Dalet -Grade 4), **Adina Mailick** (Kitah Gimmel-Grade 3 and Kitah Zayin-Grade 7), **Ben Rotenberg** (Kitah Hey-Grade 5) and **Cindy Shulak-Rome** (BaDerech—our

post b'nei-mitzvah program). **Becca Richman**, our coordinator of informal education will be returning mid-year (from a semester abroad) to again lead fun activities like the shul-in.

We have several new staff members joining our veterans.

Adam Lavitt is our new community educator and in that role, will be leading many of the activities for Project LO"X (Learning Outside the boX), our new pilot program for our 1st-3rd grade families. Adam is in his final year of the rabbinic program at Hebrew College, where he will also be receiving a master's degree in Jewish education.

Rabbi Talya Weisbard Shalem is teaching Kitah Vav (6th Grade). Rabbi Talya is a Reconstructionist rabbi and an experienced educator who has taught in a wide range of Jewish educational settings.

Dale Norman is teaching Kitah Alef (1st Grade). Dale is a writer and teacher and comes to us with over fifteen years of experience as a religious school teacher.

Melissa Goraj is our new Gan (kindergarten) teacher. Melissa, who is a graduate student at Brandeis, is an experienced religious school teacher, and has also worked with young children as a camp counselor and a ski instructor.

With such a talented group of *morim* (teachers), I am looking forward to an exciting year of learning at our school!

Tikkun Olam

by Alex Sugerman-Brozen

TIKKUN OLAM QUICK BITS O' JUSTICE: On September 14, we had a spirited Tikkun Olam Brainstorm & Planning Meeting with 16 CDTers in attendance. Here's a super-quick, on-one-foot summary with contact people listed. Please contact the appropriate person to get involved in any of these activities and please see the Calendar for upcoming Tikkun Olam events!

Community Supported Agriculture Partnership with Temple Shalom	Several dozen CDT households are receiving weekly shares of locally-grown veggies from Red Fire Farm. We plan on doing joint programs with our partners at Temple Shalom.	Contacts: Tom Brown & Chagit Steiner
Sindyanna Olive Oil project	We are working to regularize and localize our ordering of Fair Trade Olive Oil from Sindyanna, in Israel and the West Bank. Oil is still available from the most recent order.	Contact: Jonathan Rosenthal
Coalition of Immokalee Workers	We will continue standing in solidarity with CIW's campaign to get Stop & Shop and Trader Joe's to agree to pay a penny more per pound to farmworkers picking tomatoes.	Contact: Alex Sugerman-Brozan
Sukkot	We will be participating in food and hunger-related service-and-learning activities on October 16, at Family Table, Lakeside Farm (Harvest Festival with Ganei Beantown) and Boston Gleaners.	See page 4 for a related article and watch CDT email lists for details.
Family Table	We are now responsible for donating canned vegetables and whole grain cereals.	See related article on page 7. Contact: Pamela Schoenberg-Reider
Ganei Beantown/Boston Jewish Gardens	We hope to organize a family-friendly pickling workshop with this new local organization.	Contact: Audra Karp
Hyatt 100	We will continue participating in local events and mobilizations to support the nearly 100 local long-term housekeepers who were fired by Hyatt.	Contact: Amy Mazur
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)	A Delegates' Assembly on controlling Health Care Costs was held on September 25.	Contacts: Paul Hattis and Ora Gladstone

GBIO Receives Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant

by Paul Hattis

GBIO HAS RECEIVED a \$450,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help educate and engage consumers on health care cost issues. The foundation made this grant because it believes that just as Massachusetts has lead the rest of the country and the Obama Administration to the 2010 Health Care Bill to

improve access, Massachusetts is again likely to lead the country on how to reign in health care spending.

As one of the initial grant activities, GBIO is presenting a webinar on health care cost issues in Massachusetts that you can participate in, from the comfort of your own home computer, on Monday evening October 24, from 7-8pm. (It is possible that we may have a group gathering with a LCD display of the webinar so as to encour-



Photo: Standing (l to r): Bonnie Tenneriello, Ora Gladstone, Tom Brown, Marcia Okun, Barbara Shatkin, Emily Sper, Ellie Goldberg, Paul Hattis, Alex Sugerman-Brozan, Josette Akresh-Gonzales, Alan Epstein. Seated/Kneeling (l to r): Jonathan Rosenthal, Jake Weinberg, Amy Mazur, Audra Karp.

age a group discussion if there is interest. Stay tuned for details.) The webinar will also be archived so that you can watch it at another time if the evening of October 24 does not work out for you.

GBIO's hope is that as many of its congregational members as possible will watch the webinar and then answer a 3-minute set of survey questions that will feed right into a database. The anonymous information that will be collected will assist GBIO in its efforts to advance policy issues tied to health care cost control in Massachusetts—especially important as a legislative 'battle' about these matters is expected this fall.

There will be more information forthcoming via e-mail later this month. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Paul Hattis at paul.hattis@rcn.com.

Whole Grains for Family Table

by Pamela Schoenberg Reider

IT HAS BEEN a very busy year for JF&CS Family Table. The Boston area kosher food pantry added many new recipients and are now providing monthly groceries to more than 300 families in the area. Congregation Dorshei Tzedek is one of many area synagogues and schools participating in this monthly food distribution.

This year, Family Table launched the "Food Revolution", an initiative to provide whole grain products (whole grain pasta, crackers, cereal, and brown rice). Dorshei Tzedek has been assigned a new item to donate toward this goal: whole grain cereal and canned vegetables.

Additionally, we will again need volunteer drivers to deliver our food items to Family Table one Sunday per month. As many will tell you, this is a wonderful and easy way for you and/or your family to help others in our community. To sign up as a driver, go to: <http://doodle.com/mk9xnkfw2tu7ai3e>.

Please remember to bring along **whole grain cereal** and **canned vegetables** whenever you come to shul! In this way, your kind mitzvah reaches many families throughout the Boston area.

Questions? Contact Pamela Schoenberg Reider at 617-244-3373 or jomela@rcn.com.

Letter from Marcia Okun

SOMETIMES THE VARIOUS spheres of my life come together. Over Labor Day weekend the conversation that was initiated by the presence of Maydad Cohen from the State's Office of Labor connected two important parts of myself; the practicing Jew and the teacher. I shared with everyone there that Newton Teachers have been without a contract for around three years now. While it is clear that in our current economic situation, teachers will not get substantial raises and everyone is paying more for health care, I am not sure if the general public realizes that we are giving up much and getting very little in return, or that it is becoming harder to retain seasoned teachers or attract new ones. Basically we are asking for everyone to negotiate in good faith and to treat us fairly. This has not always been the case and sometimes it feels like the public does not care.

Then I realized at services over Labor Day Weekend that many people did not know that we had been without a contract for over three years. It made me realize that our various campaigns to inform the public, such as blanketing Newton with fliers last spring, is not enough, which led me to write this letter. We are not as far along as the mayor has been implying. Just this month the Teacher's Union agreed to freeze our step increases, and hence pay increases, by six months as a good will gesture in the hopes of having an agreement by October 15. We have also agreed to changes in our health care benefits that will cost us, and other concessions. The city has given nothing in return except benefits or rights that we already had in past contracts and practices. In short, there is still work to do to achieve a fair contract.

For this reason, I am writing this letter asking you to consider writing or telephoning the Mayor or School Committee and simply asking them to negotiate in good faith. We want a contract that is fair and a process that is respectful. Please consider helping Newton teachers achieve this goal by contacting the city and asking them to meet us half way.

Thank you, Marcia Okun, History and Social Sciences, Newton

Chesed

If you or someone in your household is ill or in need of support, please contact Rabbi Spitzer (617.965.0330) or Ellie Goldberg (ellie.goldberg@gmail.com) or Jackie Fleischman (jackief@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.

Lotsa Chesed News

by Judy Hersh

The Chesed committee works with Rabbi Toba to arrange assistance for members experiencing illness, a death in their family, or those who have a new baby. Every quarter we have a new pair of coordinators. We use the Lotsa Helping Hands website to request volunteers for some tasks, others are more privately addressed.

Feedback: Here's what members have said about the help they received this year:

"To be a recipient of a visit and Shabbat meal after my son was born made me feel a great sense of nurturance and a connection to the community in a different way than I've experienced before."

"I am still overwhelmed with gratitude for the outpouring of meals, ride offers, support, prayers, and love from everyone. Some of our dearest friends helped out, as well as people we did not know as well.

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.)

Some stayed to schmooze, to be a shoulder, and others dropped off meals and ran to work. All forms of support were so appreciated."

"Helping Hands seems efficient and clear."

If you've been a provider or recipient of Chesed this year and would like to give feedback to the committee please contact our current coor-

dinators, **Ellie Goldberg** and **Jackie Fleischman**.

Book Group: We are planning to meet to discuss the book *Healing Conversations—What to Say When You Don't Know What To Say* by Nance Gilmartin later this fall. Date TBD, and all members are invited. More info coming soon.

Caregiver Support Group: We'd like to start a monthly caregiver support group. Please let **Judy Hersh** at judyhersh@comcast.net or **Ellen Pashall** at elpashall@aol.com if you're interested in this topic. We'll collect names, and then set a meeting time.

Mazel Tov

To **Ellie Baron** and **Kate DeBethune**, on their August wedding!

To **Barbara Beck**, on the marriage of her daughter Kate!

Danielle Klainberg and **Mark Rosenberg** are very pleased to share that their daughter **Sofia** has been selected to be a Diller Teen Fel-

low! She begins her fellowship this fall with 17 other young leaders selected to represent eastern MA "based on their leadership aptitude, commitment to Jewish learning, interest in exploring their connection to Israel, passion for serving their community." She will participate in leadership training and community service/social justice activities locally and in Haifa this winter.

Todah Rabah

Todah rabah to all of those who helped with Kiddush in August or September: **Wendy & Charles Frankston, Barry Ingber—in honor of Milton Ingber, Phyllis & Al Glazerman, Laurie Friedman, Elena Eisman, Becca Gutman, Carol Sklar, Sivan Nasoff, Betsy Hinden, Steffi & Eric Karp, Rebecca Cohen & Jacob Weinberg, Rachel Pytel, Steffi & Eric Karp, Stan Fleischman, and Tom Brown.**

To **Sharon Gorberg** and **Laurie Goldman**, for their invaluable help planning and facilitating the Selichot program with Hillel Bnai Torah.

Refuah Sh'leyma

We send blessings of healing to CDT members **Ben Newman, Susannah Zisk, Carol Hemley, Tess Siegel, Lauren Gibbs, Lilliana Lawson, Esther Kohn, John Holohan, and Thea Breite.**

Condolences

We mourn the death of CDT member **Debbie Sher**, who passed away on September 13, and extend our condolences to Debbie's daughter **Rachel**, who became bat mitzvah at CDT, and to Debbie's mother Lorna, and siblings Judy, Alisa, and Michael. While her health prevented her from being present at the congregation in recent years, she stayed connected via the CDT list-serve, which she loved! She brought a great deal of love and sweetness into the world, as well as a commitment to fighting for the underdog. May her memory always be for a blessing.

Yarzheit

This month we mark the yartzheits of two CDT members, **Efrem Goldberg** (whose yartzheit falls on October 12) and **Shari Zimble** (whose yartzheit falls on October 22). We will be

remembering Efrem during Sukkot morning services on October 13, and will remember Shari at Shabbat morning services on October 22. May each of their memories be for a blessing, and may the gifts that each of them brought to their families, our community, and to the world continue to have meaning for all those who knew them.

Avelut: Monthly Support Group for CDT Mourners

Avelut will not be meeting in October but will resume in November.

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)**. If you would like to volunteer to host a meeting or for scheduling details, contact **Andrew Sofer (sofer@bc.edu)**.

New Members

Welcome to **Jordan Namerow**, spouse of **Idit Klein**.

Welcome back to **Barbara Huggins**.

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.

Kiddush Assignments

10/1 Shabbat Shuvah meditation service: Wendy Gedanken, Tessa Goldsmith, David Felson, Laura Katz

10/9 Sukkah building: Audra Karp & Deb Albenberg, Rachel & Chad Pytel, Tania Mireles & Bill Shorr

10/13 Sukkot Service: Sue Weil, Nem Hackett, Michele Arons

10/14 Erev Sukkot Service and Potluck:

Setup: Benjamin Newman, Beth Brooks, David Greenberg, Benita Danzing, Liz Carver, Scott Gordon

Cleanup: Rob Greenly, Benita Danzing, Rebecca Cohen, John Holohan, Scott Gordon, Diana Fisher Gomberg

10/15 Shabbat: Josette Akresh-Gonzales & Michael Gonzales, Alison & David Lobron

10/20 Simchat Torah: Linda Schiller & Steve Robins, Elaine Pollack

10/22 Shabbat & Bar Mitzvah of Teddy Lewis:

Ushers: Cindy Marshall & Kathy Pillsbury Sanctuary Cleanup: Lisa Dee Port White—in honor of Amelia and her dad's memory, Hope Kellman

Setup: Melanie Adler & Andy Cohen, Allison Hausman, Meiera & Hadley Stern, Susan Bernstein

Cleanup: Andrew Sofer, Lisa Chedekel & Isabel Morais, Rachel Nemeth Cohen & Richard Cohen, Barbara Beck

10/23 Sukkah take-down: David Shumsky, Laya Steinberg & Bruce Miller, Sue Weil, Emily Sper

10/29 Shabbat: Judy Hersh & Tim Rosa, Tracey Rogers & Jane Schwartz

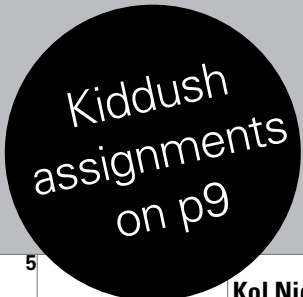
Kiddush Note: The complete kiddush and holiday assignment schedule is available in the members' calendar on our website. When notified of your dates, please be sure to put them into your personal calendars. The whole congregation counts on your participation in kiddush and each assigned person is needed 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.

CDT Calendar

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Unless noted otherwise, all programs are held at the Dorshei Tzedek prayer space: 60 Highland Street in the Second Church of Newton, West Newton.						Shabbat Shuvah meditation service 9:45a–12p
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					Kol Nidre 6:15p, Gann Academy	Yom Kippur 9:30a, Gann Academy Havdallah, Break Fast, 7:15 pm, Gann Academy
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Sukkah building 12p, FUSN			Sukkot Service 9:30a, Sanctuary, Room 112	Erev Sukkot Service and Potluck 6p-8p, First Unitarian Society: Sukkah, Parish Hall, downstairs kitchen	Shabbat Morning Service 9:45a–12p	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Harvesting & Helping (see page 4 for details) November 2011 newsletter copy deadline.			Simchat Torah 7p–9p		Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Toba Spitzer 8:45a-9:40a, Library Shabbat Morning Service & Bar Mitzvah of Teddy Lewis 9:45a-12p CDT Film Club “The Concert” 6pm potluck, 7pm film 6p, Home of John Holohan and Sharon Gorberg, Free of charge	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Sukkah take-down 12p, FUSN					Shabbat Morning Service (lay led) 9:45a–12p Junior Congregation 10:45a–12p, Room 111, Led by Elana Rome Tot Shabbat 10:45a–12p, Rooms 110, 112	
30	31	NOV 1	2	3	4	5
Rosh Chodesh 7:30p-9p, Living Room			“With All Your Possessions” Tikkun Olam Class with Rabbi Toba Spitzer & Jonathan Rosenthal 7:30p-9p, Library	All-Ages Erev Shabbat Service / Potluck 6p	Shabbat Morning Service & Bat Mitzvah of Dalia Paris-Saper 9:45a–12p	

Adult Learning & Reflection

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

Mindful Mornings

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer

Thursday mornings, 8:15-9am, beginning October 27

Library, 60 Highland Street

Free and open to the community

Join Rabbi Toba for this weekly opportunity to practice *yishuv da'at*, the ability to bring a calm awareness to all that we do. Whether you think you're "bad" at meditating, have never tried it before, or have a regular practice, there will be something here for you! We will begin with instruction at 8:15am, followed by a silent sitting period. The practice of mindfulness meditation is profoundly helpful in navigating the ups and downs that life hands us, as well as helping foster greater

joy and presence in the moment and deeper insight into our own lives. No need to make a weekly commitment; join us when you're able! (And please arrive no later than 8:15am, in order not to disrupt the session once we've started.)

"With All Your Possessions": Jewish Approaches to Economic Justice

with Rabbi Toba Spitzer & Jonathan Rosenthal

Wednesday evenings, November 2, 9, & 16, 7:30-9pm

(Free for members; \$36 for non-members)

As Americans, many of us enjoy a standard of living that is unimaginable for the vast majority of people in the world. Here in the U.S., the gap

between the rich and the growing ranks of the poor is steadily expanding, and we may find ourselves on either side of that growing divide. What does Jewish tradition have to teach us about the challenges of both wealth and poverty, and about how we honor our obligations towards others in our own community and around the globe? How can we make wise choices when we seek to "help" others, and when do we unwittingly perpetuate the very inequalities that we seek to challenge? Join **Rabbi Toba** and CDT member **Jonathan Rosenthal**, the co-founder of Equal Exchange and a global fair trade activist and consultant, for study and exploration of what it means to be a responsible global citizen in the 21st century, and how Jewish teachings can help us in this endeavor.

Announcements

A Nediv Lev Message

by Jeff Sacks, Nediv Lev Chair

Summer is at an end. The Nediv Lev campaign has been collecting our pledges and tallying our results. The news is good. For the fiscal year that

ended July 31, we have once again met our goals and exceeded our prior year collections. Our campaign raised \$77,360, an increase of over 10% from the prior year. Seventy percent of our household participated in the campaign.

I think that we deserve a collective *yasher koach*. Through our donations to our Nediv Lev campaign, the CDT

community has once again stated our commitment to each other and to the importance of what this community means to each of us.

CDT Chalkboard

by Marla Lichtman,
Administrative Director

Shanah tovah to everyone! Wishing you each a happy, healthful and sweet new year ahead.

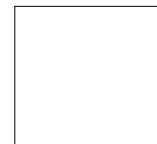
I want to remind anyone who has yet to return their 2011-12 member/dues forms, to please do so today. It is important for us to have these in-house, even if you cannot send payment at the time of submission. The membership packet, including forms, can be found on our

website—just follow the homepage link.

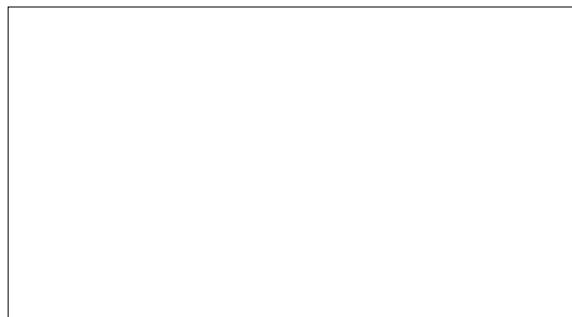
Please remember, if you have financial concerns or need to discuss a payment plan, to contact our Treasurer, **Sivan Nasoff**, at snasoff@hotmail.com. She will help work out a mutually agreeable solution.



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



Address correction requested



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

Lauren Gibbs—*To support the congregation and Rabbi Toba, in recognition of their support of me during my illness. Thanks for your help.*

Sharon Gorberg & John Holohan

Rosabel Kremer Day & David Day

Steffi & Eric Karp—*In honor of our 33rd anniversary*

Sherry Katz & Mark Farber

Susan Nitkin & Jeffrey Marcus

Kristen Petersen

Sandy Sedacca & Sherwood Ives—*In loving memory of Laurie J. Striar, beloved friend and Clara's Girl Scout Troop Leader*
Nessa Spitzer

Camp JRF Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Kate DeBethune & Ellie Baron—*With gratitude to Rabbi Toba for officiating at our wedding ceremony!*

School Fund

Pamela Schoenberg Reider & Joel Reider—*In honor of Annette's hard work*

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.

Building Fund